Informational Town Hall Summary of the Draft Proposed 2027 Accreditation Standards

Surveys for public comment posted on ACEND Website

Write down your comments and feedback to add to the surveys

Recording link: https://vimeo.com/1147816823

Welcome!

- Lines have been muted.
- Use the Q&A feature to post your questions.
- To enable closed captioning, select Show Captions icon CC from the meeting controls toolbar.

Using Q&A During ACEND Town Hall

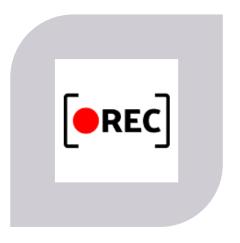


ACEND encourages attendees to use the Q&A feature to ask questions



At any point, ACEND reserves the right to remove an attendee from the Town Hall for inappropriate or harassing comments







This webinar is being recorded

The slides and recording will be shared on the ACEND webpage and the 2027 standards webpage



Additional Webinars and Town Halls

Repeat Webinar on 2027 Standards
December 18, 2025, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm CT

Q&A on the 2027 Standards Town Hall
 January 19, 2026, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm CT



Members of the Expanded Standards Committee (ESC)

ESC

- DPD faculty (n=2)
- DI faculty (n=3)
- CP faculty (n=1)
- GP faculty (n=2)
- NDTR faculty (n=1)
- Student member (n=1)
- RDN practitioners (n=3)
- Public members (n=2)

NDTR Subgroup

- NDTR faculty (n=3)
- NDTR practitioner (n=1)
- RDN faculty (n=2)
- RDN practitioner (n=1)
- Public member (n=1)

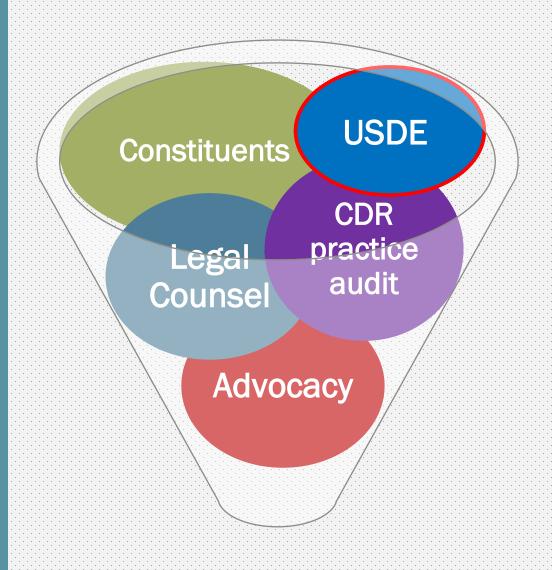




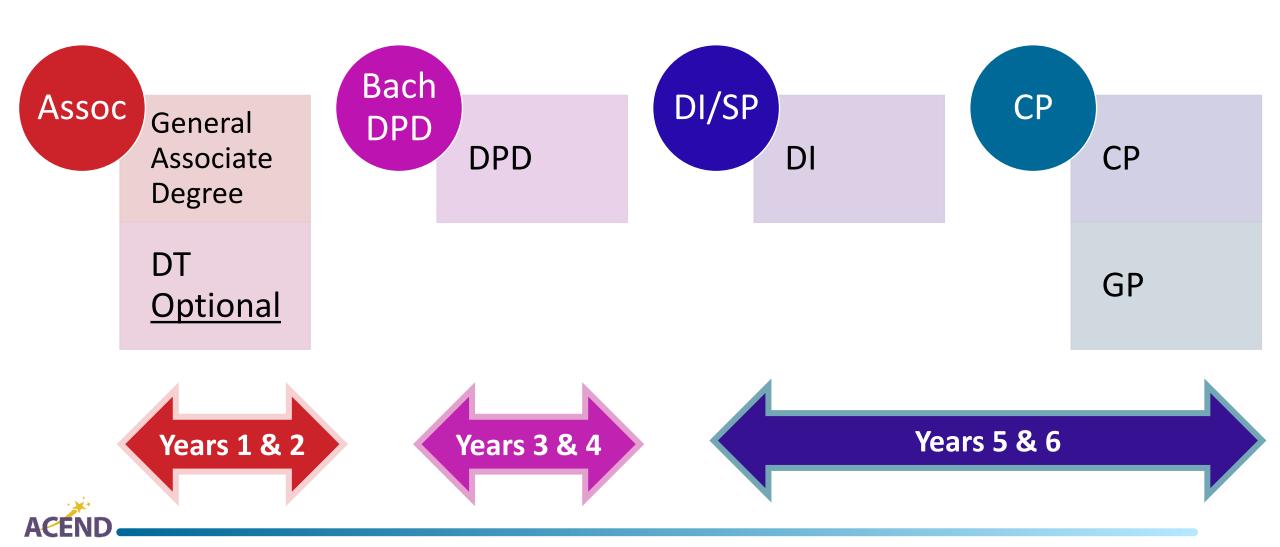
Revision Process of the Draft 2027 Standards

Revision Process:

- Required by USDE at least every 5 years
- Input from various sources

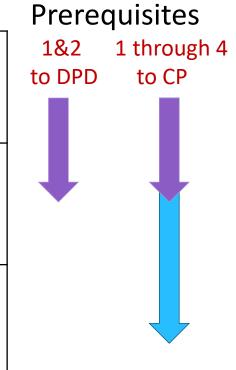


The 2027 Standards Types



Competencies Required for the RDN Curriculum from Associate to Graduate

Associate Competencies for the first 2 years (~Years 1 & 2) (sciences, electives, general nutrition, etc.) Competencies for the **next 2 years DPD** (organic, biochem, metabolism, MNT, community, (~Years 3 & 4) food science, quantity foods, foodservice, etc.) **CP or DI with** Competencies for the last 2 years graduate degree (supervised practice rotations and academic coursework, e.g., epidemiology, research, etc.) (~Years 5 & 6)



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The RDN Curriculum <u>Avoids</u> Redundancy

2027 Standards	Existing 2022 Standards	
Associate (~Years 1 & 2)	DPD Required Components	CP Required Components and KRDNs
DPD (~Years 3 & 4)		
CP or DI with graduate degree (~Years 5 & 6)		

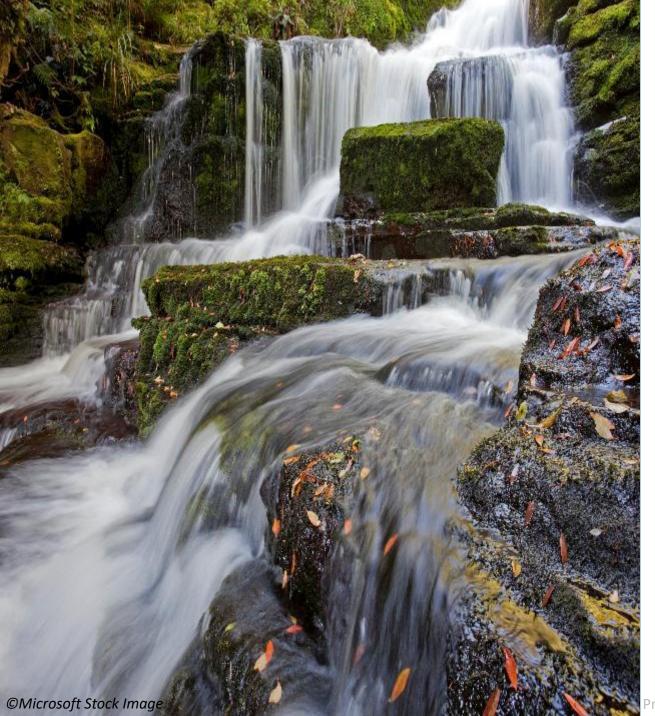


Summary of Major Changes by Standard

Standard	Impact on Changes
Standard 1	Major Changes
Standard 2	-
Standard 3	Move to CBE Clinical skills
Standard 4	-
Standard 5	-
Standard 6	Only for programs where students identify their own sites/preceptors
Standard 7	-
Standard 8	_

Minimal changes to the standards templates





ACEND Promise of Support to Our Programs

- ACEND will develop crosswalks
- Waterfall Implementation: Time will be provided for major changes
- Free training for one year from ACEND on CBE
- Curated webpage on clinical skills
- Welcome other suggestions:ACEND@eatright.org

Standard 1- Program Characteristics and Resources

RE 1.3 – Resources

RE 1.4 – Program Completion

RE 1.5 – Program Director Responsibilities

RE 1.6 – Program Length

■ RE 1.3 – Adequate Resources

Supporting our programs

Administrative

Emphasized support of upper-level administration

Budgeting Process

Shared decision making between PD & administration

Sufficient supervised practice sites

Supervised Practice Sites

ISPP incorporated into the standards

Removed ISPP



RE 1.4 – Program Completion Requirements CP/DI

"The graduate degree must be in a major course of study in human nutrition, food and nutrition, dietetics, public health, food systems management, or equivalent."

- Remains broad: All current ACEND master's degrees fit
- CDR eligibility requirement remains that the graduate degree requirement may be met in any area
- No impact on current students recommend adopt new definition for future advisement
- Requirement only for graduate programs under ACEND

RE 1.4 - Program Completion Requirements Protecting students- saving time and money

Associate Degree

ACENDaccredited
program,
meets
C&PIs of
Years 1 & 2

Bachelor's No DPD

Must ensure that C&PIs of Years 1-4 are met

(prerequisites or within program)

DPD

Meets
C&PIs of
Years 1-4



RE 1.5b Ensuring Program Director Authority



Authority for oversight over all activities related to program management



Authority for oversight over program's budget



RE 1.5b Admission and Traffic Rules (DPD, CP, DI)



CP and DI only must abide by the Dietetics Application Process Traffic Rules



DPD advisement mustincorporate the DieteticsApplication Process TrafficRules for Applicants

Dietetics Applicant and Program Traffic Rules

These traffic guidelines have been established by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) Dietetics Application Process Task Force and approved by the ACEND Board. These traffic rules represent the guidelines under which the nutrition and dietetics supervised practice programs [Dietetic Internships (DIs), Coordinated Programs (CPs), and Graduate Programs (GPs)] and their institutions have agreed to conduct the annual admissions process.

A. Applicant Traffic Rules

Applicants to dietetics programs, although some are not yet members of the dietetics profession, are bound to legal and ethical standards of behavior during the admission process.

TRAFFIC RULES FOR ALL APPLICANTS:

As an applicant to the profession of nutrition and dietetics, I pledge to:

- Act with honesty and integrity throughout the admission process when interacting with nutrition and dietetics programs, including program directors, faculty, staff, and Dietetics Inclusive Centralized Application System (DICAS) staff.
 - As an applicant, I will submit my own thoughts and original work/not falsify or
 plagiarize information in my application and/or interview.
- · Be responsible and accountable for my actions.



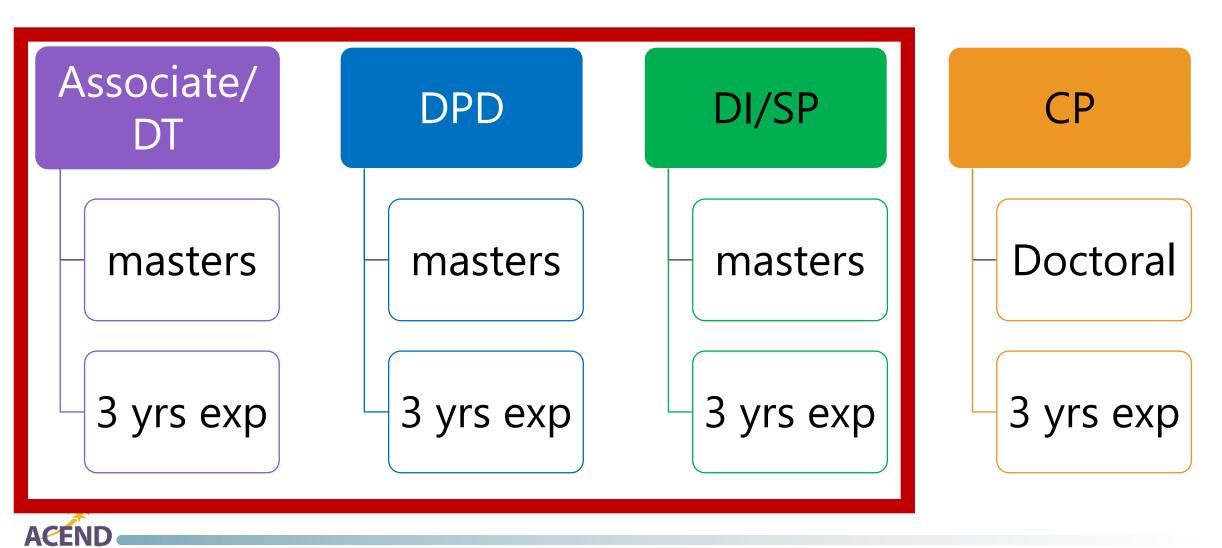
RE 1.5b Training on the Standards

Completing ACEND training

Within 1 year of hire only for those who have not previously served as a program director

Within 1 yr of hire & every 5 yrs

RE 1.5c – Education Requirement for Program Director



RE 1.5c Doctoral Degree for CP Program Directors (PDs)

- Does <u>NOT</u> apply to Associate, DT, DPD or DI programs
- Doctorate in any field- PhD, DCN, EdD, Dr.PH, etc.
- Existing PDs have > 10 years until June 1, 2037 to obtain
- Requirement only for the PD of the CP and not other faculty

ACEND is seeking feedback from CP Program
Directors who currently do not meet this
requirement



DPD

DI/CP

Not specified

<25: 0.35 FTE

>26: 0.5 FTE <5: none

6-10: 0.5 FTE

11-20: 1 FTE

+0.5 FTE for 10

RE 1.5d – Release Time for Program Director



FTE Calculations for Release Time (CPs and DIs only)

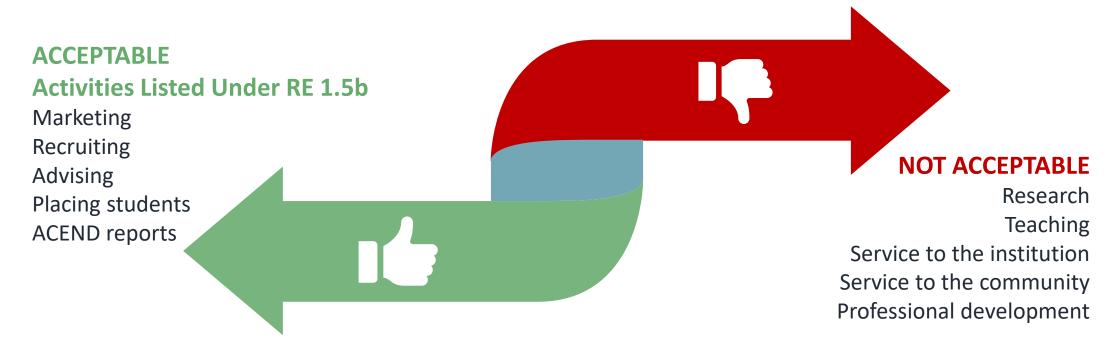
Programs with 6-10 students require .5 FTE
Programs with 11-29 students require 1 FTE
Programs with 30-39 students require 1.5 FTE
Programs with 40-49 students require 2.0 FTE
Programs with 49-59 students require 2.5 FTE
Programs with 60-69 students require 3.0 FTE

Programs with \geq 70 students require 3.0 FTE + an extra 0.5 FTE for every additional 10 students beyond 79 students.



What Qualifies as Program Management

Acceptable Program Management Activities



Release time can be divided among multiple individuals



RE 1.5d – Release Time for Program Directors

Minimum FTE based on maximum enrollment (FT or PT) per cohort

Programs will be given a chance to <u>decrease</u> their maximum enrollment, if they wish



Providing Survey Feedback on Release Time

With a maximum enrollment number reasonable for your program:

- Are the proposed ratios reasonable?
- Will they work for your program? If not, what changes need to be made to the proposed ratios?



RE 1.6 Program Length (CP and DI Only)

No change to DT/DPD

1000 SP hours

800 hrs in professional settings Remaining in alternate settings

800
in Professional
Setting

PAL

for supervised practice

PAL for DT graduates

Programs encouraged to assess for prior learning

Specified 3 Rotations

Clinical, community, and foodservice settings

Rotations
Specified

Clinical
High acuity
setting

Clinical Rotation

Majority of hours must be onsite and include experiences in settings with high acuity



Standard 2 – Mission, Goals, and Objectives No major changes

RE 2.2:

- DPD only: removed DPD pass rate objective
- All program types: removed employer satisfaction objective
- RE 2.3: Statement to ensure actions taken to improve outcomes for unmet objective
 - moved from 2.2 to 2.3 and strengthened

Standard 3 – Curriculum and Learning Activities

Appendix A: Competencies and performance indicators

RE 3.1: Student competency assessment

RE 3.2: Curriculum map

RE 3.3: Learning activities

No changes to the concepts of RE 3.1-3.3

Curriculum Competencies and Performance Indicators





CBE Curriculum Structure

Level 1: UNITS

Broad, describe a group of competencies and a focus area

Level 2: COMPETENCIES

Identify expected performance (knowledge, skill and judgment)

Level 3: PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Define the competency or the level of expected performance



Curriculum Assessment

- Competencies must be <u>assessed</u>
- The Performance Indicators should be <u>covered</u> in the curriculum, but not assessed







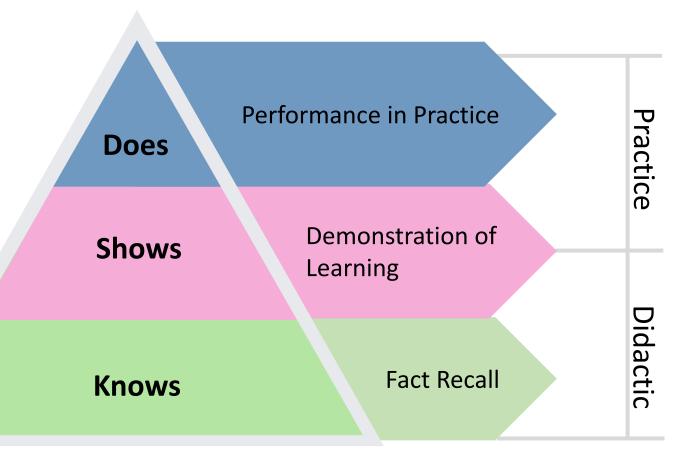
Performance Indicators

A gift

- Only covered in the curriculum
- Do not have to be assessed
- Clarify the competency make expectations clear

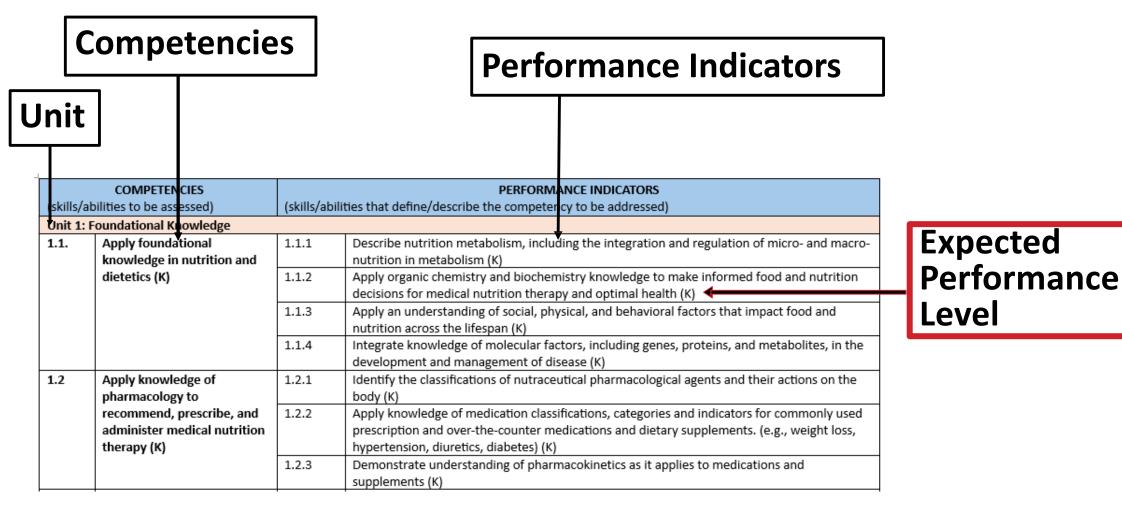
ACEND's Adaptation of Miller's Pyramid of Competence

- Competencies at the Knows level could be seen as didactic
- Competencies at the Shows level could be divided into didactic or SP, depending on intent
- Competencies at the Does level are generally completed in practice (incl. alternate)

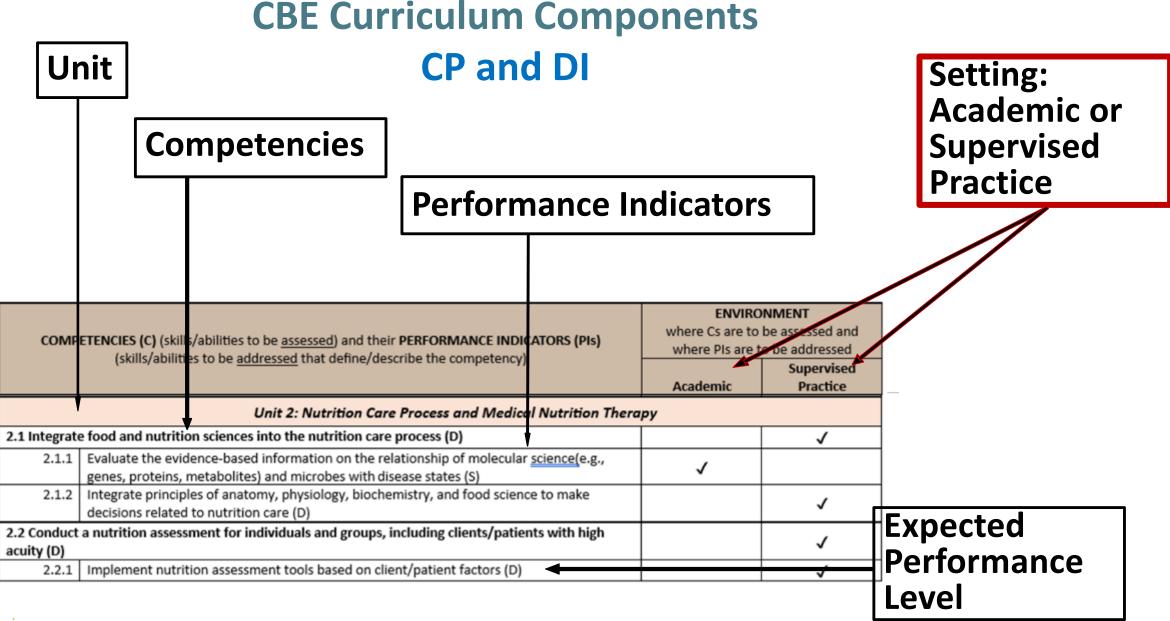




CBE Curriculum Components Associate/DT and DPD

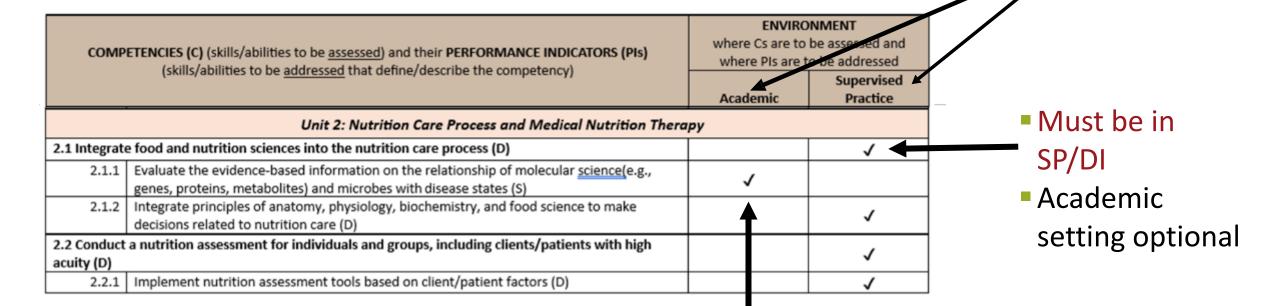






CBE Curriculum Components <u>DI Programs Only</u>

Setting: Academic or Supervised Practice



- Must be in academic setting
- SP/DI optional



New Clinical Skills at the K/S Levels

- Injections
- Swallow assessment
- Imaging
- New content: genetics

At knows or shows levels and in the academic setting

COMPETENCIES (C) (skills/abilities to be <u>assessed</u>) and their PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (PIs) (skills/abilities to be <u>addressed</u> that define/describe the competency)		ENVIRONMENT where Cs are to be assessed and where Pls are to be addressed	
		Academic	Supervised Practice
1	intramuscular, subcutaneous and intravenous injections for nutrition-related	✓	ridettee
pharma	cotherapy (e.g., vitamins or insulin) (S)		
3.4.1	Apply knowledge of anatomy to landmark different injection or infusion sites and the rationale and indication for choosing the site (K)	√	
3.4.2	Discuss with the client/patient the substance's benefits, risks, anticipated outcomes and alternative approaches before initiating the injection or infusion (K)	1	

3.5 Perform swallowing assessments to determine safety issues (S)			1
3.5.1	Identify indications for the swallowing assessment based on client/patient risk factors and swallowing difficulties (K)	✓	
3.5.2	Identify etiological risk categories, including evaluating cranial nerve function and oral motor assessment (K)	✓	
3.5.3	Assess signs of aspiration and dysphagia, such as cough, changes in voice post swallow, and		

3.6 Order ar	nd interpret imaging to identify the etiology of nutrition problems and to inform nutrition	~	
decision	s (K)		
3.6.1	Understand the indications, limitations, and protocols for various imaging modalities (e.g.,	./	
	DEXA, x-ray, CT, MRI) (K)	>	
3.6.2	Select the imaging modality based on the clinical question and client/patient characteristics	,	
	(e.g., age, medical history, allergies) (K)	V	

±)	2.5 Incorpor	ate genetic data into a personalized nutrition plan (S)	√	
	2.5.1	Examine the influence of genetic variations (e.g., SNPs) on nutrient metabolism and diet response (K)	√	
[2.5.2	Analyze and interpret results from genetic and nutrigenetic tests (S)	✓	





Scope of Practice Does <u>NOT</u> Belong in Education

Education is NOT licensebased practice Education is key to expanding scope

Arm graduates with the skills

During shortage, RDs with skills expand scope in their state

Other states move to adopt the increased scope

Feedback comments about being "out of scope" are NOT accurate

Competency Units for the Associate Degree Program

- Unit 1: Foundational Knowledge (1 C)
- Unit 2: Community Services (2 C)
- Unit 3: Leadership (3 C)
- Unit 4: Professional Behaviors (3 C)

Additional Units for the DT Option

- Unit 5: Patient/Care Services (2 C)
- Unit 6: Foodservice (3 C)





Competency Units for the DPD

- Unit 1: Foundational Knowledge (5 C)
- Unit 2: Community Services (3 C)
- Unit 3: Professional Behaviors and Leadership (3 C)
- Unit 4: Patient/Client Services (4 C)
- Unit 5: Foodservice (4 C)





Competency Units for the CP and DI

- -CP responsible for all 26 competencies
- -DI responsible for 18 SP competencies -MS responsible for 8 competencies



- Unit 1: Community, Public Health, and Population Health (4 C)
- Unit 2: Nutrition Care Process and Medical Nutrition Therapy (8 C)
- Unit 3: Clinical Skills (6 C)
- Unit 4: Leadership and Management (5 C)
- Unit 5: Critical Thinking and Research (3 C)

Current GPs have 36 C and 216 Pls



Providing Survey Feedback on the Curriculum

- Are the C&PIs clear?
- Is the level of performance (K, S, D) appropriate?
- Are any general concepts missing? Redundancies?
- Wording to improve clarity?

CP and DI only

Is the setting (Academic or Supervised Practice) assigned to the C or PI appropriate?



Prerequisites for the DPD

Required Components

- 3.1 The program's curriculum must be designed to ensure the breadth and depth of requisite knowledge needed for entry to supervised practice to become a registered dietitian nutritionist.
 - a. The program's curriculum must include the following required components, including grerequisites:
 - Research methodology, Interpretation of research literature and integration of evidence-based practice
 - 2. Communication and documentation skills sufficient for entry into profice
 - Principles and techniques of effective education, counseling and techniques
 - Governance of nutrition and dietetics practice, such as Nutritionist and the Code of Ethics for the Professionelationships in various practice settings.
 - 5. Principles of medical nutrition therapy, the Nutritio
 - 6. Role of environment, food, nutrition and lifestyle choice.
 - 7. Management theories and business principles required to de-
 - 8. Continuous quality management of food and nutrition services
 - Fundamentals of public policy, including the legislative and regulatory attion and dietetics practice
 - 10. Licensure and certification in the practice of nutrition and dietetics
 - 11. Individual National Provider Identifier (NPI)
 - Health care delivery systems (such as accountable care organizations, managed care, medical homes, local health care agencies)
 - Coding and billing of nutrition and dietetics services to obtain reimbursement for services from public or private payers, fee-for-service and value-based payment systems.
 - 14. Food science and food systems, food safety and sanitation, environmental sustainability, global nutrition, principles and tuchniques of food preparation, and development, modification and evaluation of recipes, menus and food products acceptable to diverse populations.
 - Organic chemistry, biochemistry, anatomy, physiology, genetics, microbiology, pharmacology, statistics, logic, nutrient metabolism, integrative and functional nutrition and nutrition across the lifespan
 - Reflective practice
 - 17. Human behavior, psychology, sociology or anthropology

Associate Degree

COMPETENCIES		PERFORMANCE INDICATORS		
		(skills/abilities that define/describe the competency to be addressed)		
	Foundational Knowledge			
		1.1.1 Perform food and nutrition calculations using math skills (S)		
	knowledge in nutrition and	1.1.2 Apply knowledge of microbiology to food safety principles (K)		
	dietetics (K)	1.1.3 gonstrate knowledge of chemistry to the fundamentals of nutrition (K)		
		nowledge of basic food science to food preparation techniques and culinary		
		ermal and abnormal anatomy and physiology related to disease, wellness, and		
ge of psychology, sociology, or anthropology to human behavio		go of psychology, sociology, or anthropology to human behavior [K]		
		of nutrition across the lifespan (K)		
		propriate use of medical terminology (K)		
		e components of the Nutrition Care Process (K)		
		nealth care delivery systems that impact nutrition and dietetics (K)		
Unit 2: Community Services				
2.1	Promote health and wellness	2.1.1 (an meals that promote health for individuals and target groups (D)		
	for individuals and groups (D)			

C&Pls for years 1&2 (Associate Degree)

If concept is not in the DPD curriculum, check the Associate's



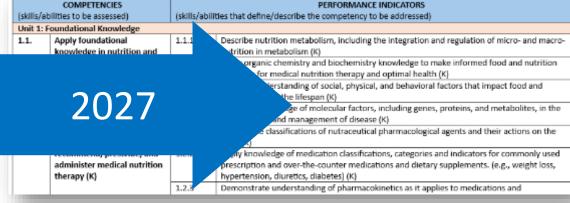
Prerequisites for the CP and DI

2022

Required Components & KRDNs

- 3.1 The program's curriculum must be designed to ensure the breadth and depth of requisite knowledge needed for entry to supervised practice to become a registered dietitian nutritionist.
 - a. The program's curriculum must include the following required components, including grerequisites:
 - Research methodology, interpretation of research literature and integration of each principles into
 evidence-based practice
 - 2. Communication and documentation skills sufficient for entry into profice
 - Principles and sechniques of effective education, courseling and techniques
 - Governance of nutrition and dietetics practice, such as: Nutritionist and the Code of Ethics for the Professionellationships in various practice settings.
 - 5. Principles of medical nutrition therapy, the Nutribo
 - 6. Role of environment, food, nutrition and lifestyle choice
 - 7. Management theories and business principles required to do.
 - 8. Continuous quality management of food and nutrition services
 - Fundamentals of public policy, including the legislative and regulatory or practice
 - 10. Licensure and certification in the practice of nutrition and dietetics
 - 11. Individual National Provider Identifier (NPI)
 - Health care delivery systems (such as accountable care organizations, managed care, medical homes, local health care agencies)
 - Coding and billing of nutrition and detetics services to obtain reimbursement for services from public or private payers, fee-for-service and value-based payment systems
 - 14. Food science and food systems, food safety and sanitation, environmental sustainability, global nutrition, principles and tuchniques of food preparation, and development, modification and evaluation of recipes, menus and food products acceptable to diverse populations.
 - Organic chemistry, biochemistry, anatomy, physiology, genetics, microbiology, pharmacology, statistics, logic, nutrient metabolism, integrative and functional nutrition and nutrition across the lifespan
 - Reflective practice
 - 17. Human behavior, psychology, sociology or anthropology





C&PIs for years 1 through 4(Associate Degree and DPD)

Curriculum builds on each other Avoided redundancy and repetition



RE 3.1 – Student Competency Assessment

Moved current RE 4.1 to RE 3.1

- Minimize confusion and redundancy: curriculum and student assessment are now in same standard
- CAT (Competency assessment table) template includes only the competencies (not PIs)

Free CBE training on assessment of competencies for one-year



| Standard 4 - Curriculum Evaluation and Improvement

No major changes - mostly reorganization

Existing 2022	Proposed 2027
RE 4.1: Competency Assessment	Moved to Standard 3, RE 3.1
RE 4.2	Combined into RE 4.1- Curriculum review and
RE 4.3	improvement



Standard 5 – Faculty and Preceptors

Based on program feedback to keep faculty and preceptors separate

RE 5.1: Program Faculty

RE 5.2: Program Preceptors (no change)



RE 5.1 Program Faculty

DPD/CP: At least one full-time faculty member, in addition to the program director, must hold the RDN credential.

All Programs: The Nutrition Care Process component must be taught by an RDN.



Standard 6 – Supervised Practice Sites

RE 6.1: Supervised Practice Sites Policies and Procedures

RE 6.2: Student-Identified Supervised Practice



Programs with <u>Student-Identified Supervised</u> Practice

RE 6.2 – New RE

RE 7.2k – Strengthened



RE 6.2: For Programs with Student-Identified SP





Ensure that all sites are secured before students begin their SP component

Written policies describing process of securing sites when students unable to



Standard 7 – For Programs with Student-Identified SP (CP & DI only)

RE 7.2k: If students are required to locate their own supervised practice sites and/or preceptors, requirements for this must be described, including the program's role and responsibility to secure geographically accessible sites for students before they begin their supervised practice component to ensure timely completion of the program.

Geographically accessible: USDE term - a site within reasonable distance



Standard 7

RE 7.1 – No changes

RE 7.2 – minimal changes



Standard 8 – Policies & Procedures for Enrolled Students

- Existing RE 8.1 and 8.2 combined into a single RE
- Reorganized for a more logical flow
- Minor changes to improve clarity



Standard 8 – Maximum Time for Program Completion All Programs

Maximum time allowed to complete program requirements and receive a verification statement must follow the sponsoring academic institution's policy or no less than five years.

If no institution policy: No less than 5 years from the time the student begins the program



International Programs

- Follow the Standards No separate international standards
- Exceptions located in Appendix B
- DT and DI excluded

International Associate International Bachelor's DPD

International Graduate CP

Practice in own country Apply to DPD

Practice in own country
Apply to CP or SP/DI
Use PAL for SP hours

Practice in own country
Sit for RD exam



Surveys for Public Comments

- Total of four (4) surveys
- Option in Standards survey to give detailed or general feedback

Total of Four (4) Surveys

Curriculum (3 surveys)

Competencies & Performance Indicators

Standards

Survey to comment on the draft Standards and Required Elements

CP/DI

Survey to comment on the draft C&PIs for the CP/DI (includes competencies in academic settings)

DPD

Survey to comment on the draft C&PIs for the DPD

Associate/DT

Description of variable costs

Examples: books, transportation, housing



Public Comments

Opportunity to Provide Feedback on the Draft 2027 Standards

Public Comments Surveys:

Surveys to evaluate the Draft 2027 Accreditation Standards are posted on the ACEND website: https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/accreditation-standards-fees-and-policies/proposed-2027-standards

Close Tuesday February 10, 2026





Any Questions?

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