Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) is the accrediting agency for education programs preparing students for careers as registered dietitian nutritionists or nutrition and dietetics technicians, registered.

In this issue...

- 2025 Annual Report and 2026 Annual Fee Released
- September 24, 2025 ACEND Town Hall
- ACEND Events at FNCE
- NEW Program Resources Available!
- Updated ACEND® Manager State Assignments

News and Updates

2025 Annual Report and 2026 Annual Fee Released in Early September

During the week of September 8th, 2025, program directors received two separate emails from ACEND regarding Fall accreditation maintenance activities:

- Tuesday, September 9th: 2025 Annual Report release email
- Thursday, September 11th: 2026 Annual Fee release email

Throughout the fall, periodic reminder emails will be sent regarding the Annual Report and Annual Fee. Program directors can expect separate reminders for the annual report and annual fee during the following periods:

- Week of October 13th
- Week of November 10th
- Week of December 1st

Please note that only programs who have an outstanding Annual Report or Annual Fee will receive a reminder email. Once ACEND has received your Annual Report or Annual Fee, you will not receive any further correspondences about these items unless there is a concern regarding your submission.

As a reminder, here are the due dates for these Fall accreditation maintenance activities:

- Annual Report: Due Friday, November 21st, 2025
- Annual Fee: Due Monday, December 8th, 2025

If you have any questions about the Annual Report, please email annualreport@eatright.org. If you have any questions about the Annual Fee, please email acend@eatright.org.

September 24, 2025 ACEND Town Hall

ACEND® hosts periodic virtual meetings to answer constituent questions. The next virtual town hall will be held on **Wednesday September 24, 2025** from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Central Time). The town hall will focus on Dietetic Internship (DI) programs under the 2027 Accreditation Standards. Moving to graduate-level competencies presents some DIs with the challenge of meeting the academic curriculum. During this webinar, ACEND will share plans for a proposed solution and will seek feedback and suggestions.

All constituents are invited to participate, especially DI and DPD program directors. The webinar will be recorded and there are no CPEUs offered for this event. To learn more and to register for the ACEND Town Hall click <u>here</u>.

ACEND Events at FNCE

ACEND is excited to announce the following ACEND events at FNCE. Locations and details can be found in the FNCE app:

- Sunday, October 12th, 1:00-2:00 pm: ACEND Consulting Time with Program Directors (Session 1)
- Monday, October 13th, 11am-12 pm: Future Education Model Demonstration Program Networking Session
- Monday, October 13th, 12:30 pm-1:30 pm: ACEND Consulting Time with Program Directors (Session 2)
- Monday, October 14th, 5:15-6:15 pm: ACEND Forum: Update on the 2027 Standards Development

The ACEND booth will be open throughout FNCE, where you can stop by to meet with a program manager or ask any questions. ACEND Booth Hours: Sunday: 7:30 am - 5 pm, Monday: 7:30 am - 5 pm, Tuesday: 8 am - 3:30 pm.

We look forward to seeing you in Nashville!

NEW Resource Available – Program Completion Calculation Spreadsheet and Tutorials

ACEND is happy to share a new resource created to help our programs more accurately collect and calculate data for the ACEND-required program completion

objective. During ACEND's review of Program Evaluation Plans (PEP), it was identified that there may be some confusion from programs on how to collect and report this data.

To support programs, ACEND created an optional spreadsheet specific to the program completion objective. This optional template should allow programs to capture their program completion data more accurately.

In this template programs can input the number of students that enter a program and complete it at 100% and at 150% of program length. The spreadsheet will allow programs to keep track of those students who withdraw or are terminated. Instructions are located on the first tab of the spreadsheet. An additional tab was included for programs that have more than one program length to support their different program options.

At first glance, the spreadsheet may seem complicated; however, completing it will be simple. ACEND created several short video tutorials guiding you on how to complete the spreadsheet and how to incorporate the data from the spreadsheet into the Program Evaluation Plan and the annual report. We believe this will be extremely helpful to you and to your program, so please take the time to review the videos and make use of the template.

Programs can find this resource along with the video tutorials on the <u>ACEND portal</u> <u>page</u> of the ACEND website.

Updated ACEND® Manager State Assignments

ACEND would like to announce a redistribution of assignments of the states that ACEND Managers oversee. For a list of updated Accreditation Manager state assignments, view **ACEND Staff**. Note that ACEND program managers are subject to change depending on workload distribution.

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