

ACEND® Strategic Plan

June 1, 2026 - May 31, 2029

**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, program reviewers, and staff embrace the transformative power of collaboration, recognizing that working collectively in program review and decision-making fosters innovation, accountability, and excellence.

Accountability—ACEND® board members, program reviewers, and staff accept responsibility for assuring that ACEND®-accredited programs consistently meet or exceed accreditation standards.

Respect—ACEND® board members, program reviewers, and staff are committed to fostering a culture of respect by treating every individual with unwavering consideration, professionalism, and dignity. We value all perspectives and experiences, and we intentionally cultivate supportive environments where all voices are heard and honored.

Ethics—ACEND® board members, program reviewers, and staff are committed to upholding the highest ethical standards, conducting objective, fair, and impartial program evaluations. We demonstrate integrity in every decision to ensure transparency, accountability, and trust in the accreditation process.

MEASUREMENTS OF SUCCESS

Goals	Objectives
Elevate and expand the quality of nutrition and dietetics education across the world	<p>At least 90% 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>Accredit two to three new international programs in the next three years.</p> <p>Foster innovation by recognizing and promoting at least two programs each year through the noteworthy practices, town halls, or other platforms.</p>
Develop practices that support student success	<p>Offer a minimum of two presentations annually to programs (e.g., town halls, webinars, recordings) to promote student success with 80% of attendees indicating the information is useful.</p> <p>Offer a minimum of one resource annually to students (e.g., presentations, podcasts, written materials) to promote student success.</p>
Focus communication and resources around current standards to meet the needs of constituents	<p>At least 90% of program reviewers complete annual mandatory training.</p> <p>A minimum of two presentations annually (e.g., town halls, webinars) on ACEND standards and activities with 80% of attendees indicating the information useful.</p>