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ACHC and American College of Apothecaries Promote Safety and Quality

Cary, NC – Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC) announces the renewal of its partnership with American College of Apothecaries (ACA), an organization dedicated to advancing the entrepreneurial spirit of member pharmacists through education, innovation, mentoring, fellowship, and training.

"Both ACHC and ACA are committed to advancing safe practices and quality through education and collaboration," said Jon Pritchett, ACHC Program Director. "ACA's role in the original establishment of PCAB points to the visionary leadership for which they are recognized in serving their members and the industry as a whole. The renewed partnership between ACHC and ACA represents an ongoing expression of our organizations' shared values."

This partnership agreement also allows ACA members and Fellows to receive special pricing on ACHC's Pharmacy Accreditation services, including services provided by the Pharmacy Compounding Accreditation Board (PCAB), and discounts on ACHCU educational resources that can help prepare ACA member pharmacies for accreditation.

"ACA's partnership with ACHC underscores our organizations' commitment to quality and best practices in pharmacy," said Susan Bartlemay, RPh, FACA, FACVP, FAPhA, Executive Vice President, American College of Apothecaries.

"We are thrilled to announce that ACHC is now offering a \$500 discount on accreditation services to our members. We encourage our members to continually strive to deliver the highest standards of health care as demonstrated by the ACHC programs and support them in their efforts."

For 80 years, the American College of Apothecaries (<u>www.acainfo.org</u>) has been dedicated to the advancement of professional practice in independent community pharmacy through education, entrepreneurship, and mentoring. The Fellows and members of ACA are committed to best practices in pharmacy and quality healthcare for their communities.

ACA offers a way for pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, marketers, and students to connect with other pharmacy professionals to discuss areas of mutual interest and strengthen individual practice. This effort is supported through webinars, on-demand continuing education (CE), compounding classes, conferences and other events. ACA's educational programming is available to all pharmacy professions, including non-members.

ACHC offers a broad suite of pharmacy accreditation solutions, including accreditation for Community Retail, Specialty, Sterile/Non-Sterile Compounding (PCAB), Mail Order, Infusion, and Long-Term Care services. Companies seeking to

distinguish themselves within the pharmacy market also can obtain distinctions in Rare Diseases and Orphan Drugs, Oncology, Infectious Disease Specific to HIV, Nutrition Support, and Hazardous Drug Handling.

ACHC PCAB Accreditation offers programs for non-sterile (ref. USP <795>) and sterile (ref. USP <797>) compounding services. PCAB assesses the compounding process based on a specific set of standards that concentrate on the quality and consistency of compounded medications while incorporating performance improvement and ongoing compliance requirements.

ACHC is known for providing value, integrity, and the industry's best customer service, and is dedicated to helping providers address challenges as demand for healthcare services continues to grow.

ACHC's flexible, educational approach makes it the provider's choice for accreditation. ACHC assists providers throughout the accreditation process by offering access to personal account advisors, clinical and regulatory support, and program-specific educational resources. With no annual fees, ACHC offers cost-effective, competitive pricing to help providers achieve their accreditation goals.

For more information on ACHC Accreditation programs and services, or to download ACHC Accreditation Standards, visit www.achc.org, email customerservice@achc.org, or call (855) 937-2242.

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