Types of Educational Events

Course (C)
A course is a live educational activity where the learner participates in person. A course is planned as an individual event. Example: workshop, conference.

If a course is held multiple times for multiple audiences, then each instance it is provided is reported as a separate activity.

Regular Scheduled Series (RSS)
A regularly scheduled series (RSS) is a course that is planned as a series with multiple, ongoing sessions, e.g., offered weekly, monthly, or quarterly; and is primarily planned and presented to the Approved Provider’s professional staff. Examples include grand rounds, tumor boards, and morbidity and mortality conferences.

Internet Live Course (IL)
An internet live course is an online course available via the internet at a certain time on a certain date and is only available in real time (just as if the course was held in an auditorium). Once the event has taken place, learners may no longer participate in the activity unless it is again presented at a specific date and time and only available in real-time. Examples include a live webcast or Zoom session.

Enduring Material (EM)- Home study
An enduring material is an activity that is printed, recorded or computer presented that may be used over time at various locations. The provider creates the content for enduring material activities. It has often called a “home study” or “self-study”. It is NOT offered via the Internet. The participant determines where and when to complete the activity. Sometimes an approved provider will create an enduring material from a live CNE activity. When this occurs, ANCC considers the provider to have created two separate activities – one live activity and one enduring material version. Both activities must comply with all ANCC requirements.

Enduring materials can be available for less than a year, a year, or multiple years. Each enduring material is counted as one activity for each year it is available. Examples include a specific article designated as CNE in a nursing publication, a recording of a CNE live event that is posted on an internal learning management system or published on a DVD.

Internet Activity Enduring Material (IEM)
An Internet activity enduring material is an “on demand activity,” meaning that there is no specific time designated for participation that is offered via the Internet. The participant decides when to complete the activity. It is “enduring”, meaning that there is not just one time on one day to participate in it. Rather the participant determines when he/she participates. Examples include an online interactive educational module, or a podcast.

Journal-based CNE (JN)
A journal-based CNE activity includes the reading of an article (or adapted formats for special needs), an approved provider learner engagement strategy (that may include reflection, discussion, or debate
about the material contained in the article(s), and/or requirement for completion by the learner of a pre-determined set of questions or tasks relating to the content of the material as part of the learning process.

The ANCC does not consider a journal-based CNE activity to have been completed until the learner documents participation in the activity to the approved provider.

Each article is counted as 1 activity. To calculate hours of instruction, the approved provider specifies the amount of time required to complete the activity. The number of participants reported by the approved provider equals the total number of individuals who completed the activity. Each participant is counted once, regardless of how many times they worked on the activity.

For example, an approved provider provides a journal that contains an article that is designated as a journal-based CNE activity. Twenty nurses read the article, reflect on the content, and complete questions related to the content of the article. The nurses spend 1 hour on this activity. The approved provider would report this as 1 journal-based activity with 20 nurse participants and 1 hour of instruction (contact hour).