
ACEND Virtual Town Hall Meeting
January 18, 2022, 11:00 a.m. Central Time

Host: Rayane AbuSabha, PhD, RD
ACEND Executive Director
Presenter: James Swain, PhD, RD
Vice Chair, ACEND Board



Webinar Recording Link

<https://vimeo.com/736183756>

Introduction/Announcements: Rayane AbuSabha welcomed all in attendance and introduced James Swain who presented the Town Hall information.

James indicated the objectives for the virtual Town Hall:

- Provide ACEND update and announcements
- Discuss latest ACEND Board decisions
- Provide an overview of ACEND's webinars and trainings
- Answer questions

James began with updates from ACEND. The 2022 Standards were released on September 1, 2021 and the reformatted Future Education Model Standards were released on November 1, 2021. Both sets of Standards have the same adoption date of June 1, 2022. Based on program directors' request, the ACEND audit will be postponed until December 2023.

The ACEND Board voted to use a transition plan to support programs under review as they move to the 2022 Accreditation Standards. The transition plan describes allowances that can be used when a program is reviewed under the 2017 standards and needs to revise documents to come into compliance. The allowances are designed to help programs move to the 2022 Standards. The transition plan can be found on the [2022 Standards and Templates page](#) under "Guidance Information". Directors of programs under review may contact the ACEND manager assigned to the review for any questions regarding use of the transition plan.

ACEND recently updated the Future Education Model (FEM) website pages to make the information easier to access. The [original](#) and [reformatted](#) FEM Standards and Templates can be directly accessed from the ACEND homepage under "Accreditation Standards, Fees and Policies".

James then provided updates about decisions made by the ACEND Board. At its October 2021 meeting, the ACEND Board voted to accept FEM eligibility applications from programs for review on a rolling basis instead of in cohorts. Previously, ACEND accepted FEM applications in cohorts only, with a set deadline in the month of December every year. Programs are now invited to submit Eligibility Applications for Future Education Model Demonstration Programs at any time throughout the year.

ACEND Town Hall – January 2022

During its August 6, 2021 meeting, the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) approved ACEND's request that fall term graduates who have completed their baccalaureate degrees, DPD and supervised practice requirements by or before December 31, 2023 be processed for registration eligibility, even though CDR may not receive a final, official transcript until January 2024. For details on the procedure to follow, access the October 2021 ACEND Update.

ACEND has received many inquiries from international students who would like to complete their nutrition and dietetics education in the US. These inquiries have increased significantly during the past year with more than a dozen inquiries each week. International students can help increase the diversity of your programs while at the same time alleviate declining enrollments. ACEND has prepared a recording to provide program directors with information on evaluating international students from Foreign Dietitian Education (FDE) and non-ACEND accredited programs. The recording is meant to help program directors understand how to evaluate students from international programs and is posted on the ACEND website under Program Director FAQs. Programs are encouraged to connect with the international office at their institution to develop a plan for evaluating international students and enrolling them in the program.

Dietetic internship programs that are able to 1) provide student visas, 2) accept FDE students and 3) work with them to enroll in the university to complete supervised practice without obtaining a graduate degree, are asked to contact ACEND at ACEND@eatright.org to let us know if we can refer students to your program. These are typically university-based dietetic internships. James reminded Town Hall participants that that FDE students complete more than 1,000 hours of supervised practice experiences in their home country to meet the ACEND competencies. These are the same competencies that are in the Coordinated and Dietetic Internship programs. Therefore, programs are encouraged to use their prior assessed learning policies to evaluate the experiences of FDE students and shorten their stay in the United States.

James then discussed the schedule that the ACEND Board follows for program accreditation decisions. The schedule is posted on the ACEND website under Accreditation Standards, Fees and Policies (subheading: Decision Calendars). On that page you will see two calendars - one for site visits and a second for substantive changes and reorganization reports. James noted that the accreditation decision letter from the Board is emailed to programs two weeks after the Board meeting. Programs should make sure to check these calendars to be aware when they will hear back from ACEND and to plan ahead (or plan backwards from these dates) to decide when their reports should be submitted. For example, a Dietetic Internship program that wishes to add a graduate degree and participate in the Spring 2023 match should submit their substantive change request on or before June 30, 2022. These programs will be reviewed at the October 2022 ACEND Board meeting and will receive the accreditation decision letter early November 2022.

James indicated that, for Spring 2022 only, FEM reorganization reports that are submitted this spring and candidacy programs with site visits this spring will still be reviewed during the monthly Board calls. That is because these programs were on the schedule prior to the development of the Decision Calendars.

Undergraduate Coordinated Programs and Dietetic Internships wishing to add a graduate degree are highly encouraged to submit their substantive change request for adding a graduate degree to ACEND by December 31, 2022 to allow for the ACEND Board to approve the change prior to the deadline. Programs will need to work with their institutional review process to ensure that they have

ACEND Town Hall – January 2022

adequate time to implement curriculum changes and include it in recruitment materials and the admission process. To protect students and meet ACEND requirements, all students/interns completing CP/DI program requirements after December 31, 2023 must have a graduate degree. Programs that are unable to meet this deadline will be reviewed by the ACEND Board for potential action and are required to establish mechanisms, such as temporary affiliation with an academic institution, to ensure this requirement is met. ACEND is also working on a template for programs to add a graduate degree. This will be posted on the ACEND website when it is available.

After January 1, 2024, DI Program Directors cannot enter a graduate from the DI Program into the CDR Registration Eligibility Process System (REPS) until the graduate has met all exam eligibility requirements (graduate degree and supervised practice). CDR will not keep track of a graduate in REPS until the graduate has obtained the graduate degree. If a graduate completes a DI, and does not have a graduate degree, the graduate of the program must contact and inform the Program Director when they have completed the graduate degree requirement and provide documentation of the conferred graduate degree to the Program Director.

James indicated that the ACEND Technology Committee will begin investigating the adoption of a competency assessment software to support ACEND programs' assessment of the 2022 knowledge and competencies and FEM competencies and performance indicators. ACEND hopes to have a decision on which software to adopt in Fall 2022 and begin adoption of this software in 2023. The software will be optional for programs to use; but many programs that are looking for a software tool may want to consider waiting until ACEND chooses the software.

ACEND has launched a series of webinars on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). These webinars are recorded and posted on the ACEND DEI webpage. The next webinar in this series is titled *Supporting Our LGBTQ Students and Dietetic Interns*. It will provide information about the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) community and how educators can support students who identify as LGBTQ. This webinar is presented by Dr. Sharon Groh-Wargo, Professor of Nutrition at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. The webinar will take place on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm CT. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend. James encouraged Town Hall participants to invite constituents, especially preceptors, to attend. Additional information about the webinar and the link to register for it can be found on the ACEND DEI webpage; the recorded webinar will also be posted on this webpage.

James noted that another upcoming ACEND Webinar on DEI is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2022 – *Academy Member Interest Group (MIG) Panel Discussion: Strategies to Improve Diversity and Inclusion in Dietetics Education*. The panel discussion will include representation from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Member Interest Groups. Panel members will be asked to respond to questions regarding their dietetic education experiences and provide strategies for improvement. The panel will be moderated by ACEND Board member, Dr. Crystal Wynn.

In addition, in Summer 2022, ACEND would like to offer a general optional training on diversity, equity and inclusion that is one hour long so that it can be used as a resource by our programs for training their faculty, students and or preceptors, if needed. Many of the speakers ACEND reached out to have been unavailable; thus, ACEND would appreciate speaker recommendations. Please reach out to Rayane at rabusabha@eatright.org.

On Tuesday, March 29, 2022 at 11 am CT ACEND will be offering a webinar to meet knowledge and competencies that address RDN collaboration with NDTRs. The Webinar will be moderated by ACEND

Board representative Judith Kaplan. The information will be presented by Diet Technician Program Directors Heidi Kattee and David Clark. This webinar is intended to be used as an educational tool for our programs to help program directors, faculty and students understand the role of the NDTR in supporting the RDN. NDTR program graduates will be invited to share their work experiences and how their roles support the RDNs in their workplace. Hands-on tools and activities will be provided. The webinar will be recorded and posted on the ACEND website.

ACEND offers several workshops and modules specifically for program directors. These workshops are designed to help dietetic education program directors learn the latest accreditation standards and specific details on how to prepare for self-study reports and site visits. The next workshop that will cover both the 2022 Standards and the Future Education Model FEM Accreditation Standards will be held virtually on February 24-25, 2022. The Competency Based Workshop was also discussed.

ACEND would like to highlight the new toolkit from The NDEP Council: The Salary Negotiation Toolkit which is now available on the NDEP website and portal. This toolkit is intended to help nutrition and dietetics students, interns and educators prepare for successful salary negotiation. Locate the toolkit on the NDEP website <https://www.eatrightpro.org/ndep> Programs are encouraged to make use of this toolkit to assist their students in improving their negotiation skills.

James then encouraged participants to consider becoming a program reviewer if they are not already. Both educators and practitioners are needed. Serving as a reviewer provides a great way to network with other program directors and faculty and to learn new ideas. It also helps the reviewer better understand the ACEND Standards which will benefit their own program, if applicable. Program reviewers typically review 2-3 program self-study reports per year and go on site visits to those programs. They also review 2-4 reports each year as well. Program reviewers are eligible to serve on the ACEND board. The application to become a program reviewer is posted on the ACEND website. ACEND is also in need of FEM program reviewers; current reviewers who are interested in reviewing programs under the Future Education Model Standards should contact ACEND at ACEND@eatright.org.

James discussed communication with ACEND. ACEND will continue to issue its monthly update, typically sent on the third Tuesday of each month and posted on the ACEND website. ACEND also will continue its virtual Town Hall on a periodic basis. The next Town Hall is set for Tuesday, April 19 from 11:00 am – 12:00 noon central time. ACEND staff are always available to assist you and answer any questions you may have.

- 800-877-1600 x5400
- acend@eatright.org

Following the presentation, Rayane thanked James and opened the Town Hall to questions and comments in the chat. These are included below.

Proposed Software Tool

Will the software tool have a fee to the programs?

- Rayane: We have no idea of what it will look like but typically these programs have a cost to them and ACEND would not be able to absorb the entire cost. Because use of the software would be optional, the cost would go to the program. ACEND could possibly negotiate a lower cost depending on the number of programs that would use it.

REPS/Graduate degree requirement/Decision calendar

When we submit DI graduates in CDR, in 2024 and beyond, will we just be uploading their Master's Transcript? Or will there be undergraduate transcripts needed as well in CDR?

- James: My understanding is to upload the DPD documentation and the highest degree transcript.

With the push to integrate a master's degree into existing DIs programs, would ACEND be open to shortening the timeframe in which to gain approval. Having to wait up to 6 months after submitting a substantive change request does not help programs maintain their viability during this transition period- especially with all of us working years in advance to develop partnerships and gain institutional approvals.

- James: ACEND has worked to shorten the time period as much as possible.
- Rayane: The decision calendar has shortened many reviews by 3 months. Our reviewers are volunteers; they need the time to fit the program into their schedules; time for program response; time to add the program to the Board's agenda. There are many requirements built into the process.

When you say a template for programs to add a graduate degree, do you mean the report we submit to ACEND to add the graduate degree?

- Rayane: Yes it will be a specific graduate degree template.
- ACEND Staff Chat: Yes, the substantive change-add graduate degree template will include the standards, required elements with narrative and appendices needed.

Program Reviewers

What are the qualifications needed for program reviewers?

The website states the application is closed. Where do we go to apply?

Do the onsite visits for reviewers mean paid travel?

- James: Yes, that is the case. All program reviewers are given access to a travel registration agency. Travel and per diem expenses are paid for.
- Rayane: Travel, room and board, nothing is coming out of pocket from the reviewer.
- James: For more than a decade now as a program reviewer, the agency that handles the air travel registrations, when there have been last minute changes due to weather or other, I have called and gotten through to a live person who assists me within 10-15 minutes. The agency is superb. The decision to be a program reviewer was one of the best professional decisions I ever made. I have met many wonderful colleagues all across the country and learned things that I brought back to my own program.
- Rayane: As a program reviewer, I was able to show national service for my full professor application.
- The program reviewer application will open starting March 1st.
- <https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/training-and-volunteer-opportunities/program-reviewers>

Didactic Programs in Dietetics

Please provide more details on the required tracking of individual KRDNs for each student in DPD programs. (Standard 4, I think).

- Rayane: NDEP requested a Town Hall for DPD Directors to discuss the knowledge statements. ACEND has agreed to hold the Town Hall in March. We are working out the details with NDEP.

Can you explain the requirements for remediation and documentation thereof in the 2022 Standards (DPD programs)?

- Rayane: The Standards Committee was concerned that remediation was not occurring until the last semester. Discuss how the students are caught in the struggling stage and what is being done so they can catch up and graduate in time.
- James: Based on what Rayane mentioned, what we see as program reviewers and on the Board, programs without a step-wise progression. Students need to see those progressions to avoid student complaints and also so those guidelines are clear to students.

Will DPDs be accredited in 2027?

- James: Yes
- Rayane: The DPDs are here to stay. The Board has no reason to do away with the DPD as it is an important component in education laddering. The Board is now in discussion with the DIs regarding partnerships for FEM programs; partnerships need to be sponsored by the university and many of the free-standing DI programs are unable to do so. The board is looking for solutions for our free-standing DI programs because they are extremely important for the training of students.

Program Director Workshop

- The link to the program director workshops can be found here:
<https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/training-and-volunteer-opportunities/training-and-resources/program-directors-workshops>

DEI Training

My question is about the DEI training. Under the 2022 Standards, there are specific requirements for DEI training for preceptors. Will these ACEND DEI webinars meet the preceptor requirement and are programs expected to track participation?

- James: Yes these will meet the preceptor requirement. You'll track participation of preceptors the same way you are tracking it now.
- Rayane: You can include in tracking the training that preceptors receive from their own institutions as well. As James mentioned earlier, ACEND also plans to have a one-hour training on DEI that could be used for your preceptor training.

Are the DEI Town Hall trainings available to non RD/DTRs? A lot of our food service and community nutrition preceptors are not dietitians.

- James: Yes , provided the access is there.
- Rayane: If the recording is on our website it is available to anyone. It is a service to our programs and we encourage programs to make use of these recordings.
- ACEND Staff Chat: All DEI trainings are recorded and available to anyone on our website. CPEs are provided for RDs and NDTRs.

Is there a way we can track IMPACT of DEI trainings?

- James: One could set about doing that; surveys, looking at changes that occur within programs or areas of employment.
- Rayane: When ACEND found the diversity of DPD and DIs was so different, we talked about it in our Town Hall and had Diversify Dietetics provide information on how to make your applications more holistic. Diversity in DIs was 8% higher this year than the past year and this increase was not seen in other ACEND programs.

I assume you mean race/ethnic diversity. What about gender/sexuality, disability, etc.?

Thanks, Rayane/James. Yes, individual programs could track this. Would ACEND track this?

- Rayane: ACEND is tracking gender/sexuality and we are beginning to offer webinars and trainings gender/sexuality and disability. We will begin tracking trends for gender/sexuality. Unfortunately, we do not collect information on disability and are unable to track it at this time.

Do you see that the academy will mandate DEI training as they do for ethics?

- This is for the Academy and CDR to decide.

Diversity in programs seems to be an important aspect to ACEND but don't you expect diversity to decrease with the MS requirement?

- James: That has been an ongoing discussion for quite some time. It is multi-factorial. As an accrediting agency we are trying to put in place some efforts to deal with it be it outreach, mentoring.
- Rayane: We have data that the graduate coordinated programs have equal or greater diversity than the undergraduate CPs. We are looking at data from the FG programs. The lowest in diversity was the DIs and we worked with programs to improve it.

Site Visits

Why don't we consider doing virtual site visits? Everything is electronic now and it would save money for the program.

- James: There are a number of ways that even in-person site visits can use virtual segments, such as with stakeholders. The USDE requires in-person, on-site elements to a site visit.
- Rayane: Per USDE, we have to go on-site; we have no choice. For those virtual site visits, there have been brief follow-up site visits. We have used virtual site visits for international program accreditation because those programs are not under USDE Standards. During the pandemic, educational program accreditors reached out to USDE to allow 100% virtual site visits; USDE was unable to do so because the in person site visit is written in the statute.

Program Director: I had a virtual site visit due to COVID-19 but personally I found it more difficult to manage.

Program Director: Agree with moving toward virtual site visits! Cost containment needs to be paramount.

Program Reviewer: As an ACEND reviewer, I would not continue to be a reviewer if I had to do it virtually. It was so hard on myself and my family. Everything took twice as long.

Program Director: My program had a virtual site visit that went smoothly. However, the site visitors never turned their cameras on throughout the entire site visit. I was embarrassed for our profession.

- Rayane: Thank you for letting us know and please put this in your survey. We will emphasize in our training materials that the expectation would be for cameras to be turned on.

Why is the virtual site visit 3 days? Can it be shorter?

- James: It is already quite a busy schedule. I can't imagine it being reduced by too much more. There also has to be standardization among program site visits. The Board will continue to look at this.

Comments in the Chats:

Perhaps one day in person but three days total?

Could the site visit be a combination of virtual and in person?

If an in person element is required, then could it be a hybrid?

I would like to see some components of the virtual visit continue. The document review was so much easier this way!!

I agree regarding the document review!

Virtual document review isn't easy for those of us with federal firewalls though.

I think if it [virtual site visit] was at least optional.

FEM Graduate Programs

From my understanding, the new FEM graduate programs do not require specific undergraduate dietetic coursework....is that correct?

- Rayane: In the reformatted 2022 FEM Standards we will remove FGs and call them GPs (graduate programs). The program determines their pre-requisites. Many of these pre-requisites are coming from DPD courses. We noticed that 50% or more of the students going into FGs are DPD-prepared. However, the FEM standards do not specify the pre-requisites needed.

If COVID persists or worsens, will USDE further reduce contact SEL hours further? Clarification: direct contact hours and increase activities such as simulation, etc.

- Rayane: The Board is always looking into it. We will add this to the chairs agenda for discussion.
- Rayane's concern: When we saw programs do the entire clinical rotation virtually. Students need to have experience in a clinical setting. And the same for community and food service. That is why the Board added language to the 2022 standards that at least the majority of supervised practice/SEL must be boots on the ground on-site.

Program Director: We had an exceptional preceptor who worked with a student virtually getting them access to their medical records and meeting with clients virtually. The preceptor had committed to the student and did not want to back out on them. The student is now working as a clinical RD and performing well.

- Rayane: the scenario you describe is not a simulation or alternate practice. The student is doing the work of the dietitian and therefore it counts towards real-world professional practice.

Program Director: We have a clinical instructor, so we had the luxury of creating a very complex virtual hospital, but I have heard from others that they are simply doing EHR go cases online with little supervision. It would be helpful to work towards standards of what is acceptable for alternative supervised practice in clinical dietetics

- Rayane: The Board indicates in the 2022 Standards the majority of the hours have to be in real-world practice; a minimum of 51% of the hours.

So currently the preparation at the undergraduate level plus a graduate degree in any field is considered the same as a graduate FEM preparation?

What is the difference between a GP and a CP granting a master's degree?

- Rayane: The curriculum, competencies and performance indicators; competency-based education is the difference between a GP and a CP.

How will the students discern the difference between the (future) graduate programs and the regular graduate program with or without internship or CP? Seems very confusing to the student.

- James: There will always be a period when students need to be informed by their directors and other resources to explain the differences.
- Rayane: The hope of the Board is that eventually the FGs and CPs will merge as one program type.

Dietetic Internship Programs

Did I hear correctly that all DIs "must" partner with a college or university?

- Rayane: That is only for the FEM. DIs at the VAs will not be able to do this type of partnership. The Board continues to discuss the free-standing DIs as they are extremely important to the Board.

Rayane and James thanked everyone (143 participants) for their discussion on the Town Hall. The call ended at 12:21 pm CT.

**Accreditation Council
for Education in
Nutrition and Dietetics**

**eat
right.**
the accrediting agency for the
Academy of Nutrition
and Dietetics

Welcome to the ACEND Virtual Town Hall

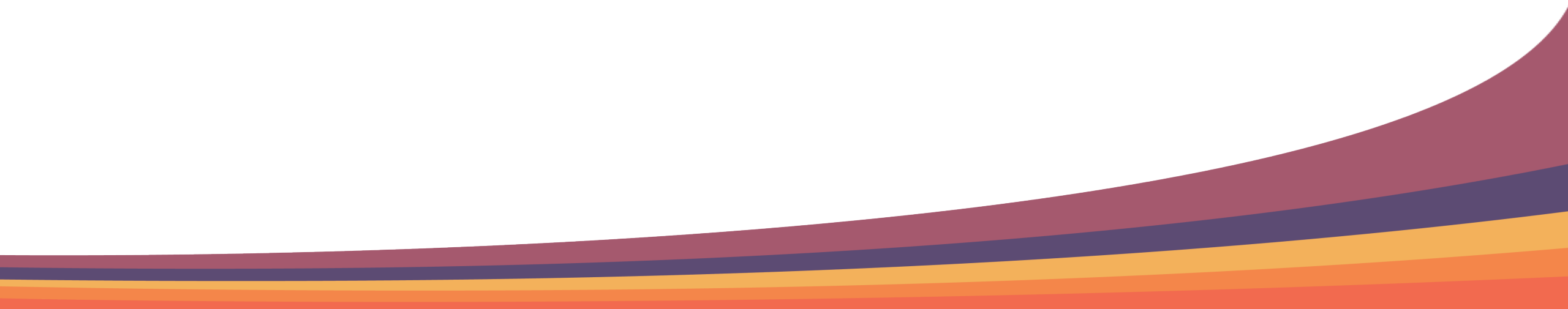


James Swain, PhD, RD
ACEND Board,
Vice Chair

Objectives

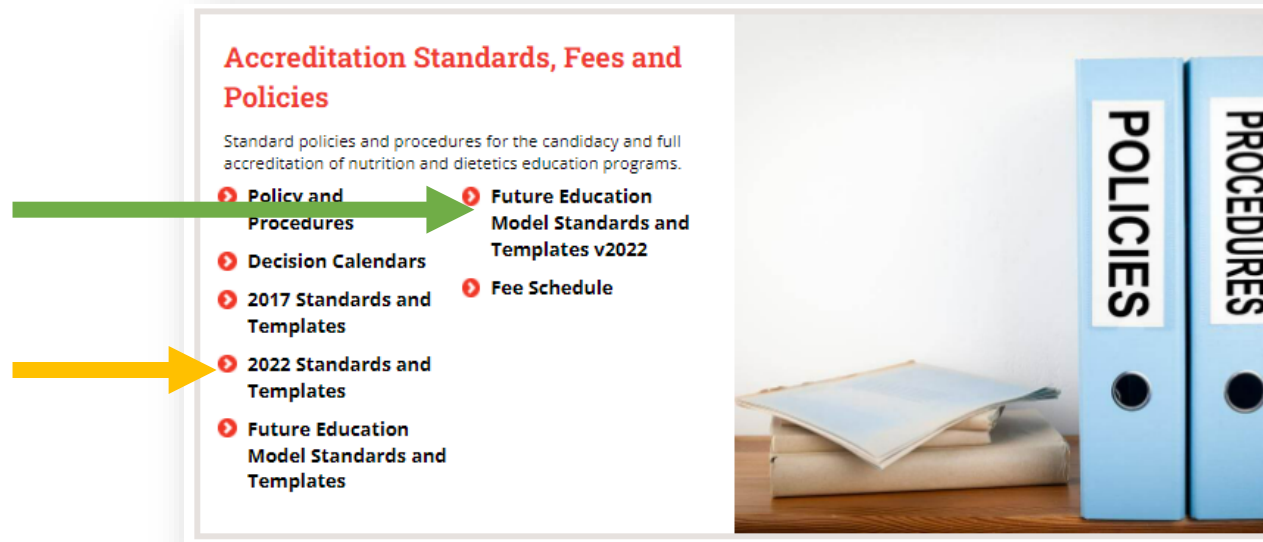
- Provide ACEND update and announcements
- Discuss latest ACEND Board decisions
- Provide overview of ACEND's webinars and trainings
- Answer questions

ACEND Updates and Announcements



ACEND Accreditation Standards

2022 Standards	FEM Standards
• Released September 1, 2021	• Released November 1, 2021
Adoption date: June 1, 2022 ACEND audit: December 2023	



Accreditation Standards, Fees and Policies

Standard policies and procedures for the candidacy and full accreditation of nutrition and dietetics education programs.

- ▶ Policy and Procedures
- ▶ Decision Calendars
- ▶ 2017 Standards and Templates
- ▶ 2022 Standards and Templates
- ▶ Future Education Model Standards and Templates

- ▶ Future Education Model Standards and Templates v2022
- ▶ Fee Schedule

The graphic also includes a photograph of two blue binders on a desk. The left binder is labeled 'POLICIES' and the right binder is labeled 'PROCEDURES'. A stack of papers is visible in front of the binders. A green arrow points from the 'Policy and Procedures' item in the list to the 'POLICIES' binder, and a yellow arrow points from the '2022 Standards and Templates' item to the 'PROCEDURES' binder.

2017 to 2022 Transition Plan



2017 – 2022 Accreditation Standards Transition Plan- To support programs as they transition from the 2017 to 2022 Accreditation Standards ACEND will use the following transition plan when evaluating programs under review until June 1, 2022.

Program Accreditation Review Issues	2017 Accreditation Standards	2022 Accreditation Standards	Recommended Transitional Plan
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Requires wording changes for the mission, goals, or objectives. Requires changes to the Program Evaluation Plan due to changes to the mission, goals, or objectives. 	<p>Standard 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required wording for mission, goals, or objectives Program-specific objectives <p>Standard 4, Required Element 4.1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blank Program Evaluation Plan template that must be updated to meet Standard 3 	<p>Standard 2, Required Elements 2.1 and 2.2:</p> <p>The Standard now includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program Evaluation Plan verbatim objective wording. Verbatim wording for objective about percent of graduates taking CDR exam Mission statement language liberalized. <p>The Standard no longer requires program-specific objectives</p>	<p>If required wording for the mission, goals or objectives is missing, indicate in the decision letter the issues and request they make changes based on 2022 standards and submit a 2022 PEP in an interim report.</p> <p>If the identified issue is related to the wording of the program-specific objective, no action is required.</p> <p>If the program-specific objectives are not identified and are needed to measure the full intent of the goal, the program is required to submit a 2022 standards PEP template.</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Wording issues with the program-specific competencies. Concentration competencies are not identified. <p>(Not applicable to FEM Programs)</p>	<p>Standard 5, Required Element 5.1:</p> <p>The program's curriculum must include at least one program-defined concentration and develop at least two program-specific competencies with associated learning activities.</p>	<p>Standard 2, Required Elements 2.1 and 2.2:</p> <p>Concentrations are no longer required.</p>	<p>If the identified issue is related to the wording of the concentration competencies, no action is required.</p> <p>If the concentration competencies are not identified, the program is required to submit a revised curriculum map and a</p>

Plan for allowances when a program is reviewed under the 2017 standards and needs to revise documents to come into compliance

2017 to 2022 Transition Plan

- [Candidacy Teach Out Plan Template](#)

Guidance Information

- [Guidance Information Document](#)
- [2017 to 2022 Transition Plan](#)

ACEND Decision Calendar

The ACEND Board follows the decision [calendar](#) for program accreditation

Accreditation Standards, Fees and Policies

Standard policies and procedures for the candidacy and full accreditation of nutrition and dietetics education programs.

- Policy and Procedures
- Decision Calendars
- 2017 Standards and Templates
- 2022 Standards and Templates
- Future Education Model Standards and Templates
- Future Education Model Standards and Templates v2022
- Fee Schedule



Update to ACEND's FEM Website Pages

Reformatted
FEM Standards.
For adoption
June 1, 2022

Existing
FEM Standards

Accreditation Standards, Fees and Policies

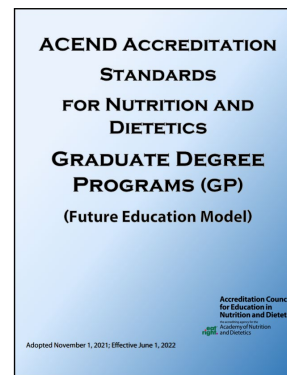
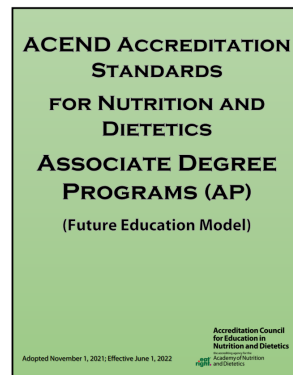
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- ▶ Policy and Procedures
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- ▶ Fee Schedule



Rolling Eligibility for FEM Applications

- ACEND Board voted to accept *FEM* eligibility applications on a rolling basis instead of in cohorts
- Programs are invited to submit Eligibility Applications for FEM Demonstration Programs at **any time throughout the year.**



Future Education Model (FEM) Accreditation Standards
Associate, Graduate

Processing Candidates Verified by December 31, 2023 for Registration Eligibility – New CDR Decision

During its August 6, 2021 meeting, CDR approved ACEND's request that fall term graduates who have completed their baccalaureate degrees, DPD and supervised practice requirements by or before December 31, 2023 be processed for registration eligibility, even though CDR may not receive a final, official transcript until January 2024.



Public Notices and Announcements

ACEND® adheres to principles of transparency and regularly posts information regarding accreditation processes, policies, standards and requirements.

- ▶ ACEND UPdate
- ▶ Noteworthy Practices
- ▶ Filing a Complaint
- ▶ Accreditation Decisions
- ▶ ACEND Standards News
- ▶ Programs Under Review
- ▶ Virtual Town Hall Meetings

Access October 2021 ACEND UPdate
for details

International Students - Recording


- How to evaluate international students
 - Recording posted on the ACEND website



Program Directors

ACEND offers multiple resources for dietetic program directors including a program director portal which includes an accreditation forum with information and forms for meeting ACEND accreditation requirements.

- ▶ Dietetic Internship Match for Directors
- ▶ ISPP for Directors
- ▶ Program Director FAQs and Resources



Topics

- About ACEND +
- Accreditation Standards, Fees and Policies +
- Accredited Programs +
- Accreditation Process +
- Public Notices and Announcements +
- Students and Advancing Education +
- Program Directors Dietetic Internship Match for Directors ISPP for Directors Program Director FAQs and Resources -
- Training and Volunteer Opportunities +

Program Director FAQs and Resources

ACEND® receives inquiries from program directors about various topics within the accreditation process. The links below provide information about commonly asked questions as well as resources that can assist program directors. If you need further assistance, please contact [ACEND Staff](#).

Resources for ACEND Program Directors

Pass rate tools and tips, orientation handouts and information about the distance education authorization.

Evaluating International Students Applying to U.S.- Based ACEND Programs

This webinar explains how to work with international students from both ACEND-accredited international programs and non-accredited international programs who wish to apply to your ACEND-accredited program.

FAQs: Future Options for Free-Standing Dietetic Internships

ACEND® hosted and recorded a topic-specific Virtual Town Hall meeting on Tuesday September 24, 2019. Program options for free-standing dietetic internships were discussed regarding the 2024 CDR graduate degree eligibility requirement and the Future Education Model Accreditation Standards.

FAQs by ACEND Program Directors - General Questions

Learn where to find report templates, substantive change guidelines and program director change forms as well as other general questions.

FAQs About Verification Statements

Did you know that verification statements do not expire; however, individual internships may have different admission requirements related to recency of education for particular courses.

FAQs About Accreditation of Dietetics Education Programs

Dietetics education programs voluntarily apply to ACEND® of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics for accreditation by

International Students

Call for DIs accepting international students from ACEND FDE programs (Foreign Dietitian Program)

- Contact ACEND at acend@eatright.org
- Reminder: FDE students complete more than 1,000 hours of supervised practice experiences in their home country to meet the CRDNS
- Programs are encouraged to use their prior assessed learning policies to evaluate the experiences of FDE students.

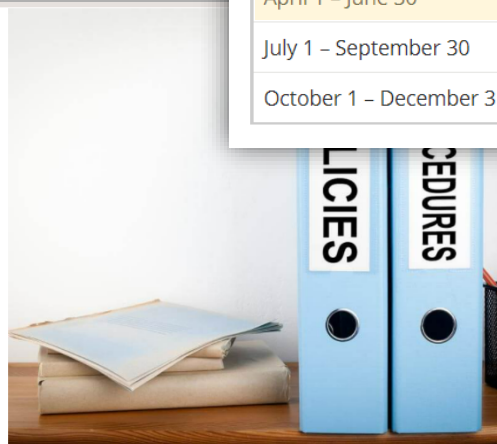
REMINDER! ACEND Decision Calendar

- ACEND's schedule for program accreditation decisions

Accreditation Standards, Fees and Policies

Standard policies and procedures for the candidacy and full accreditation of nutrition and dietetics education programs.

- Policy and Procedures ➤ Fee Schedule
- Decision Calendars
- 2017 Standards and Templates
- 2022 Standards and Templates
- Future Education Model



ACEND Decision Calendars

Site Visits

Site Visit Occurs During:	Program will be reviewed at the following Board Meeting:
January - March	October
April - June	January
July - October	April
November - December	July

Substantive Changes and Reorganization Reports

Refer to the substantive change guidelines document to identify which program changes require Board approval.

Substantive Change Received by ACEND between:	Substantive Change will be reviewed at the following Board Meeting:
January 1 - March 31	July
April 1 - June 30	October
July 1 - September 30	January
October 1 - December 31	April

example

Substantive Change Deadlines to Add a Graduate Degree and Entering Graduates in REPS after January 1, 2024

■ CPs and DIs

- Submit substantive change to add graduate degree by December 31, 2022
- All students/interns completing CP/DI program requirements after December 31, 2023 must have a graduate degree.


Entering graduates in REPS after January 1, 2024

- After January 1, 2024, DI Program Directors cannot enter a graduate from the DI Program into the CDR REPS until the graduate has **met all exam eligibility requirements** (graduate degree, didactic, and supervised practice).

Registration Eligibility Processing System (REPS)

The REPS system maximizes the use of technology enhancements, to streamline CDR registration eligibility processing procedures.

- [REPS Login Page](#)
- [REPS Program Director Guide](#)
- [REPS Quick Start Guide](#)
- [Program Director Instructions](#)
- [Eligibility Document Retention Policy](#)
- [REPS Frequently Asked Questions](#)



<https://www.cdrnet.org/program-director>

Core Knowledge/Competencies/Performance Indicators

DISCOVERY



SCORING



GROUPING



COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT SOFTWARE

soft.com

Competency Assessment Software

- ACEND is investigating adopting a competency assessment software to support programs' assessment of the 2022 knowledge/competencies and FEM competencies and performance indicators.
- Decision and adoption by 2022-2023, if possible

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion ACEND Webinars

www.eatrightpro.org/ACENDforDEI

- ACEND Series of Webinars on DEI
 - *Supporting Our LGBTQ Students and Dietetic Interns*
 - Presented by Sharon Groh-Wargo, PhD, RDN
 - Tuesday February 8, 2022: 11:00 am CT – 12:30 pm CT (1.5 CPEUs)
 - To register, go to:
www.eatrightpro.org/acendfordei

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND)

Presents:

Supporting our LGBTQ Students and Dietetic Interns

February 8, 2022

11:00 am – 12:30 pm CT

Presented by:

Sharon Groh-Wargo, PhD, RDN

Pediatric/Neonatal Dietitian, Professor of Nutrition

Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, Ohio.

ACEND continues its series of webinars to assist nutrition faculty in addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion in their programs. This session will provide information about the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) community and how educators can support students who identify as LGBTQ. Trends among young adults, emerging information in health and wellness, specific ideas of how to ensure students feel welcome, and identification of resources will be included. All ACEND stakeholders (faculty, administrators, preceptors, students, interns, etc.) are invited to attend.

Click [here](#) to register.

Requested for 1.5 CPE



Sharon Groh-Wargo is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist at MetroHealth Medical Center and Professor, Nutrition and Pediatrics, at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland, Ohio. Sharon has over 40 years of experience, is a nationally known speaker and researcher, and has authored numerous publications on neonatal nutrition. At MetroHealth, she was a founding member of the hospital's employee resource group that was started in 2006 to support LGBTQ staff and patients. She is also Vice-President of the Cleveland, Ohio chapter of PFLAG. She has been involved with PFLAG Cleveland for nearly 20 years and served as President from 2005 to 2018. In 2019, Sharon received the PFLAG Cleveland Jane Daroff Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her contributions and dedication to the chapter.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion ACEND Webinars

www.eatrightpro.org/ACENDforDEI

- Upcoming ACEND Webinars on DEI
 - *Academy Member Interest Group (MIG) Panel Discussion: Strategies to Improve Diversity and Inclusion in Dietetics Education*
 - Panel moderated by Crystal Wynn, PhD, RD, ACEND Board
 - Tuesday May 17, 2022: 11:00 am CT – 12:30 am CT
 - *General Training on DEI*
 - Planned for Summer 2022 – 1 hour long
 - Email rabusabha@eatright.org for speaker recommendations

Educational Tools Webinar/Town Hall

How the NDTR Can Support the RDN

- *Dietetic Dream Team – How the NDTR Can Support the RDN*
 - Webinar moderated by Judith Kaplan, MS, RD, ACEND Board
 - Presenters: Heidi Kattee, MS, RDN, CD, FAND and David Clark, MS, RDN, LD
 - Tuesday March 29, 2022: 11:00 am CT – 12:30 am CT

Registration information will soon be posted on the ACEND website, Town Hall page.

Program Director Workshops and Online Modules

- **2022 Standards and FEM Program Director Workshop Virtual**

- February 24-25, 2022

Recorded Workshop

- **CBE Workshop – presented by Leanne Worsfold (5 CEUs)**

Training and Volunteer Opportunities

ACEND provides opportunities for both accreditation and dietetics and nutrition professionals to expand their knowledge with professional development resources.

- Preceptors and Mentors
- Program Reviewers
- Training and Resources
- Dietetics Preceptor Training Program



New NDEP Toolkit: Salary Negotiation

Nutrition and Dietetic Educators and Preceptors

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Topics

- About NDEP +
- NDEP Member Resources -
 - NDEP Portal and EML
 - NDEP-Line Newsletter
 - NDEP Documents
 - NDEP Meetings
- Preceptor Resources +

NDEP Documents

NDEP Resources

Salary Negotiation Toolkit

Authors: Meredith G. Wagner, PhD, RD, LRD, FAND and Shontarius D. Aikens, PhD

The ability to negotiate salary is a key skill needed to support nutrition and dietetics professionals as they seek out and obtain employment to ensure they are appropriately compensated for the value they add to the employer. Use of this toolkit is intended to help nutrition and dietetics students, interns, and educators prepare for and achieve successful salary negotiation. More specifically, this toolkit is designed to:

- Provide information on negotiation principles
- Allow nutrition and dietetics students, interns, and educators to apply their knowledge of salary negotiation and assess their understanding using real-world case studies and quizzes
- Highlight additional, credible resources pertaining to salary negotiation

Documents

- [Toolkit](#)
- [Case Studies](#)

Locate the toolkit on the NDEP website:

<https://www.eatrightpro.org/ndep/member-resources/documents>

ACEND Program Reviewers

- **Great Opportunity!**
 - Networking
 - Benefit to learn from others
 - Learn standards
- **Responsibilities:**
 - Review self-study reports and go on site visits (2-3/year), review Progress Reports (2-4/year)
- **Application on ACEND website**
www.eatright.org/acend

**ACEND Reviewer
Recruiter**

**Accreditation Council
for Education in
Nutrition and Dietetics**

the accrediting agency for the
**eat
right.** Academy of Nutrition
and Dietetics

Ask me how!

**FEM
Reviewers
Needed**

Communication from ACEND

- **ACEND Update**

- Monthly update from ACEND posted on the website

- **Virtual Town Hall**

- Next town hall: Tuesday, April 19, 11:00 am – 12:00 noon CT
- Directions for joining on the ACEND website

- **ACEND Staff**

- 800-877-1600 x5400
- acend@eatright.org