

## Financial Interest Disclosure

The Academy's Board of Trustees has determined that a financial relationship should not restrict expert scientific, clinical, or non-clinical presentation or publication, provided that appropriate disclosure of such relationship is made. Similarly, it should not restrict participation in AAO leadership or governance, so long as appropriate disclosure is made. As an ACCME accredited provider of CME, the Academy seeks to ensure balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all individual or jointly sponsored CME activities.

All contributors to Academy educational and leadership activities must disclose significant financial relationships (defined below) to the Academy annually. The ACCME requires the Academy to disclose the following to participants prior to the activity:

- Any known financial relationships a meeting presenter, author, contributor or reviewer has reported with manufacturers of commercial ophthalmic products or providers of commercial ophthalmic services within the past 12 months
- Meeting presenters, authors, contributors or reviewers who report they have no known financial relationships to disclose

The Academy will request disclosure information from meeting presenters, authors, contributors or reviewers, committee members, Board of Trustees, and others involved in Academy leadership activities ("Contributors") annually. Disclosure information will be kept on file and used during the calendar year in which it was collected for all Academy activities. Updates to the disclosure information file should be made whenever there is a change. At the time of submission of a Journal article or materials for an educational activity or nomination to a leadership position, each Contributor should specifically review his/her statement on file and notify the Academy of any changes to his/her financial disclosures. These requirements apply to relationships that are in place at the time of or were in place 12 months preceding the presentation, publication submission, or nomination to a leadership position.

### Important Information for Senior Instructors/Authors

- If a senior instructor/author does have financial interest, this must be disclosed using the following codes, as well as the name of the relevant company.

### Description of Financial Interests

For purposes of this disclosure, a known financial relationship is defined as any financial gain or expectancy of financial gain brought to the Contributor or the Contributor's immediate family (defined as spouse, domestic partner, parent, child or spouse of child, or sibling or spouse of sibling of the Contributor) by:

- Direct or indirect compensation;
- Ownership of stock in the producing company;
- Stock options and/or warrants in the producing company, even if they have not been exercised or they are not currently exercisable;
- Financial support or funding to the investigator, including research support from government agencies (e.g., NIH), device manufacturers, and/or pharmaceutical companies; or
- Involvement with any for-profit corporation that is likely to become involved in activities directly impacting the Academy where the Contributor or the Contributor's family is a director or recipient of a grant from said entity, including consultant fees, honoraria, and funded travel.

Use the following categories to indicate the type of financial relationships you are disclosing either for yourself or for your immediate family as defined above. If an individual is uncertain about what might constitute a potential financial conflict of interest, they should err on the side of full disclosure.

Category	Code	Description
Consultant / Advisor	C	Consultant fee, paid advisory boards or fees for attending a meeting (for the past 1 year)
Employee	E	Employed by a commercial entity
Lecture Fees	L	Lecture fees (honoraria), travel fees or reimbursements when speaking at the invitation of a commercial entity (for the past 1 year)
Equity Owner	O	Equity ownership/stock options of publicly or privately traded firms (excluding mutual funds) with manufacturers of commercial ophthalmic products or providers of commercial ophthalmic services
Patents / Royalty	P	Patents and/or royalties that might be viewed as creating a potential conflict of interest
Grant Support	S	Grant support for the past 1 year (all sources) and all sources used for this project if this form is an update for a specific talk or manuscript with no time limitation.

## Academy

### Financial Interest Disclosure Policies

- Every instructor or author listed on a successful course/abstract must disclose whether or not s/he has financial interest. This is required of each individual even if s/he has no financial interest.
- Submission of this information indicates that each instructor/author has complied with the Academy's policy and will disclose any financial interest at the time of his/her presentation.
- Failure to comply with the disclosure policy when known and deliberate will result in exclusion from the program for two years.
- Financial interest will also be disclosed in the Final Program with an asterisk by the individual's name that will be cross-referenced in an index in the back of the program, and on a screen in all session rooms that will display the presenter's disclosures for the entirety of the talk.
- Even though disclosure has been made, presentations and handouts should not promote the use of any commercial product.
- Disclosure of financial interest should be made at the time of the presentation.
  - Oral presenters are required to display a financial interest slide at the beginning of their presentation.
  - Poster presenters are required to post a notice of any and all financial interest on their poster.
  - Video producers are required to announce any and all financial interest at the beginning of their video.
- Oral presenters are also required to verbally disclose any financial interest relevant to the presentation.