

NDEP Town Hall – June 2021 virtual questions for CDR

Q: It is currently well-accepted and promoted that graduates of bachelor's level graduates in dietetics (DPD's) who do not move on to an internship may sit for the DTR exam. Are there any thoughts/plans to do the same for bachelor's prepared CP graduates that are determined unable to complete a graduate degree when January 2024 rolls around?

A: CP/DPD graduates have the option to take the registration examination for dietetic technicians after January 1, 2024.

Q: Other professional exams require names be submitted when taking the exam. The tracking for pass rate has become increasingly difficult and I'm respectfully requesting that names be required for interns to take the CDR RD exam.

A: This question was addressed in May 2020.

<https://admin.cdrnet.org/vault/2459/web///NDEP%20QA%20May%202020.pdf>

Q: Why was the PDP wizard removed? And can it be restarted? We use this to train interns on how to create PDP and it meets a current CRND.

AND

Q: Can you speak to the new CDR tool replacing the Goal Wizard and how we can utilize this tool in a simulation method for training our Dietetics Interns to meet ACEND standard?

A: The Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) initiated Competency Plan Builder – a new, user-friendly, quick-click digital tool to replace Goal Wizard (and Dream Wizard). The implementation roll-out for current practitioners is March – October 2021 (see below).

Cycle:	Access to Competency Plan Builder:
New Practitioners & 2021 – 2026 Head Start	March 17, 2021
2021 – 2026	June 1, 2021
2017 – 2022	July 1, 2021
2018 – 2023	August 1, 2021
2019 – 2024	September 1, 2021
2020 – 2025	October 1, 2021

To support *ACEND CRDN 2.13*: Prepare a plan for professional development according to Commission on Dietetic Registration guidelines... Students and Educators are referred to the Essential Practice Competencies Information For Students Page [where students can watch a 6-minute tutorial](#) on the new Competency Plan Builder, [review the New Essential Practice Competencies](#), and [select Spheres and Competencies to create a preliminary plan](#) after successfully completing the Entry Level Examination.

Q: Regarding the diversity statistics, not everyone joins the Academy, so basically we have no idea of our actual diversity statistics in the profession?

AND

Q: RD exam. Can you share a breakdown of the first time pass rate by ethnicity to address growing concern that persons from underserved communities are passing the RD exam at a much lower rate.

AND

Q: With the importance the profession places on equity, wouldn't it be appropriate for CDR to collect demographic and diversity data of the candidates taking the exam? This would help us tremendously in understanding one of the major hurdles to entry into the profession. Without this data, we are shooting in the dark. Other standardized test providers collect this data when the candidate registers. Why don't we?

A: Colleges and universities collect demographic data. CDR does not require demographic data in its eligibility to take registration/certification exams.

The Commission on Dietetic Registration provides basic data based on registration exam candidates. Information on demographics is optional for those who join the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Thus, the most current and accurate demographic data available is offered by research is found in the [Report on the Academy/Commission on Dietetic Registration 2020 Needs Satisfaction Survey and the Compensation and Benefits Survey 2019](#).

Q: Has CDR considered sending a survey to educators and preceptors about the number of us who are considering leaving our positions instead of playing a part in a system that will further reduce diversity in our ranks and that will reduce quality nutrition services to those who live in underserved areas.

A: Refer this question to ACEND who work directly with educators and preceptors.

Q: Based on your answers to the questions about diversity, although it is great that you are funding scholarships, wouldn't it make sense to assess the outcomes of those scholarships? Meaning, what were the percentages of people from marginalized groups in dietetics when you started the scholarships and what is the percentage now? Are the scholarships helping? Your answer came across as lip service instead of truly wanting to make a difference and assess if improvements were occurring. It was like- we just administer the test.....

A: The Academy Foundation gathers information from scholarship recipients. Please refer questions to the Academy Foundation regarding outcomes and impact.

General:

Information on the credential eligibility requirements for RD®/RDN® can be found at:

[RD Examination—Eligibility Requirements - Commission on Dietetic Registration \(cdrnet.org\)](#)

[2024 GRADUATE DEGREE REQUIREMENT – REGISTRATION ELIGIBILITY - Commission on Dietetic Registration \(cdrnet.org\)](#)

A group of educators sent a letter to cdr about testing bias, why haven't we gotten a reply?

Contact Tracy Petrillo, CDR's Executive Director at tpetrillo@eatright.org

These below were comments/not questions. Refer individuals to CDR@eatright.org for further questions.

C: Scenario below demonstrates the lack of job compensation related to MS RD entry level RD.... I was reminded by one of my grads – “I tried to get such and such more money by telling my supervisor – he has a master’s degree. But my supervisor responded – what can he do that a BS RD cannot do. When I had no answer – my supervisor said – then pay him the same salary”.

C: As an educator and one who was trained to distinguish rigorous research from "research" that is after-the-fact in terms of "evidence" that supports one's position, I am disappointed in the process for requiring a master degree to be able to be admitted to supervised practice program in order to sit for the RD exam. I cannot support an organization that is not truly democratic. I have worked with advanced degree new RDs and am not uniformly impressed.

C: Addendum to previous question - College Board says they collect race and ethnicity data to meet US Dept of Ed Guidelines.