ACEND Virtual Town Hall Meeting
July 18, 2023, 11:00 a.m. Central Time

Host: Rayane AbuSabha, PhD, RD
ACEND Executive Director
Presenter: Long Wang, MD, PhD, RDN, FAND
Chair, ACEND Board

Webinar Recording Link
https://vimeo.com/846365423

Link to ACEND website for Distance Education Templates and Guidance Document:
https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/accreditation-standards-fees-and-policies/acend-policies-and-procedures
Welcome to the ACEND Virtual Town Hall

Long Wang
PhD, RD, FAND
ACEND Board, Chair
Objectives

- Provide ACEND updates and announcements
- Provide an overview of ACEND’s upcoming webinars and trainings
- Provide information on licensure and compact updates
- Answer questions

ACEND Updates and Announcements
About ACEND®

- ACEND is an agency of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- ACEND must be **autonomous** from the Academy

**USDE Requires ACEND® to Be Autonomous**

The Academy cannot exert **undue influence** on ACEND

Undue influence from the association has serious impact on:

- **Standards quality**
- **Program quality**
- **Cost of services**
- **Services offered**
USDE Requires ACEND® to Be Autonomous

ACEND’s autonomy from the Academy is key to the health of the profession and its future.

ACEND takes its role very seriously.

Post-COVID: Distance Education Substantive Change

Updated USDE Definition of Distance Education:

- Requires programs that offer any portion of a program in whole or in part through distance education—even as little as part of a curriculum in an otherwise in-person program—to be evaluated and approved to offer distance education by ACEND.
- Impacts all programs, including Dietetic Internships
Distance Education Substantive Change Template

- Developed a streamlined template
- Checklist
- Minimal narrative
- Minimal supporting documents to submit
- Due date for submission: no later than October 7, 2023
- Continue with any planned distance instruction for Fall 2023
- After October 7, 2023, programs wishing to add distance education will use our substantive change guidelines

Guidance for Accepting International Students

- CDR directs individuals with international degrees to have their degree evaluated and then contact an ACEND-accredited program
  
  [https://www.cdrnet.org/RDNeligibility](https://www.cdrnet.org/RDNeligibility)

- ACEND Program Director Guidance for Accepting International Students
  
  [https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/program-directors/program-director-faqs-and-resources/accepting-international-students-into-an-acend-accredited-program](https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/program-directors/program-director-faqs-and-resources/accepting-international-students-into-an-acend-accredited-program)
Advanced Practice Doctoral Standards for the RDN

- Under development
- ACEND Expanded Standards Committee
  - Chair: Kendra Kattelmann

Competency Assessment Software Call for Participation in Pilot

- September 13, 2023-October 6, 2023
- Program directors will provide feedback on features and use
- All programs welcome—especially CPs and DTs
- Email ACEND@eatright.org to volunteer
Clinical Skills Hands-On Workshop

Workshop to address KRDN 3.4 and CRDNs 3.3-3.6
FEM-GP: RE 3.2e1-4

FNCE October 7, 2023
Regis University, Denver, CO

Information to be posted on ACEND website under Training and Resources

Program Director Workshops and Online Modules

- **2022 Standards and FEM Program Director Workshop**
  - In-person: October 6-7, 2023 (FNCE)
Upcoming Webinars from ACEND

- **September 19, 11 am – 12:30 pm CT** | **Swallow Screen for Dysphagia: What RDs Need to Know**
- **October 24, 11 am – 12:30 pm CT** | **Recruiting International Students**
- **January 16, 11 am – 12:30 pm CT** | **DEI for Faculty on the 2022/FEM Standards**

Communication from ACEND

- **ACEND Update**
  - Monthly update from ACEND posted on the website
- **Virtual Town Hall**
  - Next town hall: Tuesday, November 14, 11:00 am – 12:00 noon CT
  - Directions for joining on the ACEND website
- **ACEND Staff**
  - 800-877-1600 x5400
  - acend@eatright.org
LICENSURE AND COMPACT UPDATES

CHARLA M. BURILL, JD, RDN
Senior Director
State Legislative & Government Affairs

LISA EATON WRIGHT, MS RDN LDN
Director
Consumer Protection and Licensure

MODEL PRACTICE ACT & DIETITIAN LICENSURE COMPACT
POLICY INITIATIVES AND ADVOCACY STAFF

Charla M. Burill, JD RDN
Senior Director,
State Legislative & Government Affairs

Lisa Eaton Wright, MS, RDN, LDN
Director,
Consumer Protection & Licensure

MODEL PRACTICE ACT

• Current version adopted 2018
• Multiple iterations since then
• No official updated version
KEY ISSUES

• Medical Nutrition Therapy
• Licensure Pathways
• Supervision of Students
• Scope of Practice
• Exemptions

GOALS

• Narrowly tailored laws
• Consistent licensure qualifications for all licensed nutrition professionals
• Addressing the risk of Universal Licensure Recognition Laws (ULR Laws)
• RDNs able to lawfully provide nutrition care in accord with level of competence
SUMMARY

• Many learnings
• Model Practice Act – dynamic, iterative process
• State Legislature-Dependent
COMPACT STATS

15 Professions with Available Professional Licensure Compacts

250+ Pieces of Compact Legislation Passed Since 2016

49 States and Territories Participating in at Least One Professional Licensure Compact

Source: Council for State Governments (CSG)

https://compacts.csg.org/compact-updates/the-interstate-compact-for-dietitians/
COMPACT BENEFITS

• Improving access to MNT
• Opportunities for telehealth
• Enhanced mobility
• Access to/continuity of care
• Enhancing licensure verification

COMPACT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

• Technical Assistance Group (TAG)
• Document Team
• Vetting of draft language
• Stakeholder review
• Consensus building
• Introduction to policy makers
RDN-SPECIFIC CONCERNS

- Malalignment

ULRs and burden of licensure

SOLUTION: DIETITIAN LICENSURE COMPACT

- Participation requirements
- Compact Commission authority
NEXT STEPS:

• Seeking feedback
• Listening session for compact draft
• Public comment period