



BOC Certified *DME Specialist (CDME®) Scope of Practice

I. Definitions

A. Certified DME Specialist

Certified DME Specialist is an entry-level person who is knowledgeable about all aspects of the DME/supply industry. This includes the prescription verification, intake process, product selection, dispensing/setup, regulations, documentation, billing, compliance, and performance management in any client environment. This person supports the best DME products and/or supplies considering the prescription order, client's rights, and needs.

B. Durable Medical Equipment

Durable medical equipment is equipment that:

- (1) can withstand repeated use,
- (2) is primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose,
- (3) generally is not useful to a person in the absence of an illness or injury, and
- (4) is appropriate for use in the home.

All requirements of the definition must be met before an item can be considered to be DME.

II. General Requirements for a Certified DME Specialist

To become certified as a DME Specialist, a candidate must meet initial experiential requirements and pass a comprehensive written multiple choice exam (MCE) given by the Board of Certification/Accreditation (BOC). Once certified, a BOC DME Specialist must meet continuing education and annual renewal requirements to maintain BOC certification. The BOC Certified DME Specialist also must adhere to a code of ethics designed to ensure a comprehensive scope of professional competence and deportment. The BOC DME Specialist's activities must reflect his/her certification(s) and education.

III. Roles of a Certified Durable Medical Equipment Specialist

A. Client Interaction

Obtain client/caregiver information, prescription validity, and benefits eligibility. Comply with federal, state, and local regulations. Educate client to the operation of equipment/supplies.

B. Product/Supply Selection

Provide appropriate equipment/supplies that meet applicable standards and guidelines in good working order.

C. Practice Management

Manage inventory, perform troubleshooting, and comply with billing standards. Comply with universal precaution procedures and occupational safety and health rules. Document all patient matters and communicate with other professionals.

D. Professional Development and Responsibility

*DME stands for Durable Medical Equipment.

Adhere to legal and ethical codes, participate in continuing education, fulfill civic responsibilities, participate in research as appropriate, and educate the public and health professionals on available DME services. Refer to allied healthcare practitioners when patient/customer presents with medical conditions that are outside of this scope of practice.

IV. Miscellaneous

A. Geographic Scope

The geographic scope of the DME Specialist program is the United States.

B. Setting

Certified DME Specialists can practice in DME facilities and companies.

C. Population

There are at least 50,000 possible DME Specialists in practice.

D. Test Administration Modality

The DME Specialist exam is given as a computer based test. In some special occurrences, the exam can be given as a paper and pencil proctored examination.