

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2018 Standards of Professional Performance for RDNs (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners (EONDP)

What are the Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP)?

SOPP are consensus standards for RDNs to use for professional development and to assure competence.

The standards provide a guide for self-evaluation; determine education and skills needed for advancing practice levels; and may be used by employers or regulatory agencies to determine competence for credentialed nutrition and dietetics practitioners.

SOPP

6 Domains of Professionalism

Quality in Practice
Competence and Accountability
Provision of Services

Application of Research
Communication and Application of Knowledge
Utilization and Management of Resources



WHAT?

What is a Focus Area?

- A focus area of nutrition and dietetics practice is a defined field of practice that requires specialized knowledge, skills and experience.
- It relates to how a practitioner specializes in a specific area of practice (e.g., education, diabetes care, mental health & addictions, eating disorders).¹
 - The SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for RDNs² serves as the blueprint for the SOPP in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners in competent, proficient, and expert levels of practice.



WHEN?

When is a Focus Area SOP SOPP updated?

- Seven-year review process
- Indicated by changes in
 - healthcare and other business segments
 - public health initiatives
 - new research that guides evidence-based practice and best practices
 - consumer interests
 - technological advances
 - emerging practice environments



HOW?

How were EONDP Standards updated?

The article, indicators, and figures were revised with input and consensus of content experts representing diverse EONDP practice areas/settings and geographic perspectives.

Reviewed and approved by the Nutrition and Dietetics Educators and Preceptors Council and the Academy Quality Management Committee.

Sources:

¹ Definition of Terms List. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Accessed February 4, 2021. <https://www.eatrightpro.org/definitions>.

² Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Quality Management Committee. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2017 Standards of Practice in Nutrition Care and Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists. *J Acad Nutr Diet*. 2018;118(1): 132-140.

Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners

Overview and Application



Education



Faculty and Preceptors



Students



Interprofessional

Overview

Nutrition and dietetics education and preparation for practice is a multifaceted educational structure composed of education, supervised practice, applying or producing research, and professional growth. RDN faculty and preceptors engage in closely related but distinct activities, are role models, and use active and collaborative learning techniques to engage students/interns. Faculty in nutrition and dietetics education programs play integral roles in the planning and defining of educational goals and program and student outcomes. Preceptors in supervised practice settings provide guidance, practical experience, and training to nutrition and dietetics students/interns.¹

RDNs in EONDP must remain up-to-date in the knowledge, delivery, and assessment of nutrition and dietetics education-related services to reflect changes in the field of nutrition and dietetics.¹



Role Example – RDN Faculty, Nutrition and Dietetics Education Program

“An RDN faculty member teaching nutrition and dietetics courses refers to the Revised 2018 SOPP for RDNs in EONDP to understand the competence expectation for educators (ie, in-person or distance). The RDN also accesses other focus area SOPs and/or SOPPs (eg, Nutrition Support, Pediatrics, Oncology Nutrition, Nephrology Nutrition, Diabetes Care, Adult Weight Management, Integrative and Functional Medicine) to identify practice roles and outcomes for entry-level competent practice; and focus area resources to use in development of lectures and assignments. The RDN reviews the Revised 2018 SOPP for RDNs in EONDP to evaluate knowledge and skills, and to set goals for strengthening competence in this area of practice.”¹

Additional Information and Resources

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

- Scope of Practice: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/scope>
- Standards of Practice: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/sop>

Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

- Scope and Standards for RDNs and NDTRs Collection: <https://jandonline.org/content/core>
- Focus Area Standards for CDR Specialist Credentials Collection: <https://jandonline.org/content/credentialed>
- Focus Area Standards for RDNs Collection: <https://jandonline.org/content/focus>

Nutrition and Dietetics Educators and Preceptors: <https://www.ndepnet.org/>

Sources:

¹ Border K, Endrizal, C, Ceil M. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2020 Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners. *J Acad Nutr Diet*. 2019; 119(1): 124-136.e29.