

ACEND® Strategic Plan

June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2026

Accreditation Council
for Education in
Nutrition and Dietetics

the accrediting agency for the
Academy of Nutrition
and Dietetics



VISION

ACEND® is valued for advancing excellence in nutrition and dietetics education.

MISSION

ACEND® ensures the quality of nutrition and dietetics education to advance the practice of the profession.

VALUES

Collaboration—ACEND® board members acknowledge the power of working together in both the program review and the decision-making process to support nutrition and dietetics students' success.

Accountability—ACEND® board members, program reviewers and staff accept responsibility for assuring that ACEND®-accredited programs provide education and experiences that meet all accreditation standards.

Respect—ACEND® board members, program reviewers and staff treat all people with consideration, courtesy, and dignity.

Ethics—ACEND® board members, program reviewers, and staff conduct objective, fair, and unbiased program evaluations and demonstrate integrity and ethical behavior in all actions, behaviors, and interactions.

MEASUREMENTS OF SUCCESS

Goals	Objectives
Elevate the quality of nutrition and dietetics education across the globe	<p>80% agreement in quality assurance panel review consistency evaluation</p> <p>An average evaluation rating by program directors, administrators and reviewers of the site visit is 4.5 or higher on a 5.0 scale</p> <p>40% increase in accredited international programs</p> <p>Foster innovation by recognizing and promoting at least three programs that implemented a new pedagogy/practice related to ACEND® accreditation (e.g., curriculum, recruitment, admission, policies) each year</p>
Promote opportunities for increasing diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging, and access in nutrition and dietetics education	<p>A minimum of two presentations (e.g., town halls, webinars, FNCE) focusing on this goal to interested parties annually</p> <p>2% enrollment increase in underrepresented groups in ACEND® accredited programs based on annual report</p>
Focus communication and collaboration to cultivate excellence in nutrition and dietetics	<p>50% of program directors with a self-study due within two years complete in-person or online program director or program reviewer workshop training</p> <p>90% of program reviewers complete annual mandatory training</p> <p>A minimum of two presentations (e.g., town halls, webinars, FNCE) to practitioners on ACEND standards and activities each year</p> <p>A minimum of one presentation to interested parties on results from demonstration program project each year</p>