CME requirements have become more stringent, and there is increasing scrutiny of professional societies with regard to industry-related conflict of interest. The Annual Meeting Scientific Program Committee strives to create programs that have the highest possible standards with regard to potential conflict of the interest, while at the same time providing the membership with the most current and meaningful basic and clinical research. The following policy has been reviewed and accepted by the AHS Board of Directors.

• Abstracts submitted by industry will be considered in separate categories from other abstracts. Such abstracts should be submitted in one of the following two categories:
  i) Industry-initiated Clinical Trials
  ii) Industry-initiated Research Involving Drugs, Devices, or other Products with a Commercial Interest. This category will not include investigator-initiated studies that may have industry support.

• As with other submitted abstracts, those in the industry categories will be reviewed and scored by the Scientific Program Committee, with the default for abstracts that meet the standards of the committee being acceptance as a poster presentation. The most highly ranked abstracts within the industry categories will be selected for oral presentations. Unlike previous meetings, however, there will be a separate session designated specifically for presentations in the industry category. No CME credit will be awarded for this session (as required by ACCME accreditation rules). Late breaking abstract submissions may be considered for the industry oral presentation session.

Policy approved and adopted December 21, 2016