Overview
Accreditation and recognition processes help ensure that Diabetes Self-Management Education & Support (DSMES) offers quality education. The U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has authorized two organizations, the Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists (ADCES) and the American Diabetes Association (ADA), to grant accreditation or recognition. ADCES uses the term accreditation, while ADA uses the term recognition.

Each program is uniquely identified by a related acronym—ADCES uses “DEAP” for Diabetes Education Accreditation Program, and ADA uses “ERP” for Education Recognition Program. Both organizations have a formal application process that includes the following:

- A four-year renewal cycle
- Similar fees

- Comprehensive audits to ensure standards are met
- A Continuous Quality Improvement plan must be developed and submitted for both the initial and renewal applications, but the first reporting of outcomes does not start until one year after initial accreditation or recognition.

Benefits of Becoming an Accredited or Recognized Provider
- The ability to bill for DSMT (see page 2 of this document) through Medicare, some state Medicaid agencies and many private insurers
- Improved care and health status reporting
- Alignment with quality improvement and population health goals
- Access to ADCES or ADA resources and support

Helpful Resources to Help You Choose the Right Program for Your Organization

Comparison of ADCES and ADA Accreditation/Recognition Processes

ADCES and ADA Requirements for Each Standard

ADCES and ADA Accreditation/Recognition Information

Application Information for Each Organization

American Diabetes Association (ADA)
Interest Form to Get Started
Phone: 1-888-232-0822
ERP@diabetes.org

Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialists (ADCES)
Application and Toolkit
Phone: 800-338-3633 / press option 6
deap@adces.org
Ten National Standards for DSME/S

Both AADE and ADA require their programs to meet the Ten Standards. The tools and checklists below can be extremely helpful in setting up and ensuring the needed elements are covered and submitted. It is recommended that the most updated version of the Ten Standards document be kept at hand throughout this process to continue adhering to the standards.

Up-to-date standards, interactive tables and algorithms can be found in the App Store for iOS or Google Play for Android mobile devices.

When Can My Organization Start Billing?
Once certified either with AADE or ADA, you can work toward billing Medicare. Your program can apply for a National Provider Identifier (NPI) number, or you can bill under the professional that already has an NPI. The accreditation process through AADE or the recognition process through ADA is essential to obtain Medicare reimbursement for DSMT. However, it is a separate process and does not guarantee Medicare payment. In addition to the accreditation process, a DSMT program should do the following:

DSMT services must have achieved accreditation from ADCES or recognition by ADA. However, accreditation/recognition alone is not the only eligibility requirement. You can find all the forms to bill for DSMT in the Medicare DSMT Toolkit.

The DSMT provider must do the following:
- The sponsoring organization or sponsoring individual must obtain an NPI number (Type I for an individual or Type II for an organization) AND be enrolled as a Medicare supplier for at least one service other than DSMT.
- If the sponsoring organization (e.g., clinic) is new to Medicare, a completed CMS Form 855B (business form) must be submitted to the regional Medicare Administrative Contractors (MAC) to enroll the organization in Medicare Part B.
- If the sponsoring individual (e.g., registered dietitian) is new to Medicare, a completed CMS Form 855I must be submitted to enroll the individual as a Medicare Part B provider.
- Durable medical equipment and pharmacy providers must also enroll as Medicare Part B providers to bill for the DSMT benefit, even though they are enrolled as Medicare suppliers.
- Submit a copy of the certificate of ADCES accreditation/ADA recognition along with a cover letter on your organization’s letterhead to the local MAC.
- Confirm that the DSMT billing procedure codes (G0108 and G0109) have been entered into the billing system’s chargemaster.
- Submit a copy of the certificate of accreditation/recognition to all contracted commercial payers and Medicaid and ensure DSMT billing procedure codes (G0108 and G0109) are included in the payer contracts.

References:
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention DSMES Toolkit