American Diabetes Association
National Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support
Recognition Application Process

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) Education Recognition Program (ERP) has adapted the Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support (DSMES) recognition online application to allow for virtual DSMES programs to apply for National Recognition. The national application was developed to align with the evolving delivery of DSMES which is changing rapidly with the advancement of technology.

The national application allows a virtual DSMES service to apply for DSMES Recognition in all 50 states with a single application versus 50 separate applications. This also streamlines the annual status reporting processes to one annual report rather than 50 separate reports. The fee for the National Virtual Recognition application is the same as 50 traditional applications. The National Virtual application fee is $55,000 for a four-year recognition cycle.

National DSMES Recognition follows the same DSMES standards’ application requirements as traditional recognition. National DSMES Recognition annual status reporting will require that all educators’ current credentials and ongoing education documentation accompany the report. It is crucial for nationally recognized virtual DSMES services to understand that just like a traditional recognized DSMES service, all standards must be meet at all times. This includes that all educators’ credentials and ongoing training documentation must be current at all times or the entire National Recognition status can be revoked. If this were to occur, the DSMES service could submit a new National Virtual Recognition application once all standards are back in compliance with the national standards for DSMES.

National DSMES Recognition requires the national virtual application, application supporting documents, and the $55,000 application fee be submitted to the ADA Education Recognition (ERP) department. Upon receipt of these items, the ERP team will review the application for compliance with the national standards for DSMES and grant recognition or communicate with the applicant what additional elements are required for the application to pass and DSMES recognition be granted.

Recognized virtual DSMES services will be allowed to display the ADA ERP Recognition logo on their digital platform per the logo use policy (attached). Please note all steps of the logo use application process outlined in the policy must be followed and approved.

Please note that neither DSMES recognition nor the DSMES recognition fee can be part of any sponsorship or donation agreements or contracts. For additional information, email ERP@diabetes.org