

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

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

ACEND Accreditation Webinar for Program Directors

Webinar Objectives

Performance Objectives

As a result of completing this webinar, participants will be able to:

- Describe principles of ACEND accreditation.
- State Program Director responsibilities.
- State resources on the ACEND Website

About ACEND

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) is the accrediting agency for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

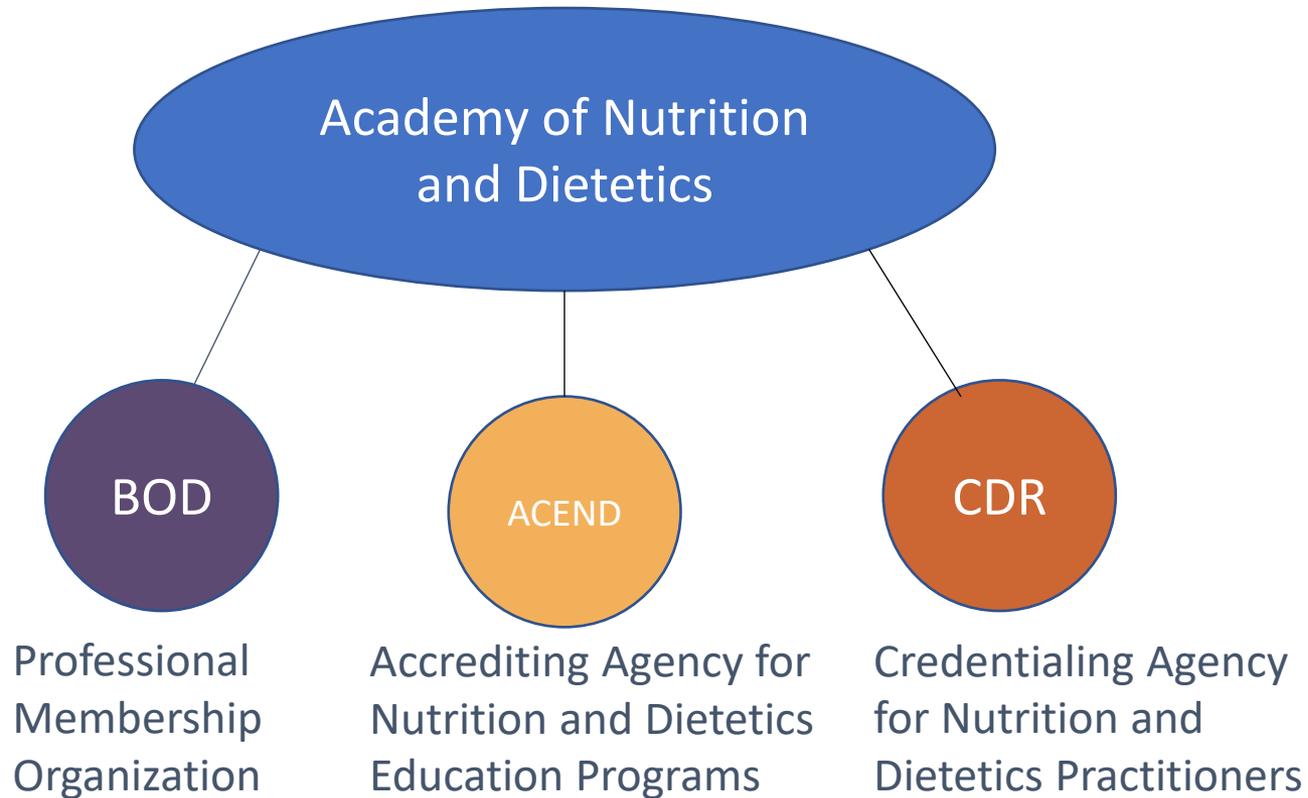
ACEND accredits education programs preparing students for careers as Registered Dietitians Nutritionists or Nutrition and Dietetic Technicians, Registered.

Our Responsibilities – What We Do

Our Mission:

Ensure the quality of nutrition and dietetics education to advance the practice of the profession

- Our accreditation decisions and policies are made autonomously from other Academy units.



Our Responsibilities – What We Do

We ensure quality in dietetics education by:

- establishing and maintaining accreditation standards that reflect current practice
- conducting rigorous peer review
- identifying and sharing best practices
- encouraging innovation

We protect students and the public by ensuring quality.

What is Accreditation?

Accreditation is an evidence-based, peer-review process for assuring and improving the quality of education and protecting the public.

Accreditation is about getting the best from your students and your program



ACEND is reviewed by an 18-member committee of appointees from the U.S. Senate (6), House of Representatives (6) and U.S. Department of Education (6)



Accreditation is a Collaborative Process



ACEND Board

The ACEND Board is the governing unit of ACEND which makes final accreditation decisions. As a decision-making body of a federally-recognized accrediting agency, the board must include at least one educator, practitioner, public and administrative member.

Standards

- Define minimum levels of quality
- Basis for accreditation decisions
- Applied equally to all programs
- Revised on a routine basis
- 2022 Standards implementation: June 1, 2022

ACEND 2022 Accreditation Standards

- Nutrition and Dietetics Coordinated Programs (**CP**)
- Nutrition and Dietetics Internship Programs (**DI**)
- Nutrition and Dietetics Didactic Programs (**DPD**)
- Nutrition and Dietetics Technician Programs (**DT**)
- Nutrition and Dietetics Foreign Dietitian Education Programs (**FDE**)

ACEND Future Education Model Accreditation Standards

- Future Education Model Accreditation Standards for Associate Degree Programs (**AP**)
- Future Education Model Accreditation Standards for Graduate Degree Programs (**GP**)

Organization of the Standards

- 1: Program Characteristics and Resources
- 2: Program Mission, Goals and Objectives and Program Evaluation and Improvement
- 3: Curriculum and Learning Activities
- 4: Student Learning Outcomes Assessment and Curriculum Improvement
- 5: Faculty and Preceptors
- 6: Supervised Practice Sites
- 7: Information to Prospective Students and the Public
- 8: Policies and Procedures

Example: Standard 2

Standard 2: Program Mission, Goals, Objectives and Program Evaluation and Improvement

The program must have a clearly formulated and publicly stated mission with supporting goals and objectives by which it intends to prepare students for practice as a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist. The program must have a program evaluation plan to continuously evaluate the achievement of its mission, goals and objectives, use the plan to collect data, improve the program based on findings and update the plan accordingly.

REQUIRED ELEMENTS:

2.1 A program evaluation plan must be documented, reviewed annually, updated as needed with changes noted and must include the following components:

- a. The program mission. The program mission must be specific to the program, distinguishes it from other programs in the sponsoring organization and be compatible with the mission statement or philosophy of the sponsoring organization.
- b. The program goals. The program must have at least two goals focused on program outcomes for graduates that are consistent with the program's mission.
- c. The program objectives. The program objectives must measure the full intent of the mission and goals and are used to evaluate achievement of each program goal.
 1. The program must align the following ACEND-required objectives with their program goals and demonstrate that the program is operating in the interest of students and the public. The program must set reasonable target measures when the targets are not specified. Required objectives must be evaluated annually using an average of data from the previous three years
 - a. Program Completion: "At least 80% of students complete program requirements within ____ (150% of planned program length)".
 - b. Graduate Employment: "Of graduates who seek employment, at least ____ percent are employed in nutrition and dietetics or related fields within 12 months of graduation".
 - c. Graduate Performance on Registration Exam:
 1. "At least ____ percent of program graduates take the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists within 12 months of program completion".
 2. "The program's one-year pass rate (graduates who pass the registration exam within one year of first attempt) on the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists is at least 80%".
 - d. Employer Satisfaction: The program must develop an objective for employer satisfaction with graduate's preparation for entry-level practice.
- d. Qualitative and/or quantitative data needed to determine whether goals and objectives have been achieved.
- e. Groups from which data will be obtained; both internal and external stakeholders must be represented (such as graduates, administrators, faculty, preceptors, employers, practitioners, nutrition and dietetics education program directors, faculty from other disciplines and advisory committees).
- f. Evaluation methods that will be used to collect the data.
- g. Individuals responsible for ensuring that data are collected.
- h. Timeline for collecting the necessary data.

The program must evaluate the achievement of its goals and objectives based on its program evaluation plan and provide evidence that:

- a. Program outcomes data are collected according to the program evaluation plan, summarized and analyzed by comparing achievements with objectives. ISPP data, if applicable, are collected, summarized and analyzed separately.
- b. Data analysis is used to evaluate the extent to which goals and objectives are being achieved.
- c. The targets set for ACEND required objectives are met.
- d. Program changes have been made to improve outcomes for unmet objective(s).
- e. Programmatic planning and outcomes evaluation are integrated with institutional planning and assessment, as appropriate.

Results of the program evaluation process must be used to identify strengths and areas for improvement relative to components of the program (such as policies, procedures, curriculum, teaching methods, faculty, preceptors, resources). Short- and long-term strategies must be developed and actions must be taken to maintain program strengths and address areas for improvement identified through the evaluation process.

Guidance Information

Required Element 2.1	Narrative to Support Achievement
<p>All Programs:</p> <p>A program evaluation plan must be documented, reviewed annually, updated as needed with changes noted and must include the following components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The program mission. The program mission must be specific to the program, distinguishes it from other programs in the sponsoring organization and be compatible with the mission statement or philosophy of the sponsoring organization. The program goals. The program must have at least two goals focused on program outcomes for graduates that are consistent with the program’s mission. The program objectives. The program objectives must measure the full intent of the mission and goals and are used to evaluate achievement of each program goal. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The program must align the following ACEND-required objectives with their program goals and demonstrate that the program is operating in the interest of students/interns and the public. The program must set reasonable target measures when the targets are not specified. Required objectives must be evaluated annually using an average of data from the previous three years: <p>CP:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Program Completion: “At least 80% of students complete program requirements within ____ (150% of planned program length)”. Graduate Employment: “Of graduates who seek employment, at least ____ percent are employed in nutrition and dietetics or related fields within 12 months of graduation”. Graduate Performance on Registration Exam: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> “At least ____ percent of program graduates take the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists within 12 months of program completion”. “The program’s one-year pass rate (graduates who pass the registration exam within one year of first attempt) on the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists is at least 80%”. Employer Satisfaction: The program must develop an objective for employer satisfaction with graduate’s preparation for entry-level practice. 	<p>All Programs:</p> <p>Mission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide the mission statements for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the institution the college and/or department in which the program resides, and the program, itself Explain how the mission supports the program’s intent to prepare students/interns for nutrition and dietetics practice and careers. Discuss the compatibility of the program’s mission statement with the sponsoring organization. <p>Goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State your program goals. Discuss how the goals support the program’s mission <p>Note: Provide program goals that are well constructed (i.e., are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, time related) and generally stated in terms of the impact of the program on graduates and their contributions to the nutrition and dietetics profession. The goals must use the term “graduates” and must not use the terms “students” or “interns”. Avoid having student learning objectives or management plans (i.e., action plans for running the program on a day-to-day basis) as program goals. A program can have more than two goals.</p>

Required Element

Narrative

Guidance Information

Appendix Evidence	Onsite Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most recently reviewed Program Evaluation Plan listing entries for the history of annual review, program mission, goals and objectives, the data to be collected for all program goals and objectives, groups from which data will be collected, methods used to collect data, individuals responsible for data collection and the timeline for data collection (use program specific template titled "Program Evaluation Plan") 	<p>All Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes from planning meetings or other documentation discussing development of mission, goals and objectives Historical data used to determine target measures <p>CP, DI, DT, FDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include separate program completion data for students/interns placed in 1) remote supervised practice sites and 2) student-identified supervised practice sites, if applicable

← Onsite Evidence

↑
Appendix

Standards and Guidance Information

www.eatrightpro.org/ACEND

Fee Schedule	
• Accredited Programs +	2022 Accreditation Standards Webinar and Trainings
• Accreditation Process +	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation Recording• Presentation Slides• Presentation Questions and Answers• Standard 4 (Student Learning Assessment and Curriculum Improvement) Recording
• Public Notices and Announcements +	2022 ACEND Accreditation Standards
• Students and Advancing Education +	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2022 Accreditation Standards for Nutrition and Dietetics Coordinated Programs (CP)• 2022 Accreditation Standards for Nutrition and Dietetics Internship Programs (DI)• 2022 Accreditation Standards for Nutrition and Dietetics Didactic Programs (DPD)• 2022 Accreditation Standards for Nutrition and Dietetics Technician Programs (DT)• 2022 Accreditation Standards for Foreign Dietitian Education Programs (FDE)
• Program Directors +	Self-Study Report Templates
• Training and Volunteer Opportunities +	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CP Self-Study Report Template• DI Self-Study Report Template• DPD Self-Study Report Template• DPD with ISPP Self-Study Report Template• DT Self-Study Report Template• FDE Self-Study Report Template• Candidacy Teach Out Plan Template
	Guidance Information
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guidance Information Document• 2017 to 2022 Transition Plan• CP, FDE Self-Study Appendices Checklist• DI and ISPP Self-Study Appendices Checklist• DPD with ISPP Self-Study Appendices Checklist• DPD Self-Study Appendices Checklist• DT Self-Study Appendices Checklist• Onsite Evidence Checklist
	ACEND Decision Calendar
	The ACEND Board follows the decision calendar for program accreditation reviews.

Standards and Guidance Information

www.eatrightpro.org/ACEND

Process	+
• Public Notices and Announcements	+
• Students and Advancing Education	+
• Program Directors	+
• Training and Volunteer Opportunities	+

Future Education Model Accreditation Standards

- [Future Education Model Accreditation Standards for Associate Degree Programs \(AP\)](#)
- [Future Education Model Accreditation Standards for Graduate Degree Programs \(GP\)](#)

Guidance Information

- [Guidance Information for Future Education Model Programs](#)
- [Guidelines for Partnership](#)
- [Enhanced Competencies for GP Programs](#)
- [FEM Self-Study Appendices Checklist](#)
- [FEM Onsite Evidence Checklist](#)
- [FEM Distance Education Checklist](#)
- [FEM Remote Supervised Experiential Learning Checklist](#)
- [Competency Based Course Plan Form \(Optional\)](#)

ACEND Decision Calendar

The ACEND Board follows the decision [calendar](#) for Future Education Model program reviews.

Self-Study Report Templates

- [AP Self-Study Report Template](#)
- [GP Self-Study Report Template](#)
- [Candidacy Teach Out Plan Template](#)

Reorganization Report Templates

- [GP Reorganization Report Template](#)

Standard Specific Templates

www.eatrightpro.org/ACEND

Summary and Signature Page Templates

- [Introduction CP Summary and Signature Page](#)
- [Introduction DPD Summary and Signature Page](#)
- [Introduction DI Summary and Signature Page](#)
- [Introduction DT Summary and Signature Page](#)
- [Introduction FDE Summary and Signature Page](#)

Nutrition and Dietetics Standard-Specific Templates

- [Required Element 1.5 Program Director Job Description \(all program types\) \(Optional\)](#)
- [Required Element 1.6 Planned Supervised Practice Hours \(CP, DI, DT, ISPP\)](#)
- [Required Element 1.6 Planned Supervised Practice Hours \(FDE\)](#)
- [Required Element 2.1-2.2 Program Evaluation Plan \(CP\)](#)
- [Required Element 2.1-2.2 Program Evaluation Plan \(DI\)](#)
- [Required Element 2.1-2.2 Program Evaluation Plan \(DPD\)](#)
- [Required Element 2.1-2.2 Program Evaluation Plan \(DT\)](#)
- [Required Element 2.1-2.2 Program Evaluation Plan \(FDE\)](#)
- [Required Element 2.3 Continuous Program Improvement Plan](#)
- [Required Element 3.1-3.2 CRDN Curriculum Map \(DI\)](#)
- [Required Element 3.1-3.2 NDTR Required Components Checklist \(DT\)](#)
- [Required Element 3.1-3.2 RDN Required Components Checklist \(CP, DPD, FDE\)](#)
- [Required Element 3.1-3.2 KRDN- CRDN Curriculum Map \(CP, FDE\)](#)
- [Required Element 3.1-3.2 KRDN Curriculum Map \(DPD\)](#)
- [Required Element 3.1-3.2 KNDT-CNDT Curriculum Map \(DT\)](#)
- [Required Element 3.3 NDTR Summary of Learning Activities \(DT\)](#)
- [Required Element 3.3 RDN Summary of Learning Activities \(CP, DI, DPD, FDE, ISPP\)](#)
- [Required Element 4.1-4.2 RDN Core Competency Assessment Table \(CP, DI, FDE, ISPP\)](#)
- [Required Element 4.1-4.2 Core Knowledge Assessment Table \(DPD\)](#)
- [Required Element 4.1-4.2 NDTR Core Competency Assessment Table \(DT\)](#)
- [Required Element 5.1 Faculty Roster](#)
- [Required Element 5.1-6.1 Preceptor and Faculty Roster \(CP, DI, FDE, DI, ISPP\)](#)
- [Required Element 5.3 Preceptor Qualifications Form \(Optional\)](#)
- [Required Element 7.3 Information to the Public Checklist \(All programs\)](#)
- [Required Element 8.1-8.2 CP and FDE Policies and Procedures Checklist \(CP, FDE\)](#)
- [Required Element 8.1-8.2 DI and ISPP Policies and Procedures Checklist \(DI, ISPP\)](#)
- [Required Element 8.1-8.2 DPD Policies and Procedures Checklist \(DPD\)](#)
- [Required Element 8.1-8.2 DT Policies and Procedures Checklist \(DT\)](#)

Standard Specific Templates

Summary and Signature Page Templates

- [Introduction AP Summary and Signature Page](#)
- [Introduction GP Summary and Signature Page](#)

Nutrition and Dietetics Standard-Specific Templates

- [Required Element 1.5 Program Director Job Description \(all program types\) \(Optional\)](#)
- [Required Element 1.6 Planned Supervised Experiential Learning Hours \(all program types\)](#)
- [Required Elements 2.1-2.2 Program Evaluation Plan \(AP\)](#)
- [Required Elements 2.1-2.2 Program Evaluation Plan \(GP\)](#)
- [Required Element 2.3 Continuous Program Improvement Plan \(all program types\)](#)
- [Required Element 3.1 Curriculum Maps \(AP\) \(Word | Excel\)](#)
- [Required Element 3.1 Curriculum Maps \(GP\) \(Word | Excel\)](#)
- [Required Element 3.2 Summary of Learning Activities \(AP\)](#)
- [Required Element 3.2 Summary of Learning Activities \(GP\)](#)
- [Required Element 4.1 Competency Assessment Table \(AP\)](#)
- [Required Element 4.1 Competency Assessment Table \(GP\)](#)
- [Required Element 5.1 Faculty Roster \(all program types\)](#)
- [Required Elements 5.1-6.1 Preceptor and Facility Roster \(all program types\)](#)
- [Required Element 5.3 Preceptor Qualifications Form \(all program types\)](#)
- [Required Element 7.3 Information to Prospective Students and the Public Checklist \(all program types\)](#)
- [Required Element 8.1-8.2 Policy and Procedure Checklist \(all program types\)](#)

Crosswalk

- [GP \(Reformatted\) to FG \(Original\) Crosswalk](#)

Program Director Responsibilities

The Program Director responsibilities must include, but are not limited to the following:

- Provision of delegation of responsibilities to assure year-round coverage of director responsibilities
 - Absence of the director OR where the director's full-time appointment does not cover all 12 months
 - Program Directors can assign some responsibilities to other individuals; however, the director must ensure that all program director responsibilities are accomplished throughout the year

Program Director Responsibilities

- Development of policies and procedures for effectively managing all components of the program
- Student recruitment, advisement, evaluation and counseling

Program Director Responsibilities

- Maintenance of program accreditation, including:
 - Timely submission of fees, reports, and requests for major program changes;
 - Annual fees
 - Accreditation reports
 - Annual reports
 - Self-study reports and site visits
 - Requests for major program changes

Program Director Responsibilities

- Maintenance of the program's student records, including student advising plans and verification statements;
 - Verification statements must be kept indefinitely

Program Director Responsibilities

- Maintenance of complaints about the program received from students or others, including disposition of the complaints;
 - Disposition of the complaint
 - Record of the complaints for the past seven years
 - Complaint file must be available for inspection during the site visit

Program Director Responsibilities

- On-going review of the program's curriculum to meet the accreditation standards;
- Communication and coordination with program faculty, preceptors and others involved in the program

Program Director Responsibilities

- Facilitation of processes for continuous program evaluation and student learning outcomes assessment
 - Collect and analyze data according to program evaluation and competency/knowledge assessment plans

Program Director Responsibilities

- Timely submission of required documentation supporting the graduate's eligibility for a Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) credentialing exam

Program Director Responsibilities

Application Process (DICAS and D&D Digital)

DI Directors:

- Provide accurate information on the website
- Assure fair selection process
- Do not communicate information about ranking or selection status to applicants
 - All communications regarding results of the application and appointment process must come from D&D on the established notification dates in during the Spring and Fall match times.
- Adhere to the dates of the computer matching process on the ACEND website

Program Director Responsibilities

Application Process (DICAS and D&D Digital)

DPD Directors:

- Provide guidance and advisement to applicants participating in the computer matching process
- Complete Declaration of Intent to Complete or Verification Statement form for each applicant
- Write references for applicant upon request
 - Encourage applicants to request other references well in advance of the application deadline dates

Program Director Responsibilities

Application Process:

<https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/program-directors/application-process-for-program-directors>

ACEND Website

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Main Page

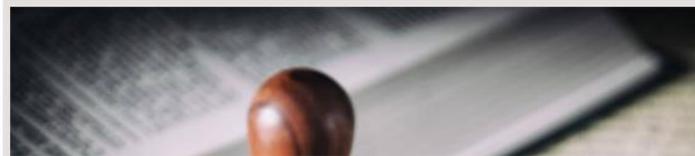
ACEND

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ACEND® can be contacted by:

- **Email:** ACEND@eatright.org
- **Phone:** 800/877-1600, ext. 5400

[Read More +](#)



About ACEND

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics is an autonomous accrediting agency for education

ACEND Website

About ACEND

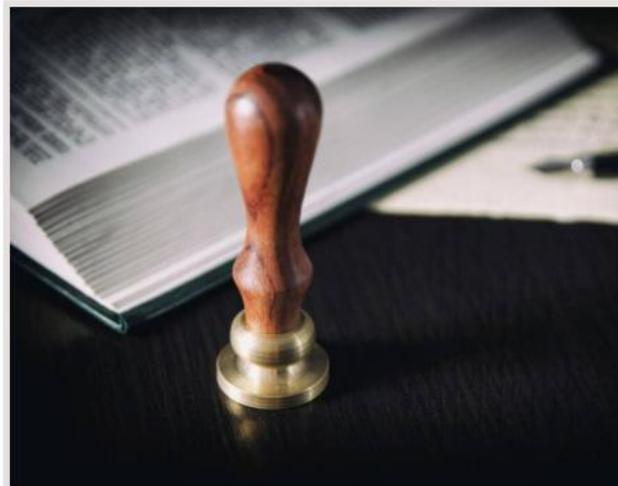
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[Read More +](#)



About ACEND

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics is an autonomous accrediting agency for education programs preparing students to begin careers as RDNs or DTRs.

- **Mission and Vision**
- **Board Members**
- **Staff**
- **ACEND Reviewers**
- **Ad Hoc Panel for Appeals**
- **Advanced Practice**
- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**
- **ACEND Data**

ACEND Website

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Read More +



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- ACEND Data

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



← Accreditation Standards, Fees and Policies

ACEND Policy and Procedures

The purpose of this Policy & Procedure Manual is to outline an effective and efficient accreditation process, including fair and uniform application of the accreditation standards. This manual was developed for use by program directors, administrators, the ACEND® board, program reviewers and staff.

- [Download the ACEND® Policy and Procedures Manual](#)

The ACEND® encourages responsible educational change and innovation to improve quality, while protecting students and the public. The U.S. Department of Education requires ACEND® to monitor and approve substantive changes that have the potential to affect the ability of an ACEND®-accredited program to meet the Accreditation Standards. The Substantive Change Guidelines were developed to explain the requirements for submitting a substantive program change. The Substantive Program Change Cover page should be included with the substantive program change request documentation and the Teach-out Plan template is for use when submitting a program closure plan.

- [ACEND Decision Calendar](#)
- [Substantive Change Guidelines: 2017 ACEND Accreditation Standards](#)
- [Substantive Change Guidelines 2022 Standards - All Program Types](#)
- [Substantive Program Change Cover Page](#)
- [Substantive Program Change: Add Graduate Degree Template](#)
- [Teach out Plan Template](#)
- [Program Director Change Template](#)
- [Admission Hold Template](#)

ACEND Website

Accredited
Programs



Accredited Programs

Find programs educating RDNs and NDTRs.

- **About Accredited Programs**
- **Accredited Programs Directory**

About Accredited Programs

The **Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics** (ACEND®) is the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' accrediting agency for education programs preparing students for careers as registered dietitian nutritionists or nutrition and dietetic technicians, registered. Please use these graphics of routes to RDN Registration Eligibility to determine which program type is right for you:

- [FAQs About ACEND Program Definitions](#)

Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN)

Graduates of these programs who are verified by the program director are eligible to write the CDR registration examination for dietitians. Note that after January 1, 2024, a Master's degree will be required to write the CDR registration examination for dietitians.

OPTION A



[Future Education Model Graduate Programs](#)

Graduate-level, competency-based dietitian nutritionist program that integrates coursework and at least 1,000 hours of experiential learning for RDN eligibility.

OPTION B



[Coordinated Programs in Dietetics](#)

Bachelor's and graduate level — dietitian coursework and at least 1,000 hours of supervised practice for RDN eligibility (combined program).

OPTION C



[Didactic Programs in Dietetics](#)

Bachelor's and graduate level — dietitian coursework only (must be completed before the Dietetic Internship required for RDN eligibility).

PLUS



[Dietetic Internships](#)

Post bachelor's — at least 1,000 hours of supervised practice only for RDN eligibility (must complete DPD and at least a bachelor's degree before entry). Some programs offer a graduate degree in conjunction with supervised practice.

Nutrition and Dietetic Technicians, Registered (NDTR)

Graduates of these programs who are verified by the program director are eligible to write the CDR registration examination for dietetic technicians.

OPTION A



[Nutrition and Dietetic Technician Programs](#)

Associate's degree level coursework and at least 450 hours of supervised practice for NDTR eligibility.

OPTION B



[Didactic Programs in Dietetics Programs](#)

Bachelor's and graduate level – dietitian coursework only, through pathway III leads to NDTR eligibility without having to meet additional academic or supervised practice requirements. Students who complete a DPD could continue their education to become an RDN.

Accredited Programs Directory

Listed below are all ACEND Accredited Programs. After each program's address is the accreditation status granted by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) and the date the program's accreditation term ends. To learn which program type may be right for you, please visit our [About Accredited Programs](#) page. You can also [view accreditation status definitions](#). If you need help using the Accredited Program Directory, [view the tips](#) at the bottom of this page.

Program information and application forms should be requested directly from the program directors.

Country

United States ▾

State/Province

▾

Program Type [optional]

▾

Search

Auburn, AL

Auburn University - Dietetic Internship

Clear Filters

Degree
Offered

- Associate's
- Bachelor's
- Master's
- Doctoral
- None

Match Date

- Fall
- Spring

Program
Features

ACEND Website

Country

United States

State/Province

Alabama

Program Type [optional]

Coordinated Program in Dietetics

Search

Birmingham, AL

University of Alabama at Birmingham - Coordinated Program in Dietetics

University of Alabama at Birmingham
550 Webb Nutrition Sciences Building
1675 University Boulevard
Birmingham, AL 35294-3360

Program Director: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

For full program information, visit:

<https://www.uab.edu/shp/nutrition/education/dietitian-education-program>

Accreditation Status: Candidate for Accreditation

Clear Filters

Degree Offered

- Associate's
- Bachelor's
- Master's
- Doctoral
- None

Match Date

- Fall
- Spring

Program Features

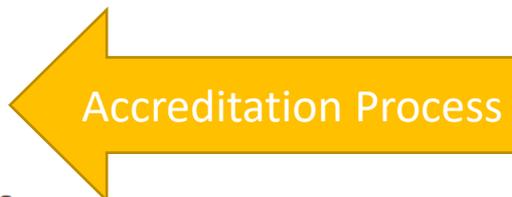
- Course Credit
Transfer
Agreements
- Distance
Education
- ISPP (Doctoral
Degree)
- ISPP (DPD)
- Pre-Select
- Student-Identified
Supervised
Practice/Experiential
Learning

ACEND Website

Accreditation Process

Nutrition and dietetics education programs apply to the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND®) accreditation by submitting applications that comply with accreditation standards.

- Introduction to Accreditation
- FAQs About Accreditation
- Candidacy for Accreditation
- Future Education Model Application and Rationale
- Candidacy for Non US Based Programs



Topics

• About ACEND	+
• Accreditation Standards, Fees and Policies	+
• Accredited Programs	+
• Accreditation Process	-
Introduction to Accreditation	
FAQs About Accreditation	
Candidacy for Accreditation	
Future Education Model Application and Rationale	
Candidacy for Non US Based Programs	
• Public Notices and Announcements	+
• Students and Advancing	+

Introduction to Accreditation

Nutrition and Dietetics education programs voluntarily apply to the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND®) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics for accreditation by submitting applications demonstrating compliance with the Accreditation Standards.

Accreditation recognizes the quality of an institution or program and assists in its improvement. As such, accreditation:

- Provides value to educational institutions and programs while protecting students and the public interest.
- Complements institutional accreditation by giving reasonable assurance of the quality and content of the education necessary for a particular profession or field.
- Brings together practitioners, regulators, educators and students to improve professional preparation and practice, ultimately benefiting the profession and the public that it serves.

Accreditation includes self-analysis, preparation of a self-study report, and an on-site evaluation visit by a team of professional peers. Dietetics educators and practitioners, appointed by the ACEND board, participate in the peer review process to determine if a program is achieving its own educational objectives and meeting the Accreditation Standards. The ACEND board accredits programs that are able to meet these Accreditation Standards.

Accreditation is a multifaceted process—program directors are advised to plan ahead and allocate adequate resources. [The ACEND® Policy and Procedures Handbook](#), available as a PDF download, provides a detailed explanation of the process.

Apply/Maintain Accreditation

ACEND has established policies and procedures for application, review and maintenance of all levels of accreditation: candidacy and full accreditation. Applications for candidacy and full accreditation must address the Accreditation Standards in effect at the time each application is submitted

ACEND Website



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

Public Notices & Announcements

ACEND UPdate

ACEND® UPdate was created as a periodic web-based communication tool to keep the ACEND®-accredited program directors, the dietetics education community and the public up-to-date on important events and activities.

Latest Updates

ACEND® is closely monitoring the information emerging regarding the spread and scale of the COVID-19 virus and its potential impact on dietetics programs and students. ACEND® will continue to keep its programs and students informed of any changes or additional information. ACEND® is continuing to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on dietetics programs and students. [View all ACEND COVID-19 Updates.](#)

Please contact ACEND@eatright.org if you have any questions or concerns.

- [ACEND Introduces New Fellow: Jody Vogelzang](#) (February 2022)
- [Educator Publication Review Program](#) (February 2022)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements for Supervised Practice/Experiential Learning](#) (February 2022)
- [Substantive Change Deadlines to Add a Graduate Degree and Entering Graduates in REPS after January 1, 2024](#) (January 2022)
- [Board Votes to Accept FEM Demonstration Program Eligibility Applications on a Rolling Basis](#) (December 2021)
- [2017 to 2022 Standards Transition Plan](#) (November 2021)
- [CDR Competency Builder Resource](#) (November 2021)
- [CDR Approves ACEND's Request for Processing Candidates Verified by December 31, 2023 for Registration Eligibility](#) (October 2021)
- [2022 ACEND Accreditation Standards Released](#) (September 2021)
- [ACEND Decision Calendars](#) (September 2021)

Reminders and Deadlines

- [Reminder: Virtual Town Hall NDTR Webinar March 29](#) (February 2022)
- [Upcoming ACEND® DEI Webinars](#) (January 2022)

ACEND Website

Students and Advancing Education

ACEND offers a variety of information for students seeking a career in nutrition and dietetics.

- ▶ Accredited Programs
- ▶ Information for Students
- ▶ International Students
- ▶ Application Process for Students
- ▶ ISPP
- ▶ Student Representative
- ▶ Filing a Complaint
- ▶ Scholarships
- ▶ Master and Doctorate Degree Program



Information for Students

Upcoming Free Webinar for Students:

The Art of the Application: Tips to make yourself stand out to RDN jobs

Date: May 3, 2022

Time: 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. (Central Time)

- [Webinar Information](#)
- [Register](#)

Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Fact Sheet

RDNs are food and nutrition experts who have met the prescribed criteria to earn this professional credential. Find out about educational and professional requirements, as well as career opportunities.

Nutrition and Dietetic Technician, Registered Fact Sheet

NDTRs are trained in food and nutrition and are an integral part of the health-care and foodservice management teams. NDTRs have met the prescribed criteria to earn this professional credential.

Financial Aid

There are a variety of financial aid options, including scholarships, available for dietetic internships. The Directory of Resources for International Food, Nutrition, and Dietetics Professionals is a free resource, which also offers valuable information about financial aid opportunities.

FAQs About Careers in Dietetics

Considering a career as a RDN or NDTR? ACEND® offers answers to 13 of the most commonly asked questions.

Dietitian Job Outlook

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that the number of jobs for registered dietitians and nutritionists will increase by 11% between 2018 and 2028; however, we believe that even more RDs will be needed, because of the on-going U.S. health crisis.

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.

- ▶ **ACEND Portal**
- ▶ **Application Process for Program Directors**
- ▶ **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Resources**
- ▶ **ISPP for Directors**
- ▶ **Program Director FAQs and Resources**



ACEND Portal

Welcome to the ACEND Portal! This portal is intended for:

- Program directors from ACEND-accredited programs, and
- Active ACEND program reviewers who have been appointed and trained by ACEND

To log in, please click the red button below and follow the prompts to enter your eatrightPRO credentials. This will give you access to the ACEND portal.

If your credentials do not work, please contact the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Member Services Center at membership@eatright.org or 800/877-1600 x 5000 for assistance resetting your username or password.

Download the portal instructions for:

- [Program Directors](#)
- [Program Reviewers](#)

[Access ACEND Portal](#)

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.

- **ACEND Portal**
- **Application Process for Program Directors**
- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Resources**
- **ISPP for Directors**
- **Program Director FAQs and Resources**



Resources for ACEND Program Directors

To assist programs on the accreditation process, ACEND® offers the following resources:

- [ACEND® Orientation Handout](#)
- [Interstate Distance Education Authorization Fact Sheet](#)
- [Intent to Complete Degree Document](#)
- [ISPP Guide for Reports](#)
- [DICAS and Computer Match Process Overview](#)

Pass Rate and Other Tools

- [Strategies to Improve Pass Rate](#)
- [Pass Rate Improvement Plan](#)
- [Guidance for Determining Quality of Masters Degree](#)

ACEND® Faculty and Preceptor Training Materials

- [ACEND® Faculty and Preceptor Training Presentation](#)
- [Directions for Using Faculty Preceptor Training Presentation](#)

ACEND Website

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**



Training &
Volunteer
Opportunities

Preceptors and Mentors

Preceptors make a difference in the lives of students who are learning to become Registered Dietitian Nutritionists or Nutrition and Dietetics Technicians, Registered by acting as a mentor and training the dietetic professionals of the future.

Become a Preceptor

Find-a-Preceptor Database

ACEND® has unveiled a database which allows practitioners to register to potentially become preceptors and join the effort to guide and educate the next generation of dietetic professionals. The Find-a-Preceptor Database allows program directors and students, who are members of the Academy, to search for a preceptor within a certain geographical or specialty area.

[Preceptor Sign Up Page >](#)

[Find a Preceptor >](#)

Update Your Existing Profile in the Find-a-Preceptor Database

- Click on the green button above that states "Preceptor Sign Up Page".
- Under the "Existing Member" title, Click the blue "Log In" button. Enter your user name and password on the next screen. Note: If you are an Academy member, you must enter your Academy number. If you are not an Academy member, use the unique user name and password you developed when you registered in the database.
- You will then see your profile on the screen. Click on the blue "Update My Profile".
 - Updating your Bio or information about yourself: Make any edits to the bio, zip codes or practice areas.
 - Updating your Availability as a Preceptor: In your profile, you will want to mark the following to note that you are currently "unavailable"/"available" to take interns,
 - Check the first check box "Yes, I want to be listed in the preceptor database" so that you are searchable in the database.
 - Check the second checkbox that says currently you are unavailable "Currently Not Accepting Students" or uncheck the second box to show you are available to take interns.

ACEND Website

The Academy

About Us
Advertising &
Sponsorship
Commitment to
Transparency
Leadership Directory

Membership

Benefits &
Services
Help Center
Find a Nutrition
Expert
EatRight Careers

Organizational Units

Academy
Foundation
ACEND and
Accreditation
CDR and
Credentialing
NDEP

Publications

*Food & Nutrition
Magazine*
*Journal of the Academy of
Nutrition and Dietetics*
MNT Provider
Other Publications

Press Room

Meet Our
Spokespeople
Multimedia News
Center
Press Releases
National Nutrition
Month

Quick Links

COVID-19 Hub
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Donate to ANDPAC
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Food & Nutrition Conference
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Substantive Program Changes

- USDE Requirement that ACEND evaluate substantive changes prior to implementation
- Program will be placed on Administrative Notification if change is implemented prior to receiving approval from ACEND
- Check with ACEND staff if you are unsure if it's a program change

Substantive Program Changes

• About ACEND



• Accreditation Standards, Fees and Policies



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

ACEND Policy and Procedures

The purpose of this Policy & Procedure Manual is to outline an effective and efficient accreditation process, including fair and uniform application of the accreditation standards. This manual was developed for use by program directors, administrators, the ACEND® board, program reviewers and staff.

- [Download the ACEND® Policy and Procedures Manual](#)

The ACEND® encourages responsible educational change and innovation to improve quality, while protecting students and the public. The U.S. Department of Education requires ACEND® to monitor and approve substantive changes that have the potential to affect the ability of an ACEND®-accredited program to meet the Accreditation Standards. The Substantive Change Guidelines were developed to explain the requirements for submitting a substantive program change. The Substantive Program Change Cover page should be included with the substantive program change request documentation and the Teach-out Plan template is for use when submitting a program closure plan.

- [ACEND Decision Calendar](#)
- [Substantive Change Guidelines: 2017 ACEND Accreditation Standards](#)
- [Substantive Change Guidelines 2022 Standards - All Program Types](#)
- [Substantive Program Change Cover Page](#)
- [Substantive Program Change: Add Graduate Degree Template](#)
- [Teach out Plan Template](#)
- [Program Director Change Template](#)
- [Admission Hold Template](#)



Guidelines for Requesting Substantive Changes
2022 and Future Education Model ACEND Accreditation Standards
Overview and General Directions for All Program Types

Effective November 15, 2021

The U.S. Department of Education requires ACEND to monitor and approve “substantive changes” that potentially may impact the ability of an ACEND accredited program to meet the accreditation standards.

- **Candidacy Programs:** Substantive program changes (other than Program Director changes, changes in Administrative Structure or the addition of a graduate degree) are not accepted from, or approved for, programs in Candidacy for Accreditation until after the program achieves full accreditation status.
- Substantive changes are reviewed and approved based on the type of change as noted in this document. Changes must be made within the context of the program’s long-term mission and goals; therefore, the program should determine the long-term feasibility of implementing the change and its impact on the quality of the program as a whole. Once this has been considered, an explanation of the proposed change must be submitted to ACEND for review and approval before implementation.
- All substantive changes must be submitted by the program director except for a program director change which is submitted by the program director’s immediate supervisor.
- Changes become effective at the time of ACEND approval and may not be dated retroactively. ACEND may require an interim report, self-study report or an on-site evaluation to assess the effect of the change on the program’s accreditation status. The program is responsible for all applicable fees.

Requirements for Submitting Substantive Changes and Timeline

1. Substantive Program Change Cover Page template briefly describing the request. The template is located on the ACEND [website](#).
2. Some substantive changes require templates or forms which are located on the ACEND website: [2022 Standards Templates](#) and [FEM Standards Templates](#)
3. The official name of program (indicate if requesting a name change), sponsoring institution and location.
4. Summary of proposed changes, rationale and proposed date of implementation. Please note that changes become effective at the time of approval by ACEND and may not be dated retroactively.

Substantive Program Changes

- Program Director Appointment
- Change to Program Mission or Objectives
- Distance Education or Branch Campus
- Changes to Remote or Student Identified Supervised Practice Rotations
- Change or Add Degree Requirements or Change to Direct Assessment
- Changes to Clock or Credit Hours and Measures of Student Progress
- Enrollment Monitoring for ACEND-accredited Programs
- Addition of International Supervised Practice Rotations
- Changes in Administrative Structure
- Reorganization of an Existing ACEND Accredited Program- 2022 Standards Only
- Reorganization of Programs into a Consortium
- Transfer of Sponsorship or Acquisition of Another Program
- Change to Admission Hold Status
- Change to Active Admission Status
- Voluntary Closing or Withdrawal from Accreditation
- Contracting with Non-Accredited Organizations- DI's only
- Addition of the ISPP
- Adding a Preselect Option

Substantive Program Changes

Information to Include in the Request:

- Cover letter briefly describing the request.
- The official name of program (indicate if requesting a name change), sponsoring institution and location.
- Summary of proposed changes, rationale and proposed date of implementation.
- Narrative and documentation demonstrating compliance with the specific accreditation standard(s)/required elements affected by the proposed changes.

Touch Points

- Accreditation Manager
- Annual Report
 - Due Mid-December
- Annual Accreditation Fee
 - Due early March
- ACEND UPdates
- Blast Emails
- ACEND Web Site
- Virtual Town Halls

Touch Points

ACEND Policies change over time....
Be sure to read notifications and
emails from ACEND to keep up-to-
date with the most current
information.

Touch Points

- Attend a Program Director Workshop
- Contact ACEND with questions (www.eatrightpro.org/acend or 1-800-877-1600 ext. 5400).

Thank You!