



# Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2018 Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners



Kathleen Border, EdD, RDN, CDN, FAND; Cynthia Endrizal, PhD, RDN, LD, FAND; Malinda Cecil, PhD, RDN, LDN

### **ABSTRACT**

Registered dietitian nutritionists (RDNs) engaged in education of nutrition and dietetics practitioners facilitate meaningful learning of required knowledge and supervised practice competencies in nutrition and dietetics curricula and proactively support all facets of the learning environment. Addressing the unique needs of each educational situation and applying standards appropriately is essential to providing evidenced-based, learner-centered, up-to-date education for future nutrition and dietetics practitioners. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Academy) leads the profession by developing standards that can be used by RDNs for self-evaluation to assess quality of practice and performance. The Standards of Professional Performance consist of six domains of professional performance: Quality in Practice, Competence and Accountability, Provision of Services, Application of Research, Communication and Application of Knowledge, and Utilization and Management of Resources. Within each standard, specific indicators provide measurable action statements that illustrate how the standard can be applied to practice. The Academy's Revised 2018 Standards of Professional Performance for RDNs in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners provide standards and indicators for three levels of practice—competent, proficient, and expert—which are used to gauge and guide an RDN's performance in nutrition and dietetics practice in educational settings.

J Acad Nutr Diet. 2019;119(1):124-136.

Editor's note: Figure 1 that accompanies this article is available at www.jandonline.org.

■ HE NUTRITION AND DIETETIC Educators and **Preceptors** (NDEP) Council of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Academy), under the guidance of the Academy Quality Management Committee, has revised the Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP) for Registered Dietitians in Education of Practitioners Dietetics originally published in 2009.<sup>1</sup> The revised document, Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2018 Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) (Compe-Proficient. Expert) and in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners (EONDP), reflects

2212-2672/Copyright © 2019 by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jand.2018.10.014

advances in education during the past 9 years and replaces the 2009 Standards. This document builds upon the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2017 Standards of Practice (SOP) in Nutrition Care and SOPP for RDNs.<sup>2</sup> The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics/Commission on Dietetic Registration's (CDR) 2018 Code of Ethics for the Nutrition and Dietetics Profession,<sup>3</sup> along with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2017 SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for RDNs<sup>2</sup> and Revised 2017 Scope of Practice for the RDN,<sup>4</sup> guide the practice and performance of RDNs in all settings.

Scope of practice in nutrition and dietetics is composed of statutory and individual components, includes codes of ethics (eg, Academy/CDR, International Code of Ethics and Code of Good Practice for Dietitians and Nutritionists [http://www.internationaldietetics.org/international-standards/international-code-of-ethics-and-code-of-good-prac.aspx], other national organizations, and/or employers code of ethics), and

encompasses the range of roles, activities, practice guidelines, and regulations within which RDNs perform. For credentialed practitioners, scope of practice is typically established within the practice act and interpreted and controlled by the agency or board that regulates the practice of the profession in a given state.<sup>4</sup> An RDN's statutory scope of practice can delineate the

Approved October 2018 by the Quality Management Committee of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Academy) and the Nutrition and Dietetic Educators and Preceptors (NDEP) Council of the Academy. **Scheduled review date:** March 2025. Questions regarding the Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners may be addressed to Academy Quality Management Staff—Dana Buelsing, MS, manager, Quality Standards Operations; and Karen Hui, RDN, LDN, scope/standards of practice specialist, Quality Management, at eatright.org.

All registered dietitians are nutritionists—but not all nutritionists are registered dietitians. The Academy's Board of Directors and Commission on Dietetic Registration have determined that those who hold the credential Registered Dietitian (RD) may optionally use "Registered Dietitian Nutritionist" (RDN). The two credentials have identical meanings. In this document, the authors have chosen to use the term RDN to refer to both registered dietitians and registered dietitians nutritionists.

services an RDN is authorized to perform in a state where a practice act or certification exists. For more information see https://www.eatrightpro.org/advocacy/licensure/licensure-map.

The RDN's individual scope of practice is determined by education, training, credentialing, experience, and demonstrating and documenting competence to practice. Individual scope of practice in nutrition and dietetics has flexible boundaries to capture the breadth of the individual's professional practice. Professional advancement beyond the core education and supervised practice to qualify for the RDN credential provides RDNs practice opportunities, such as expanded roles within an organization based on training and certifications (eg, CDR Board-Certified Specialists, such as Renal Nutrition or Pediatric Nutrition), if preferred or required; or additional credentials (eg, Certified Nutrition Support Clinician [CNSC], and Certified Diabetes Educator [CDE]). The Scope of Practice Decision Tool (www. eatrightpro.org/scope), an Academy online interactive tool, guides an RDN through a series of questions to determine whether an activity is within his or her scope of practice. The tool is designed to assist an RDN to critically evaluate his or her personal knowledge, skill, experience, judgment, and demonstrated competence using criteria resources.5

# ACADEMY QUALITY AND PRACTICE RESOURCES

The Academy's Revised 2017 SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for RDNs<sup>2</sup> reflect the minimum competent level of nutrition and dietetics practice and professional performance. The core standards serve as blueprints for the development of focus area SOP and SOPP for RDNs in competent,

proficient, and expert levels of practice. While this document addresses the SOPP only, each RDN educator and preceptor needs to be aware of the minimum competent level of practice for the core SOP in Nutrition Care applicable to RDNs providing direct care to patients/clients and relate its quality indicators within student/ intern activities by drawing upon one's own practice experience and knowledge. The SOP in Nutrition Care is composed of four standards consistent with the Nutrition Care Process (NCP) and clinical workflow elements, as applied to the care of patients/clients/ populations in all settings.<sup>6</sup> The SOPP consist of standards representing six domains of professional performance: Quality in Practice, Competence and Accountability, Provision of Services, Application of Research, Communication and Application of Knowledge, and Utilization and Management of Resources. The SOP and SOPP for RDNs are designed to promote the provision of safe, effective, efficient, and quality food and nutrition care and services; facilitate evidence-based practice; and serve as a professional evaluation resource

These focus area standards for RDNs in EONDP provide a guide for selfevaluation and expanding practice, a means of identifying areas for professional development, and a tool for demonstrating competence in delivering identified outcomes in the EONDP. They are used by RDNs to assess their current level of practice and to determine the education and training required to maintain currency in their focus area and advancement to a higher level of practice. In addition, the standards can be used to assist RDNs in transitioning their knowledge and skills to a new focus area of practice. Like the Academy's core SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for RDNs.<sup>2</sup> the indicators (ie. measurable action statements that illustrate how each standard can be applied in practice) (see Figure 1, available at www. jandonline.org) for the SOPP for RDNs in EONDP were revised with input and consensus of content experts reprediverse practice geographic perspectives. The SOPP for RDNs in EONDP were reviewed and approved by the NDEP Council and the Academy Quality Management Committee.

# WHY WERE THE STANDARDS REVISED?

It is critical that RDNs in EONDP reflect current practice environments with respect to most recent research, evidenced-based practices, and related laws and regulations in health care and other practice segments. Changes in the practice environment for RDNs and nutrition and dietetics technicians, registered (NDTRs) can impact course content and supervised practice experiences provided by nutrition and dietetics education programs. addition, enhanced knowledge and skills training in decision making, using evidenced-based resources. autonomous practice will be required of educators and preceptors to execute these changes. Examples of significant changes are:

- The Scope of Practice for the RDN<sup>4</sup> and the Scope of Practice for the NDTR<sup>12</sup> were revised and published in the Academy's Journal in January 2018 and February 2018, respectively. The RDN Scope reflects changes impacting practice, such as the Centers for Medicare Medicaid Services (CMS) updates; national efforts to address malnutrition; and sections on coaching, global health, and telehealth, among other updates. The NDTR Scope also includes revisions, such as updated practice areas, and a new individual scope of practice figure.
- The CMS, Department of Health and Human Services, Hospital, and Critical Access Hospital<sup>8</sup> Conditions of Participation now allow a hospital and its medical staff the option of including RDNs or other clinically qualified nutrition professionals within the category of "non-physician practitioners" eligible ordering privileges for therapeutic diets and nutritionrelated services if consistent with state law and health care regulations.9 For more information, review the Academy's practice tips that outline the regulations and implementation steps at www.eatrightpro.org/ dietorders. For assistance, refer questions to the Academy's State Affiliate organization.

- The Long-Term Care Final Rule published October 4, 2016, now "allows the attending physician to delegate to a qualified dietitian or other clinically qualified nutrition professional the task of prescribing a resident's diet, including a therapeutic diet, to the extent allowed by state law" and permitted by the facility's policies.<sup>10</sup> The CMS State Operations Manual, Appendix PP-Guidance for Surveyors for Long-Term Care Facilities contains the revised regulatory language.<sup>11</sup> CMS periodically revises the State Operations Manual Conditions of Participation; obtain the current information at www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Down loads/som107Appendicestoc.pdf.
- The 2015 report from the Institute of Medicine, now the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, provides evidence linking interprofessional education to patient, population, and health system outcomes.<sup>13</sup> Interprofessional education endeavors to gather different professionals, including RDNs in EONDP, to learn with, from, and about one another in order to collaborate more effectively in the delivery of safe, highquality care for patients/clients.<sup>14</sup> The Institute of Medicine report recommends actions that a diverse group of interprofessional stakeholders, including RDNs in EONDP, can take to better measure the impact of interprofessional education beyond the classroom, and in actual clinical practice. 15,16

Other significant changes impacting nutrition and dietetics practice are highlighted in both the Revised 2017 SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for RDNs<sup>2</sup> and the Revised 2017 SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for NDTRs.<sup>17</sup>

### THREE LEVELS OF PRACTICE

The Dreyfus model<sup>18</sup> identifies levels of proficiency (novice, advanced beginner, competent, proficient, and expert) (refer to Figure 2) during the acquisition and development of knowledge and skills. The first two levels are components of the required

didactic education (novice) and supervised practice experience (advanced beginner) that precede credentialing for nutrition and dietetics practitioners. Upon successfully attaining the RDN credential, a practitioner enters professional practice at the competent level and manages his or her professional development to achieve individual professional goals. This model clarifies the levels of practice described in the SOPP for RDNs in EONDP. In Academy focus areas, the three levels of practice are represented as competent, proficient, and expert.

### **Competent Practitioner**

In nutrition and dietetics, a competent practitioner is an RDN who is either just starting practice after having obtained RDN registration by CDR or an experienced RDN recently transitioning his or her practice to a new focus area of nutrition and dietetics. A focus area of nutrition and dietetics practice is a defined area of practice that requires focused knowledge, skills, and experience that apply to all levels of practice.<sup>19</sup> A competent-level practitioner who has achieved credentialing as an RDN and is starting in professional employment consistently provides safe and reliable services by employing appropriate knowledge, skills, behavior, and values in accordance with accepted standards of the profession; acquires additional on-the-job skills; and engages in tailored continuing education to further enhance knowledge, skills, and judgment obtained in formal education.<sup>19</sup> A competent-level RDN in EONDP can apply knowledge and skills in several areas of practice, including but not limited to: incorporation of evidencedbased practice examples in both the classroom and supervised practice experiences, use informatics to assess student learning outcomes, contribute to curriculum design, and participate in research projects.

### **Proficient Practitioner**

A proficient practitioner is an RDN who is generally 3 or more years beyond credentialing and entry into the profession and consistently provides safe and reliable service; has obtained operational job performance skills; and is successful in the RDN's chosen focus area of practice. The proficient

practitioner demonstrates additional knowledge, skills, judgment, and experience in a focus area of nutrition and dietetics practice. <sup>19</sup> A proficient RDN in EONDP may obtain advanced training in education pedagogy (the art or science of teaching, education, and instructional methods) and can facilitate the design of high-quality courses using the latest approaches and technologies.

### **Expert Practitioner**

An expert practitioner is an RDN who is recognized within the profession and has mastered the highest degree of skill in, and knowledge of, nutrition and dietetics. Expert-level achievement is acquired through ongoing critical evaluation of practice and feedback from others. The individual at this level strives for additional knowledge, experience, and training. An expert can quickly identify "what" is happening and "how" to approach the situation. Experts easily use nutrition and dietetics skills to become successful through demonstrating quality practice and leadership, and to consider new opportunities that build upon nutrition and dietetics.<sup>19</sup> An expert practitioner may have an expanded or specialist role, or both, and may possess an advanced credential(s). Generally the practice is more complex and the practitioner has a high degree of professional autonomy and responsibilities. An expert RDN in EONDP may develop and oversee an advanced-practice residency in a specialized area or lead a team oncampus to create a center for interprofessional skill training.

These Standards, along with the Academy/CDR Code of Ethics,<sup>3</sup> answer the questions: Why is an RDN uniquely qualified to provide EONDP? What knowledge, skills, and competencies does an RDN need to demonstrate for the provision of safe, effective, and quality nutrition and dietetics education, customer-centered care, and service at the competent, proficient, and expert levels?

### **OVERVIEW**

Nutrition and dietetics education and preparation for practice is a multifaceted educational structure composed of education, supervised practice, applying or producing research, and

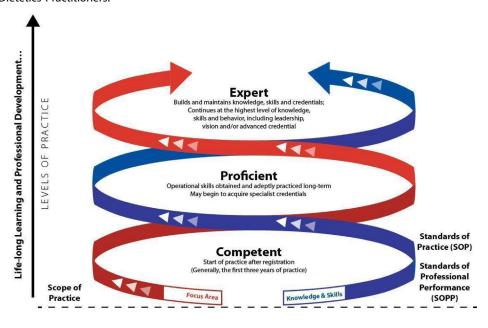
The Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP) for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners (EONDP) are authoritative statements that describe behavior in the professional role, including activities related to Quality in Practice; Competence and Accountability; Provision of Services; Application of Research; Communication and Application of Knowledge; and Utilization and Management of Resources (six separate standards).

The SOPP, along with the Standards of Practice (SOP) in Nutrition Care, applicable to practitioners who provide direct patient/client nutrition care services, are complementary standards and serve as evaluation resources. All indicators may not be applicable to all RDNs' practice or to all practice settings and situations. RDNs operate within the directives of applicable federal and state laws and regulations, as well as policies and procedures established by the organization in which they are employed. To determine whether an activity is within the scope of practice of the RDN, the practitioner compares his or her knowledge, skill, experience, judgment, and demonstrated competence with the criteria necessary to perform the activity safely, legally, and appropriately. The Academy's Scope of Practice Decision Tool, an online interactive tool, is specifically designed to assist practitioners with this process (www.eatrightpro.org/scope).

The term **customer** is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. **Customer** could also mean nutrition and dietetics student/intern, preceptor, client/patient, participant, consumer, or any individual, group, or organization to which the RDN provides services. These services are provided to individuals of all ages. These Standards of Professional Performance are applicable to all settings. In addition, it is recognized that faculty, preceptors, academic institution administrators, and supervised practice setting liaisons play critical roles in the education of nutrition and dietetics students/interns and are important members of the team throughout the educational experience. The term **appropriate** is used in the standards to mean: Selecting from a range of best practice or evidence-based possibilities, one or more of which would give an acceptable result in the circumstances

Each standard is equal in relevance and importance and includes a definition, a rationale statement, indicators, and examples of desired outcomes. A standard is a collection of specific outcome-focused statements against which a practitioner's performance can be assessed. The rationale statement describes the intent of the standard and defines its purpose and importance in greater detail. Indicators are measurable action statements that illustrate how each specific standard can be applied in practice. Indicators serve to identify the level of performance of competent practitioners and to encourage and recognize professional growth.

Standard definitions, rationale statements, core indicators, and examples of outcomes found in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2018 Standards of Professional Performance for RDNs have been adapted to reflect three levels of practice (competent, proficient, and expert) for RDNs in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners (see image below). In addition, the core indicators have been expanded to reflect the unique competence expectations for the RDN in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners.



**Figure 2.** Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners.

professional growth. These include Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND)<sup>20</sup> nutrition and dietetics education programs designed to prepare students for entry-level practice as an RDN or NDTR. RDN faculty and preceptors engage in closely related but distinct activities, are role models, and use active and collaborative learning techniques to engage students/interns. RDNs in EONDP design relevant courses based on ACEND program standards,<sup>21</sup> and for post-professional practice advancement needs (eg, Continuing Professional Education, residencies, specialty certifications). Course design includes identification of 1) student/intern learning outcomes, 2) appropriate feedback and assessment procedures, 3) effective teaching/ learning activities, and 4) course mode of delivery (online, in person, or hybrid). Also, RDNs in EONDP engage in educator-student interactions as the learning activity is implemented. Educator-student/-intern interaction may include leading discussions, role playing, simulation, managing research laboratories, advising, providing critical feedback, precepting, and mentoring.

RDNs in EONDP must remain up-todate in the knowledge, delivery, and assessment of nutrition and dietetics education-related services to reflect changes in the field of nutrition and dietetics.<sup>22</sup> Although there are a variety of instructional and training methods that educators can apply in delivery of nutrition and dietetics education, the primary focus remains on the learnercentered paradigm, where educator serves to facilitate and guide learning.<sup>23</sup> It is necessary that RDNs in EONDP remain current with new methods and utilize technological advancements when interacting with all learning, such as the use of studentmethods, 22,23 centered learning person-centered training models. interactive and applied lessons and assignments, and/or distance education formats/platforms.<sup>24-27</sup>

As life-long learners, RDNs in EONDP maintain a CDR professional development portfolio. The Professional Development Portfolio allows RDNs in EONDP to identify learning needs, create a plan based on those needs, and carry out that plan by participating in a wide variety of activity types that cater to many different learning styles in all

areas of practice.<sup>28</sup> It is imperative that RDNs in EONDP remain abreast of their specific practice or expertise area. Examples include:

- understanding the Nutrition Care Process and clinical workflow elements<sup>6,29</sup>;
- recognizing emerging trends;
- understanding and using current evidence-based concepts in medical nutrition therapy and nutrition informatics; and
- recognizing emerging trends in clinical, community and public health nutrition, food science, nutrigenomics, food security, foodservice management, sustainability, and practice management to deliver quality and appropriate patient/client care and student/intern education and training.

For more EONDP resources see Figure 3.

Faculty in nutrition and dietetics education programs must play integral roles in the planning and defining of educational goals and both program and student outcomes. Preceptors in supervised practice settings provide guidance, practical experience, and training to nutrition and dietetics students/interns. Degree requisites for faculty among institutions vary, though regional higher-education accrediting organizations may outline compulsory education requirements. According to the Higher Education Commission, guidelines state that faculty should be academically prepared one level higher than the courses being taught or developed.<sup>30</sup> The RDN, PhD, or equivalent preparation level is usually required in regionally accredited colleges and universities to qualify for clinical or tenure track teaching appointments. All program directors of ACEND-accredited nutrition and dietetics education programs are required to hold the RDN credential. RDNs and NDTRs serve as valuable faculty members and preceptors, with expertise in nutrition and dietetics research and practice. Therefore, it is essential that programs make every effort to include credentialed practitioners (RDNs, NDTRs) in their program faculty.

The SOPP for RDNs in EONDP is a tool to assist RDN educators, faculty preceptors, and preceptors in supervised practice settings. The SOPP can be

utilized as a guide for self-evaluation and to determine the education and skills needed to advance an individual's level of practice. RDN educators and preceptors who are employed in health care or community health settings might use the SOPP for RDNs in EONDP to demonstrate to nutrition and dietetics students/interns examples of the range of nutrition and dietetics knowledge, application skills, and education delivery that may be of value in their practice setting.

Nutrition and Dietetic Educators and Preceptors (NDEP), an organizational unit of the Academy comprising more than 1,400 members who are educators and preceptors, is a valuable resource for nutrition and dietetics practitioners in EONDP. NDEP's mission is to "advocate for and empower educators to lead the profession of nutrition and dietetics."31 NDEP works towards this mission by providing resources for educators and preceptors, such as regional meetings, opportunities for continuing education and leadership, ongoing support via shared resources, communication, and networking.

### ACADEMY REVISED 2018 SOPP FOR RDNs (COMPETENT, PROFICIENT, AND EXPERT) IN EDUCATION OF NUTRITION AND DIETETICS PRACTITIONERS

An RDN can use the Academy Revised 2018 SOPP for RDNs (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in EONDP (see Figure 1, available at www.jandonline. org, and Figure 2) to:

- identify the competencies needed to provide EONDP;
- self-evaluate whether he or she has the appropriate knowledge, skills, experience, and judgment to provide safe, effective, and quality nutrition and dietetics education for their level of practice;
- identify the areas in which additional knowledge, skills, and experience are needed to practice at the competent, proficient, or expert level of nutrition and dietetics education;
- provide a foundation for public and professional accountability in nutrition and dietetics education;
- support efforts for strategic planning, performance improvement,

Address	Description and Application
d Dietetics (Academy)	-
www.eatrightstore.org/product/ 72D93968-26F0-44BB-AE78-C9D2 AD2C8ABD	This Academy publication provides information on coding and billing for nutrition services for program directors and preceptors to use when teaching nutrition and dietetics students/ interns. This resource is free to members, and is available in the Academy store for nonmembers.
www.eatrightstore.org/cpe-opportunities/ certificates-of-training/informatics- in-nutrition-module-1	A series of 5 modules that apply the definition and historical background of Nutrition Informatics content of the Nutrition Informatics Surveys (2008, 2011, and 2014), National Delphi Study on Nutrition Informatics, Academy's Evidence Analysis Library, and the upcoming release of an Electronic Health Record (EHR)/ Personal Health Record Nutrition Best Practices Implementation Guide. EHR Toolkit is now provided per subscription to the electronic Nutrition Care Process Terminology.
www.eatrightpro.org/resources/ membership/academy-groups/dietetic- practice-groups	Educators and preceptors may choose to belong to practice groups that relate to their area of nutrition and dietetics expertise in addition to being an educator or preceptor.
www.eatrightpro.org/practice/ career-development/career-toolbox/ dietetics-career-development-guide	The Academy's Nutrition and Dietetics Career  Development Guide is based on the Dreyfus model <sup>18</sup> of knowledge and skill acquisition.  "This guide is designed to provide students, educators and practitioners the tools to assist in career development and advancement."
www.eatrightpro.org/resources/ practice/position-and-practice-papers	The Academy position and practice papers are resources that assist in promoting optimal nutrition, health, and well-being for the public in addition to guiding critical thinking. These are helpful documents for educators in providing evidence-based nutrition information to nutrition and dietetics students/interns.
www.eatrightpro.org/practice#dietetics- resources	The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics offers members many resources to manage their practice and career, from standards of practice tools to marketing resources.
www.ndepnet.org/	NDEP provides several resources for educators and preceptors. NDEP members access webinars, the NDEP portal with a library of resources, and a mentoring program.
	www.eatrightstore.org/product/ 72D93968-26F0-44BB-AE78-C9D2 AD2C8ABD  www.eatrightstore.org/cpe-opportunities/ certificates-of-training/informatics- in-nutrition-module-1  www.eatrightpro.org/resources/ membership/academy-groups/dietetic- practice-groups  www.eatrightpro.org/practice/ career-development/career-toolbox/ dietetics-career-development-guide  www.eatrightpro.org/resources/ practice/position-and-practice-papers  www.eatrightpro.org/practice#dietetics- resources

Figure 3. Resources for registered dietitian nutritionists in education of nutrition and dietetics practitioners (not all inclusive).

Resource	Address	Description and Application
Advanced Practice		
The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) Advanced Practice Residency (APR) Program	www.eatrightpro.org/acend/ about-acend/advanced-practice	The ACEND APR Program Guidelines were established to foster the development of APR programs for registered dietitian nutritionists (RDNs) across the spectrum of nutrition and dietetics practice.
Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) Advanced Practice Certification in Clinical Nutrition (RDN-AP)	www.cdrnet.org/board-certification- in-advanced-practice	The CDR offers an Advanced Practice Certification in Clinical Nutrition. Certification is granted in recognition of an applicant's documented practice experience and successful completion of an examination.
Non-Academy-Based Pe	dagogical Resources	
Competency Assessment Field Guide: A Real World Guide for Implementation and Application by D. Wright, Creative Health Care Management, Minneapolis, MN (2015)	https://books.google.com/books/about/ Competency_Assessment_Field_ Guide.html?id=pyhzDgAAQBAJ&printsec =frontcover&source=kp_read_ button#v=onepage&q&f=false	This book is a competency-based assessment field guide and reviews the misconceptions of competency-based assessment while providing information on what every educator needs to know.
Health Care Provider Preceptor Training Program—California Community Colleges	www.sdnsec.org/forms/Preceptor ModelCurriculumObjectives-RHORC.pdf	This resource is a health care provider model preceptor training curriculum. It could be used as an educational tool for training preceptors in a group setting, and provides examples of pedagogy, worksheets, and guidelines for a facilitator in a health care setting.
How Learning Works: 7 Research-Based Principles for Smart Teaching by S. Ambrose and colleagues, Jossey- Bass, San Francisco, CA (2010)	www.wiley.com/en-us/ How+Learning+Works% 3A+Seven+Research+Based+ Principles+for+Smart+Teaching-p- 9780470484104	This book addresses how students learn and provides evidence-based principles, such as student motivation and how students develop mastery for effective teaching.
Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC)	www.ipecollaborative.org	IPEC is an organization that works in collaboration with academic institutions to support efforts to prepare future health care professionals. The IPEC provides resources, such as Core Competencies for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice and learning modules.
Interprofessional Education Development: A Road Map for Getting There	www.scirp.org/journal/PaperInformation. aspx?PaperID=34953	This journal article describes the benefits of interprofessional education (IPE) and how to get started implementing IPE, and describes the cultural changes that may need to occur.
		(continued on next page)

**Figure 3.** (continued) Resources for registered dietitian nutritionists in education of nutrition and dietetics practitioners (not all inclusive).

Resource	Address	Description and Application
Guidelines for the Evaluation of Distance Education (Online Learning)	http://download.hlcommission.org/C-RAC_ Distance_Ed_Guidelines_7_31_2009.pdf	The Guidelines for the Evaluation of Distance Education (Online Learning) were developed by the Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions for institutions to use as a resource when planning distance education. The guidelines provide an assessment framework for institutions already involved in distance education.
Mastering Simulation: A Handbook for Success by Beth Ulrich and Beth Mancini, Sigma Tau Theta International, Indianapolis, IN (2014)	www.nursingknowledge.org/mastering- simulation-a-handbook-for-success.html	This book provides information on using simulation as an effective teaching tool and how to respond to changing technology.  Topics covered include creating simulation scenarios, designing program evaluations, managing risk, and quality improvement.
National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education	https://nexusipe.org/	The National Center is charged to provide the leadership, evidence, and resources needed to guide the nation on interprofessional education and collaborative practice. The Resource Center houses a digital library of interprofessional practice and education-related content.
Quality Matters	www.qualitymatters.org/	Quality Matters is an organization that promotes and certifies quality design for online courses through training and review.
Resources for Preceptors		
ACEND Preceptors and Mentors website	www.eatrightpro.org/preceptors	ACEND offers information on how to become a preceptor in addition to resources for preceptors and mentors, such as a preceptor training program.
CDR Campus website	www.cdrcampus.com	This website offers continuing professional education activities for RDNs and Nutrition and Dietetics Technicians, Registered and also provides a link to a free Dietetics Preceptor Training Program (provides 8 Continuing Professional Education Units).
Mastering Precepting: A Nurse's Handbook for Success by Beth Ulrich, Sigma Tau Theta International, Indianapolis, IN (2012)	www.nursingknowledge.org/mastering- precepting-a-nurse-s-handbook-for- success.html	This book gives detailed information about the role of a preceptor, provides information on creating a preceptor development plan, and describes the preceptor's role as a health care leader. It can be used by both program directors and preceptors for planning and improving preceptor training.

Figure 3. (continued) Resources for registered dietitian nutritionists in education of nutrition and dietetics practitioners (not all inclusive).

outcomes reporting, and assist management in the planning and communicating of nutrition and dietetics education and resources (see Figure 3):

- enhance professional identity and skill in communicating the nature of nutrition and dietetics education:
- guide the development of nutrition and dietetics education programs and related continuing education opportunities, job descriptions, practice guidelines, protocols, clinical models, competence evaluation tools, and career pathways; and
- assist educators and preceptors in teaching knowledge, skills, and competencies needed to work in nutrition and dietetics education, and the understanding of the full scope of this focus area of practice.

### APPLICATION TO PRACTICE

All RDNs, even those with significant experience in other practice areas, must begin at the competent level. when practicing in a new setting or new focus area of practice. At the competent level, an RDN in EONDP is incorporating the principles that underpin this focus area and is developing knowledge, skills, and judgment, and gaining experience for safe and effective practice. This RDN, who may be new to the profession or may be an experienced RDN, has a breadth of knowledge in nutrition and dietetics and may have proficient or expert knowledge/practice in another focus area. However, the RDN new to the focus area of EONDP must accept the challenge of becoming familiar with the body of knowledge, practice guidelines, and available resources to support and ensure quality evidencebased EONDP-related practice.

At the proficient level, an RDN has developed a more in-depth understanding of nutrition and dietetics practice and is better equipped to adapt and apply evidence-based guidelines and best practices than at the competent level. This RDN can modify practice according to unique situations. The RDN at the proficient level may possess a specialist credential(s). RDNs in EONDP manage and direct nutrition and dietetics education programs; monitor

and evaluate student/intern learning outcomes; take necessary action for performance improvement; apply and utilize nutrition informatics; and engage in scholarly work.

At the expert level, the RDN thinks critically about nutrition and dietetics education, demonstrates a more intuitive understanding, displays a range of highly developed education, clinical and/or technical skills, and formulates judgments acquired through a combination of education, experience, and critical thinking. Essentially, practice at the expert level requires the application of composite nutrition and dietetics knowledge, with practitioners drawing not only on their practice experience, but also on the experience of the expert-level RDNs in various disciplines and practice settings. Expert RDNs, with their extensive experience and ability to see the significance and meaning of nutrition and dietetics education within a contextual whole, are fluid and flexible, and have considerable autonomy in practice. They develop nutrition and dietetics education curricula, and deliver evidenced-based information in a problem-solving, learner-centered format; conduct and collaborate in research and advocacy; accept organization leadership roles; guide interprofessional teams; and lead advancement of nutrition and dietetics education and the profession.

Indicators for the SOPP for RDNs in EONDP are measurable action statements that illustrate how each standard can be applied in practice (Figure 1 SOPP, available at www. jandonline.org). Within the SOPP for RDNs in EONDP, an "X" in the competent column indicates that an RDN in EONDP who is responsible for instruction in a didactic and/or practice setting is expected to complete this activity and/or seek assistance to learn how to perform at the level of the standard. A competent-level RDN in EONDP could be an RDN starting practice after registration or an experienced RDN who has recently assumed responsibility to deliver instruction to nutrition and dietetics students/ interns.

An "X" in the proficient column indicates that an RDN who performs at this level has a more in-depth understanding of educational theory, course design, instructional techniques, and student/intern evaluation; and can

modify or guide the instruction/learning activity to meet the needs of the student/intern in various situations.

An "X" in the expert column indicates that the RDN who performs at this level possesses a comprehensive understanding of nutrition and dietetics education and the practice of RDNs and NDTRs and a highly developed range of skills and judgments acquired through a combination of experience and education. The expert RDN builds and maintains the highest level of knowledge, skills, and behaviors, including leadership, vision, and credentials.

The EONDP SOPP standards and indicators presented in Figure 1 (availat www.jandonline.org) in boldface type originate from the Academy's Revised 2017 SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for RDNs<sup>2</sup> and should apply to RDNs in all three levels. Additional indicators not in boldface type developed for this focus area are identified as applicable to all levels of practice. Where an "X" is placed in all three levels of practice, it is understood that all RDNs in EONDP are accountable for practice within each of these indicators. However, the depth with which an RDN performs each activity will increase as the individual moves beyond the competent level. Several levels of practice are considered in this document; thus, a comprehensive view of the SOPP for RDNs in EONDP is warranted. It is the totality of individual practice that defines a practitioner's level of practice and not any one indicator or standard.

RDNs should review the SOPP in EONDP at determined intervals to evaluate their individual focus area knowledge, skill, and competence. Consistent self-evaluation is important because it helps identify opportunities to improve and enhance practice and professional performance. This selfappraisal also enables RDNs in EONDP to better utilize these Standards as part of the Professional Development Portfolio recertification process,<sup>32</sup> which encourages CDR-credentialed nutrition and dietetics practitioners to incorporate self-reflection and learning needs assessment for development of a learning plan for improvement and commitment to lifelong learning. CDR's updated system implemented with the 5-year recertification cycle that began

Role	Examples of use of SOPP documents by RDNs in different practice roles <sup>a</sup>
Director, ACEND nutrition and dietetics program	The nutrition and dietetics education program director uses the Revised 2018 Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP) for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners (EONDP) as a guiding document along with the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) Standards of Education <sup>19</sup> to assure academic courses and supervised practice experiences provide the students/interns with the necessary core knowledge and practice competencies for supervised practice that leads to entry-level practice. The program director collaborates with and mentors other nutrition and dietetics faculty, other health professions' faculty, and supervised practice preceptors on the purpose and expectations of the Revised 2018 SOPP for RDNs in EONDP. In addition, the nutrition and dietetics education program director provides guidance to faculty and preceptors on the value and application of using the Revised 2017 SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for RDNs and Revised 2017 Standards Of Practice (SOP) in Nutrition Care and SOPP for Nutrition and Dietetics Technicians, Registered (NDTRs), and other applicable focus area SOP and SOPP. The EONDP SOPP and other focus area SOP and SOPP serve as references when designing course content, supervised practice and learning activities, and to illustrate how knowledge and skills learned apply to practice as a credentialed practitioner.
RDN faculty, nutrition and dietetics education program	An RDN faculty member teaching nutrition and dietetics courses refers to the Revised 2018 SOPP for RDNs in EONDP to understand the competence expectation for educators (ie, in-person or distance). The RDN also accesses other focus area SOPs and/or SOPPs (eg, Nutrition Support, Pediatrics, Oncology Nutrition, Nephrology Nutrition, Diabetes Care, Adult Weight Management, Integrative and Functional Medicine) to identify practice roles and outcomes for entry-level competent practice; and focus area resources to use in development of lectures and assignments. The RDN reviews the Revised 2018 SOPP for RDNs in EONDP to evaluate knowledge and skills, and to set goals for strengthening competence in this area of practice.
RDN researcher/educator (eg, may work as a faculty member in a nutrition and dietetics program or other related college-level program)	An RDN has a faculty appointment that includes research responsibilities. The RDN develops a research proposal with an aim of building capacity and increasing diversity of the RDN workforce. The RDN uses the Revised 2018 SOPP for RDNs in EONDP and other resources to identify areas for nutrition and dietetics students/interns contributing to the research experience (eg, design research protocol, submission to institutional review board, obtain consent, collect and analyze data, and draft the research report). In addition, the RDN may consider guiding the students/interns through culturally relevant approaches in the recruitment phase of the research, such as offering culturally appropriate informational sessions to recruit new students who may be interested in the field of food, nutrition, and dietetics.
RDN preceptor (eg, may work in a clinical, foodservice management, public health/community, or other setting)	An RDN serving in a clinical role that provides care to individuals and/or groups, such as hospital clinical practice, public health/community, or foodservice management has agreed to serve as a preceptor for a nutrition and dietetics education program. The RDN who is unfamiliar with the specific role and responsibilities of being a preceptor reviews the Revised 2018 SOPP for RDNs in EONDP to prepare for an orientation session with the nutrition and dietetics program faculty and/or program director. The RDN identifies skills and competencies for development and sets goals for improvement through reading, mentoring, and targeted continuing education activities including the Commission on Dietetic Registration Online Preceptor Training Course (www.cdrnet.org).
	(continued on next page)

Figure 4. Role Examples of Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP) for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners.

Role	Examples of use of SOPP documents by RDNs in different practice roles <sup>a</sup>
RDN manager (eg, may participate as preceptor, mentor, or guest lecturer)	An RDN manager (clinical or other practice area) oversees several RDNs and NDTRs who agreed to participate as preceptors for nutrition and dietetics students/interns. The RDN, who is liaison to the nutrition and dietetics education program, works with the program director to use the Revised 2018 SOPP for RDNs in EONDP to orient staff, develop guidelines for student/intern experiences, and report student/intern progress. The RDN uses the Revised 2018 SOPP for RDNs in EONDP, and other identified resources to increase knowledge in educational methodologies and competency expectations for preceptors recognizing it is an important tool for staff to assess and develop skills in precepting nutrition and dietetics students/interns.

EONDP roles and activities.

Figure 4. (continued) Role Examples of Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP) for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners.

in 2015 incorporates the use of essential practice competencies for determining professional development needs.<sup>33</sup> In the new three-step process, the credentialed practitioner accesses an online Goal Wizard (step 1), which uses a decision algorithm to identify essential practice competency goals and performance indicators relevant to the RDN's area(s) of practice (essential practice competencies and performance indicators replace the learning need codes of the previous process). The Activity Log (step 2) is used to log and document continuing professional education over the 5-year period. The Professional Development Evaluation (step 3) guides self-reflection and assessment of learning and how it is applied. The outcome is a completed evaluation of the effectiveness of the practitioner's learning plan continuing professional education. The self-assessment information can then be used in developing the plan for the practitioner's next 5-year recertification cycle. For more information, see www.cdrnet.org/competencies-forpractitioners.

RDNs are encouraged to pursue additional knowledge, skills, and training, regardless of practice setting, to maintain currency and to expand individual scope of practice within the limitations of the legal scope of practice, as defined by state law. RDNs are expected to practice only at the level at which they are competent, and this will vary depending on education, training, and experience. A RDNs should collaborate with other RDNs in EONDP as learning opportunities, to promote consistency in practice and

performance, and for continuous quality improvement. See Figure 4 for role examples of how RDNs in different roles, at different levels of practice, may use the SOPP for RDNs in EONDP.

In some instances, components of the SOPP for RDNs in EONDP do not differentiate specifically between proficient-level and expert-level practice. In these areas, it remains the consensus of the content experts that the distinctions are subtle, captured in the knowledge, experience, and intuition demonstrated in the context of practice at the expert level, which combines dimensions of understanding, performance, and value as an integrated whole.35 A wealth of knowledge is embedded in the experience, discernment, and practice of expert-level RDN practitioners. The experienced practitioner observes events, analyzes them to make new connections between events and ideas, and produces a synthesized whole. The knowledge and skills acquired through practice will continually expand and mature. The SOPP indicators are refined with each review of these Standards, as expert-level RDNs systematically record and document their experiences, often through use of exemplars. Exemplary actions of individual RDNs in EONDP practice settings professional activities enhance didactic or supervised practice programs can be used to illustrate outstanding practice models.

### **FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

CDR announced that as of January 1, 2024, entry-level eligibility requirements

to become an RDN would increase to include obtaining a graduate degree.<sup>21</sup> This will impact RDNs in EONDP in several ways. First, the need for RDNs with advanced degrees (PhD or other advanced doctoral degree) will intensify to meet the education requirements to teach at the graduate-degree level. Second, because RDNs in EONDP are innovators, now more than ever they will participate in evaluation of current nutrition and dietetics education programs and transform them as needed or create new programs to prepare nutrition and dietetics students/interns to meet the graduate-degree requirement for future entry-level practice.<sup>2</sup>

The SOPP for RDNs in EONDP are innovative and dynamic documents. Future revisions will reflect changes and advances in practice, changes to ACEND's<sup>21</sup> nutrition and dietetics education standards, regulatory changes, and outcomes of practice audits. Continued clarity and differentiation of the three practice levels in support of safe, effective, and quality practice in EONDP remains an expectation of each revision to serve tomorrow's students/interns, practitioners and their patients. clients. and customers.

### **SUMMARY**

RDNs in EONDP face complex situations every day. Addressing the unique learning needs of each nutrition and dietetics student/intern and creating educational experiences designed to meet program competencies are essential for the education of nutrition and dietetics practitioners. All RDNs are advised to conduct their practice

These standards have been formulated for use by individuals in self-evaluation, practice advancement, development of practice guidelines and specialist credentials, and as indicators of quality. These standards do not constitute medical or other professional advice and should not be taken as such. The information presented in the standards is not a substitute for the exercise of professional judgment by the nutrition and dietetics practitioner. These standards are not intended for disciplinary actions or determinations of negligence or misconduct. The use of the standards for any other purpose than that for which they were formulated must be undertaken within the sole authority and discretion of the user.

based on the most recent edition of the Academy/CDR Code of Ethics, the Scope of Practice for RDNs, and the SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for RDNs, along with applicable federal and state regulations and organization/facility/ program accreditation standards. The SOPP for RDNs in EONDP are complementary documents and are key resources for RDNs at all knowledge and performance levels. These standards can and should be used by RDNs in EONDP to consistently improve and appropriately demonstrate competency and value as providers of safe, effective, and quality nutrition and dietetics education. These standards also serve as a professional resource for self-evaluation and professional development for RDNs participating in or specializing in EONDP. Just as a professional's self-evaluation continuing education process is an ongoing cycle, these standards are also a work in progress and will be reviewed and updated every 7 years. Current and future initiatives of the Academy, as well as advances in practice and technology, changes to nutrition and dietetics education standards, regulatory changes, and outcomes of practice audits will provide information to use in future updates and in further clarifying and documenting the specific roles and responsibilities of RDNs at each level of practice. As a quality initiative of the Academy and NDEP, these standards are an application of continuous quality improvement and represent an important collaborative endeavor.

### References

- Anderson JA, Kennedy-Hagan K, Stieber MR, et al. Dietetics Educators of Practitioners and American Dietetic Association Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitians (Generalist, Specialty/Advanced) in Education of Dietetics Practitioners. J Am Diet Assoc. 2009; 109(4):747-754e14.
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Quality Management Committee. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2017 Standards of Practice in Nutrition Care and Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists. J Acad Nutr Diet. 2018;118(1): 132–140.
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Commission on Dietetic Registration. 2018 Code of Ethics for the Nutrition and Dietetics Profession. https://www.eatright pro.org/practice/code-of-ethics/what-isthe-code-of-ethics. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Quality Management Committee. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2017 Scope of Practice for the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist. J Acad Nutr Diet. 2018;118(1):141-165.
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Quality Management Committee and Scope of Practice Subcommittee of the Quality Management Committee. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Scope of Practice Decision Tool: A self-assessment guide. J Acad Nutr Diet. 2013;113(6 suppl 2):S10.
- Swan WI, Vivanti A, Hakel-Smith NA, et al. Nutrition Care Process and Model update: Toward realizing people-centered care and outcomes management. J Acad Nutr Diet. 2017;117(12):2003-2014.
- 7. US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. State Operations Manual. Appendix A-Survey protocol, regulations and interpretive guidelines for hospitals (Rev. 183, 10-12-18); §482. 12(a)(1) Medical Staff, non-physician practitioners; §482.23(c)(3)(i) Verbal Orders; §482.24(c)(2) Orders. https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/som107ap\_a\_hospitals.pdf. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- 8. US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. State Operations Manual. Appendix W-Survey protocol, regulations and interpretive guidelines for critical access hospitals (CAHs) and swing-beds in CAHs (Rev. 183, 10-12-18); § 485.635(a)(3)(vii) Dietary Services; § 458.635 (d)(3) Verbal Orders; §458.635 (d)(9) Swing-Beds. https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/som107ap\_w\_cah.pdf. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. 42 CFR Parts 413, 416, 440 et al. Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Regulatory provisions to promote program efficiency, transparency, and burden reduction; Part II; Final rule (FR DOC #2014-10687; pp 27106-27157). http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-

- 05-12/pdf/2014-10687.pdf. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Medicare Services. and Medicaid Programs; reform of requirements for long-term care facilities. 42 CFR Parts 405, 431, 447, 482, 483, 485, 488, and 489. Final Rule (FR DOC#2016; 68688-68872)-Federal Register October 4, 2016; 81(192):68688-68872; §483.30(f)(2) Physician services (pp 65-66), §483.60 Food and Nutrition Services (pp 89-94), §483.60 Food and Nutrition Services (pp 177-178). https://www. federalregister.gov/documents/2016/10/ 04/2016-23503/medicare-and-medicaidprograms-reform-of-requirements-for-longterm-care-facilities. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. State Operations Manual. Appendix PP Guidance to surveyors for long-term care facilities (Rev. 173, 11-22-17); §483.30 Physician Services, §483.60 Food and Nutrition Services. https://www.cms.gov/Regula tions-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/ downloads/som107ap\_pp\_guidelines\_ltcf. pdf. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Quality Management Committee. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2017 Scope of Practice for the Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered. J Acad Nutr Diet. 2018;118(2):327-342.
- Institute of Medicine. Measuring the Impact of Interprofessional Education on Collaborative Practice and Patient Outcomes. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press; 2015.
- Reeves S, Fletcher S, Barr H. A BEME systematic review of the effects of interprofessional education: BEME Guide No 39. Med Teach. 2016;38(7):656-668.
- 15. Davis A, Affenito S. Practice applications: Interprofessional education to create and sustain high-performance teams to support our transforming health care system and future educational model: How nutrition and dietetics can "weigh-in" J Acad Nutr Diet. 2017;117(12):1871-1876.
- Eliot KA, Kolasa KM. The value in interprofessional, collaborative-ready nutrition and dietetics practitioners. J Acad Nutr Diet. 2015;115(10):1578-1588.
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Quality Management Committee. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2017 Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance for Nutrition and Dietetics Technicians, Registered. J Acad Nutr Diet. 2018;118(2):317-326e13.
- 18. Dreyfus HL, Dreyfus SE. Mind over Machine: The Power of Human Intuition and Expertise in the Era of the Computer. New York: Free Press; 1986.
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Definition of terms. www.eatrightpro.org/ scope. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. ACEND. http://www.eatrightpro.org/resources/ acend. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- 21. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. accreditation standards, fees and policies.

- http://www.eatrightpro.org/resources/acend/accreditation-standards-fees-and-policies. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- 22. Kicklighter JR, Cluskey MM, Hunter AM, et al. Council on Future Practice Visioning Report and Consensus Agreement for Moving Forward the Continuum of Dietetics Education, Credentialing, and Practice. *J Acad Nutr Diet.* 2013;113(12):1710-1732.
- Overview of learning theories. http://gsi. berkeley.edu/gsi-guide-contents/learning-theory-research/learning-overview/. Berkeley Graduate Division website. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- 24. Gilboy MB, Heinerichs S, Pazzaglia G. Report: Enhancing student engagement using the flipped classroom. *J Nutr Educ Behav.* 2015;47(1):109-114.
- Hark L, Deen D. Position of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Interprofessional education in nutrition as an essential component of medical education. J Acad Nutr Diet. 2017;117(7):1104-1113.
- 26. Background Information on Distance and Correspondence Education. Higher

- Learning Commission website. http://www. hlcommission.org/Accreditation/distancedelivery.html. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- Distance Education Certification Standards. International Distance Education Certification Center website. https://www.idecc.org/Downloads/I\_DistanceEducationStandards.pdf. Published 2017. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- Professional Development Portfolio. Commission on Dietetic Registration website. https://www.cdrnet.org/pdp/ professional-development-portfolio-guide. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- Electronic Nutrition Care Process and Terminology. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Nutrition Care Process web site. https://www.ncpro.org/. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- Determining Qualified Faculty through HLC's Criteria for Accreditation and Assumed Practices. Higher Learning Commission website. http://download. hlcommission.org/FacultyGuidelines\_2016\_ OPB.pdf. Accessed November 19, 2018.

- Nutrition and Dietetic Educators and Preceptors—Same name, even greater commitment. http://www.ndepnet.org. Accessed November 19, 2018.
- **32.** Weddle DO, Himburg SP, Collins N, Lewis R. The professional development portfolio process: Setting goals for credentialing. *J Am Diet Assoc.* 2002; 102(10):1439-1444.
- Worsfold L, Grant BL, Barnhill C. The essential practice competencies for the Commission on Dietetic Registration's credentialed nutrition and dietetics practitioners. J Acad Nutr Diet. 2015;115(6): 978-984.
- Gates GR, Amaya L. Ethics opinion: Registered dietitian nutritionists and nutrition and dietetics technicians, registered are ethically obligated to maintain personal competence in practice. *J Acad Nutr Diet*. 2015;115(5):811-815.
- Chambers DW, Gilmore CJ, Maillet JO, Mitchell BE. Another look at competencybased education in dietetics. J Am Diet Assoc. 1996;96(6):614-617.

### **AUTHOR INFORMATION**

K. Border is an assistant professor, Department of Dietetics, D'Youville College, Buffalo, NY. C. Endrizal is chief quality officer and an adjunct junior specialist, Department of Complementary and Integrative Medicine, John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Wahiawā. M. Cecil is a consultant dietitian, Salisbury, MD, and retired assistant professor and director of didactic program in dietetics, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Princess Anne.

Address correspondence to: Kathleen Border, EdD, RDN, CDN, FAND, Department of Dietetics, D'Youville College, 320 Porter Ave, Buffalo, NY 14201. E-mail: borderk@dyc.edu

### STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

### FUNDING/SUPPORT

There is no funding to disclose.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Special acknowledgement and thanks to Robyn Osborn, PhD, RD, past-chair of NDEP who willingly gave of her time to review these standards, and the NDEP Council and membership for their support and guidance. The authors also extend thanks to all who were instrumental in the process of the revisions of the article. Finally, the authors thank Academy staff, in particular, Karen Hui, RDN, LDN; Dana Buelsing, MS; Carol Gilmore, MS, RDN, LD, FADA, FAND; and Sharon McCauley, MS, MBA, RDN, LDN, FADA, FAND, who supported and facilitated the development of these SOPPs.

### **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

Each author contributed to editing the components of the article (eg, article text and figures) and reviewed all drafts of the manuscript.

### Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics **Practitioners**

### Standard 1: Quality in Practice

The registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) provides quality services using a systematic process with identified ethics, leadership, accountability, and dedicated resources.

### Rationale:

Quality practice in nutrition and dietetics is built on a solid foundation of education and supervised practice, credentialing, evidence-based practice, demonstrated competence, and adherence to established professional standards. Quality practice requires systematic measurement of outcomes, regular performance evaluations, and continuous improvement.

Bold Indica		ators are Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	_	ifies the indic	
Each	RDN:		Competent	Expert	
1.1	-	ies with applicable laws and regulations as related to his/her area(s) ractice	Х	Х	Х
	1.1A	Implements quality practice by following an evidence-based/best practice approach to education and meeting credentialing, licensure, and regulatory requirements	Х	Х	Х
	1.1B	Explains the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services regulations and interpretive guidelines (eg, Conditions of Participation for Hospitals, Long-Term Care Facilities), and health care facility accreditation standards and elements of performance (eg, The Joint Commission, Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program) as key standards guiding quality patient care to achieve best practices		X	Х
	1.1C	Leads a team to review other nutrition and dietetics education programs and assists the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) Board in developing and/or revising standards for education			Х
	ns within individual and statutory scope of practice and applicable and regulations	Х	Х	Х	
	1.2A	Interprets and applies individual and statutory scope of practice at all program levels for the Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners (EONDP)	Х	Х	Х
	1.2B	Ensures that curriculum and, where appropriate, supervised practice experiences include orientation to the Academy Scope of Practice, individual scope of practice, and statutory scope of practice for both RDNs and Nutrition and Dietetics Technicians, Registered (NDTRs)	Х	Х	Х

Figure 1. Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners. Note: The term customer is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. Customer could also mean student/ intern, preceptor, client/patient/customer, family, participant, consumer, or any individual, group, or organization to which the RDN provides service.

Bold I		ators are A	Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	_	ifies the indicate indicate in the indicate in	
Each I	RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert
1.3		es to sound and setting	d business and ethical billing practices applicable to the	Х	Х	х
	1.3A	practic learn a	the nutrition and dietetics program curricula and supervised ce experiences provide students/interns with the ability to and apply payer and organization-type billing policies and I billing practices; seeks input from experienced practitioners eded		Х	Х
1.4	Engii Qual	neering, ar lity Forum, quality of s	ality and safety data (eg, National Academies of Sciences, nd Medicine: Health and Medicine Division, National Institute for Healthcare Improvement) to improve services provided and to enhance customer-centered	Х	Х	х
	1.4A		students/interns to national quality and safety data resources able to nutrition and dietetics practitioner roles and practice gs	Х	Х	Х
1.5	pract	-	c performance improvement model that is based on edge, evidence, research, and science for delivery of the services	Х	Х	Х
	1.5A		s performance improvement measures to monitor quality of tion services; seeks assistance if needed	Х	Х	Х
	1.5B	pedag	es quality of nutrition and dietetics education in terms of gogy, <sup>a</sup> ACEND standards, educational process, and student/ learning outcomes		Х	Х
1.6	evalu	uate safety,	designs an outcomes-based management system to , effectiveness, quality, person-centeredness, equity, efficiency of practice	Х	Х	Х
	1.6A		colleagues and others, as applicable, in systematic mes management	Х	Х	Х
		1.6A1	Monitors and conducts regular evaluations and provides feedback to colleagues and others involved in outcomes measurement consistent with role and responsibilities		Х	Х
	1.6B		expected outcomes (eg, student/intern learning outcomes dactic and/or supervised practice experiences)	Х	х	Х
		1.6B1	Participates and/or leads in identifying expected student/ intern learning outcomes applicable to didactic, experiential learning, and/or supervised practice experiences	Х	Х	х

1.6B2 Develops student/intern learning outcomes for assigned course(s) including experiential learning, if appropriate, and/or setting-specific supervised practice experiences  1.6B3 Operationalizes and advises faculty and preceptors <sup>b</sup> on the identification of learning outcomes that meet ACEND standards, academic guidelines, and student/intern and other stakeholder expectations  1.6C Uses indicators that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timely (S.M.A.R.T.)  Measures quality of services in terms of structure, process, and outcomes  1.6D1 Collects measurable data, and documents outcomes applicable to education of nutrition and dietetics practitioners and/or other area of research expertise  1.6D1i Develops and monitors systematic processes to determine, define, collect, and analyze measurable data comparing to expected outcomes  1.6D2 Measures educational services and identifies and addresses student/intern learning needs using educational processes/systems  1.6D2i Identifies and addresses potential problems in relation to diversity of student/intern learning needs that may compromise	X	Proficient  X  X  X	X X X X
1.6B2 Develops student/intern learning outcomes for assigned course(s) including experiential learning, if appropriate, and/or setting-specific supervised practice experiences  1.6B3 Operationalizes and advises faculty and preceptors <sup>b</sup> on the identification of learning outcomes that meet ACEND standards, academic guidelines, and student/intern and other stakeholder expectations  1.6C Uses indicators that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timely (S.M.A.R.T.)  Measures quality of services in terms of structure, process, and outcomes  1.6D1 Collects measurable data, and documents outcomes applicable to education of nutrition and dietetics practitioners and/or other area of research expertise  1.6D1i Develops and monitors systematic processes to determine, define, collect, and analyze measurable data comparing to expected outcomes  1.6D2 Measures educational services and identifies and addresses student/intern learning needs using educational processes/systems  1.6D2i Identifies and addresses potential problems in relation to diversity of student/intern learning needs that may compromise	x	X X X	x x x
the identification of learning outcomes that meet ACEND standards, academic guidelines, and student/ intern and other stakeholder expectations  1.6C Uses indicators that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timely (S.M.A.R.T.)  1.6D Measures quality of services in terms of structure, process, and outcomes  1.6D1 Collects measurable data, and documents outcomes applicable to education of nutrition and dietetics practitioners and/or other area of research expertise  1.6D1i Develops and monitors systematic processes to determine, define, collect, and analyze measurable data comparing to expected outcomes  1.6D2 Measures educational services and identifies and addresses student/intern learning needs using educational processes/systems  1.6D2i Identifies and addresses potential problems in relation to diversity of student/intern learning needs that may compromise	х	x	x x
and timely (S.M.A.R.T.)  1.6D Measures quality of services in terms of structure, process, and outcomes  1.6D1 Collects measurable data, and documents outcomes applicable to education of nutrition and dietetics practitioners and/or other area of research expertise  1.6D1i Develops and monitors systematic processes to determine, define, collect, and analyze measurable data comparing to expected outcomes  1.6D2 Measures educational services and identifies and addresses student/intern learning needs using educational processes/systems  1.6D2i Identifies and addresses potential problems in relation to diversity of student/intern learning needs that may compromise	х	x	x
outcomes  1.6D1 Collects measurable data, and documents outcomes applicable to education of nutrition and dietetics practitioners and/or other area of research expertise  1.6D1i Develops and monitors systematic processes to determine, define, collect, and analyze measurable data comparing to expected outcomes  1.6D2 Measures educational services and identifies and addresses student/intern learning needs using educational processes/systems  1.6D2i Identifies and addresses potential problems in relation to diversity of student/intern learning needs that may compromise		Х	Х
applicable to education of nutrition and dietetics practitioners and/or other area of research expertise  1.6D1i Develops and monitors systematic processes to determine, define, collect, and analyze measurable data comparing to expected outcomes  1.6D2 Measures educational services and identifies and addresses student/intern learning needs using educational processes/systems  1.6D2i Identifies and addresses potential problems in relation to diversity of student/intern learning needs that may compromise	х		
to determine, define, collect, and analyze measurable data comparing to expected outcomes  1.6D2 Measures educational services and identifies and addresses student/intern learning needs using educational processes/systems  1.6D2i Identifies and addresses potential problems in relation to diversity of student/intern learning needs that may compromise		Х	Х
addresses student/intern learning needs using educational processes/systems  1.6D2i Identifies and addresses potential problems in relation to diversity of student/intern learning needs that may compromise			
relation to diversity of student/intern learning needs that may compromise	Х	Х	Х
expected outcomes; variances evaluated include, but are not limited to:  • receptivity related to generational differences  • diversity issues  • literacy  • provider-centered vs learner-centered teaching/instruction styles		Х	Х
1.6D2ii Provides expertise in identification and evaluation of educational structures and processes to meet student/intern learning outcomes			Х

Figure 1. (continued) Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners. Note: The term customer is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. Customer could also mean student/intern, preceptor, client/patient/customer, family, participant, consumer, or any individual, group, or organization to which the RDN provides service.

	Font Indic		: Quality in Practice Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	_	ifies the indic	
Each I	RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert
	1.6E Incorporates electronic clinical quality measures (eCQM) to evaluate and improve care of patients/clients at risk of malnutrition or with malnutrition (www.eatrightpro.org/emeasures)  1.6E1 Ensures students/interns have opportunities for observation and participation in nutrition care and performance improvement activities addressing screening, assessment, and interventions for individuals with or at risk of malnutrition in health care settings and applicable community settings  1.6E2 Provides examples to students/interns of how eCQMs can be used to improve patient/client outcomes, reduce cost burden, and advance the role of the RDN  1.6E3 Identifies and provides examples to students/interns on requirements for reporting on quality measures using	х	Х	Х		
		1.6E1	observation and participation in nutrition care and performance improvement activities addressing screening, assessment, and interventions for individuals with or at risk of malnutrition in health care settings	Х	X	X
		1.6E2	be used to improve patient/client outcomes, reduce		Х	Х
		1.6E3			Х	Х
	1.6F		ents outcomes and patient reported outcomes ROMIS <sup>c</sup> )	Х	Х	Х
		1.6F1	Documents achievement of student/intern learning outcomes	Х	Х	Х
		1.6F2	Assesses and communicates program outcome measures		Х	Х
	1.6G	local,	ates in, coordinates, or leads program participation in regional, or national registries and data warehouses used acking, benchmarking, and reporting service outcomes	х	Х	Х
		1.6G1	Leads students/interns in reviewing, developing, and/or publishing nutrition and dietetics-related benchmarking tools		Х	Х
1.7	prov	ision of sei	dresses potential and actual errors and hazards in vices and brings them to the attention of supervisors and as appropriate	х	Х	Х
	1.7A	evalua	learning activities to provide students/interns with skills to ite potential hazards in provision of services (eg, food/drug ctions, charting accuracy)	Х	Х	Х
1.8	Anal [Plan	ysis [Streng	performance to performance goals (ie, Gap Analysis, SWOT gths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats], PDSA Cycle -Act], DMAIC [Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, Control],	х	Х	Х
	1.8A		es actual performance to expected student/intern learning mes and competencies	Х	Х	Х

**Figure 1.** (continued) Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners. Note: The term *customer* is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. Customer could also mean student/intern, preceptor, client/patient/customer, family, participant, consumer, or any individual, group, or organization to which the RDN provides service.

Bold I		ators are A	Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	_	ifies the indic	
Each I	RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert
	1.8B	-	and documents action plan to address identified gaps in care r service performance at program and student/intern level	Х	Х	Х
		1.8B1	Documents actions taken when discrepancies exist between achievement and expected student/intern learning outcomes	Х	Х	Х
		1.8B2	Develops and monitors action plan for students/interns whose achievement and expected outcomes have discrepancies		Х	Х
1.9		es interve ery improv	ntions and workflow process(es) and identifies service and vements	Х	Х	Х
	1.9A		ously monitors processes and outcomes of course, rotation, r programs		Х	Х
	1.9B	and se	and tests interventions to improve the education process ervice with the objective of improving quality and student/ learning outcomes		Х	Х
1.10	-		nnces patient/client/population care and/or services thers based on measured outcomes and established goals	Х	Х	Х
	1.10A		s and refines educational methodology based on measured nt/intern learning outcomes	Х	Х	Х
	1.10B	-	ents an outcomes management system to evaluate the veness and efficiency of education		Х	Х
		1.10B1	Utilizes and applies collected data as part of a quality improvement process to improve student/intern learning outcomes		Х	Х
		1.10B2	Leads in systematically improving processes of educational services to improve student/intern learning outcomes reflecting understanding of variations			Х
	1.10C		creating and evaluating systems, processes, and programs upport institutional, ACEND, and Academy core values and ives		Х	Х
		1.10C1	Serves in a leadership role to evaluate benchmarks of educational methodology (eg, theories of adult education, ACEND standards, and institutional standards) to positively influence curriculum planning and development			Х

Figure 1. (continued) Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners. Note: The term customer is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. Customer could also mean student/intern, preceptor, client/patient/customer, family, participant, consumer, or any individual, group, or organization to which the RDN provides service.

### Examples of Outcomes for Standard 1: Quality in Practice

- Actions are within scope of practice and applicable laws and regulations
- · National quality standards and best practices are evident in customer-centered services
- Performance improvement systems specific to program(s)/service(s) are established and updated as needed; are evaluated for effectiveness in providing desired outcomes data and striving for excellence in collaboration with other team members
- Performance indicators are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timely (S.M.A.R.T.)
- Aggregate outcomes results meet pre-established criteria
- Quality improvement results direct refinement and advancement of practice; and nutrition and dietetics education program, and supervised practice experiences

### Standard 2: Competence and Accountability

The registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) demonstrates competence in and accepts accountability and responsibility for ensuring safe, quality practice and services.

### Rationale:

Competence and accountability in practice includes continuous acquisition of knowledge, skills, experience, and judgment in the provision of safe, quality customer-centered service.

Bold Indica		ators are	Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance		ifies the indic evel of practic			
Each	RDN:			Competent	etent Proficient			
2.1	Regi	stration (C	code(s) of ethics (eg, Academy/Commission on Dietetic CDR), other national/international organizations, and/or e of ethics)	х	Х	Х		
	2.1A		ets and shares ethics guidelines within the context of ating students/interns and practitioners in all practice igs	х	Х	Х		
	2.1B	1	or leads in developing codes of ethics; and/or sits on ethics		Х	Х		
2.2	Perfe		randards of Practice (SOP) and Standards of Professional SOPP) into practice, self-evaluation, and professional	х	Х	Х		
	2.2A	2A Integrates applicable focus area(s) SOP and/or SOPP into practice (www.eatrightpro.org/sop)		х	Х	Х		
		2.2A1	Integrates applicable focus area(s) SOP and/or SOPP into the educational process		Х	Х		
	2.2B	Uses the SOP and/or SOPP as a guide for quality practice, management and leadership		Х	Х	Х		

	Font Indic		2: Competence and Accountability  Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	_	ifies the indic	
Indica Each				Competent	evel of practic Proficient	e Expert
2.3	Demon		nd documents competence in practice and delivery of ered service(s)	Х	Х	Х
	2.3A	requi institi appli	s and obtains guidance as needed to understand rements of ACEND Accreditation Standards, and academic ution's and/or supervised practice setting's guidelines cable to role and responsibilities (eg, program director, sy, preceptor)	Х	Х	Х
	2.3B	and a	ents program adherence to ACEND accreditation standards academic institution's and/or supervised practice setting's rements		Х	Х
2.4	Assum	es accoun	tability and responsibility for actions and behaviors	Х	Х	Х
	2.4A	ldentifi	es, acknowledges, and corrects errors	Х	Х	Х
	2.4B	1	ents and reports errors, complaints, and problems as required e organization or ACEND's accreditation process		Х	Х
2.5	Conducts self-evaluation at regular interval		aluation at regular intervals	Х	Х	Х
	2.5A	Identifi	es needs for professional development	Х	Х	Х
	2.5B	future	s skills and knowledge to determine whether they meet e educational needs of practitioners, and to qualify for nded role(s) in practice setting	Х	Х	Х
2.6	Design	s and imp	olements plans for professional development	Х	Х	Х
	2.6A	in ca	ps plan and documents professional development activities reer portfolio (eg, organizational policies and procedures, entialing agency[ies])	х	Х	Х
		2.6A1	Identifies and seeks out essential practice competencies to support continuing education needs as an educator and/or preceptor	Х	Х	Х
		2.6A2	Includes professional goals around key dimensions of nutrition and dietetics education, performance improvement, research, service, and leadership		Х	Х
2.7	Engage	s in evide	ence-based practice and uses best practices	Х	Х	Х
	2.7A		rizes self with best practices in education through faculty opment, and/or through educational publications	Х	Х	Х
	2.7B	qualit of-cat Coch	tes evidenced-based practice and research in delivering ty education utilizing, but not limited to, scientific and point- re databases (eg, Lexicomp, Clinical Key, Dynamed, UptoDate, rane Reviews) and Academy tools (see Figure 3 resources) in ning student/intern education experiences	х	Х	Х

Figure 1. (continued) Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners. Note: The term customer is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. Customer could also mean student/intern, preceptor, client/patient/customer, family, participant, consumer, or any individual, group, or organization to which the RDN provides service.

Bold I		ators are	Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	The "X" signifies the indicators fo the level of practice			
Each	RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert	
	2.7C	probl intera	ridence-based educational theories and strategies (eg, em-based learning, student-centered learning, and active learning) to inform appropriate curricula development dentify relevant educational methods	Х	Х	Х	
	2.7D	1	es best practices both internally and externally with faculty, ents, interns, preceptors, and practitioners	Х	Х	Х	
	2.7E	1	anned change management principles to integrate research practice		Х	Х	
	2.7F	publi	tes research findings and evidence into peer-reviewed cations and recommendations for educating nutrition and tics practitioners			Х	
2.8		oates in ponsibilities	eer review of others as applicable to role and	Х	Х	Х	
	2.8A	1	s feedback and evaluation of performance to preceptors ged in EONDP	Х	Х	Х	
	2.8B	1	ses the educational domain in evaluation of self-performance, (preceptors) reviews, and/or fellow faculty members reviews	Х	Х	Х	
	2.8C	1	and participates as a site visitor for nutrition and dietetics ation program accreditation			Х	
2.9	Mento	rs and/or	precepts others	Х	Х	Х	
	2.9A	Particip	ates and/or assists in mentoring students/interns	Х	Х	Х	
	2.9B	Serves	as a preceptor in supervised practice settings	Х	Х	Х	
	2.9C	pract	es student/intern relationships with nutrition and dietetics itioners who will mentor them and further their knowledge in ion and dietetics practice	Х	Х	Х	
	2.9D	attrib	os professional mentor/mentee knowledge, skills, and utes with current students/interns, colleagues, preceptors, uture employers		Х	Х	
	2.9E	collea	os mentor/mentee programs with current students/interns, agues, preceptors, and future employers (eg, research poration opportunities)		Х	Х	
	2.9F	Assists	in the development of mentor/mentee relationships		Х	Х	
		2.9F1	Trains and mentors peers and preceptors about nationally recognized educational practices		Х	Х	
		2.9F2	Evaluates the teaching and training effectiveness of mentors and preceptors of students/interns		Х	Х	

Indica	tors for S	tandard 2	2: Competence and Accountability				
Bold F Indica		ators are	Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	The "X" signifies the indicators for the level of practice			
Each F	RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert	
		2.9F3	Coordinates internal and external reviews of the mentoring educational process utilizing input from students/interns, faculty, preceptors, and other stakeholders			Х	
2.10	adva	nce pract	nities (education, training, credentials, certifications) to ce in accordance with laws and regulations, and of practice setting	х	Х	Х	
	2.10A	<u> </u>		Х	Х	Х	
	2.10B	Particip	ates in interprofessional <sup>d</sup> education and collaboration	Х	Х	Х	
	2.10C Advocates and supports the educational advancement of credentialed nutrition and dietetics practitioners to achieve Masters- and Doctorate-level education			Х	Х		
	2.10D		eadership roles at institutional, state, and national levels to nce the education of nutrition and dietetics practitioners			Х	

### Examples of Outcomes for Standard 2: Competence and Accountability

- Practice reflects:
  - o Code(s) of ethics (eq, Academy/CDR, other national organizations, and/or employer code of ethics)
  - o Scope of Practice, Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance
  - o Evidence-based practice and best practices
  - o CDR Essential Practice Competencies and Performance Indicators
  - Compliance with ACEND Accreditation Standards expected for role and responsibilities with the nutrition and dietetics education program
- Practice incorporates successful strategies for interactions with individuals/groups from diverse cultures and backgrounds
- Competence is demonstrated and documented
- Services provided are safe and customer-centered
- Self-evaluations are conducted regularly to reflect commitment to lifelong learning and professional development and engagement
- Professional development needs are identified and pursued
- Directed learning is demonstrated
- Relevant opportunities (education, training, credentials, certifications) are pursued to advance practice
- CDR recertification requirements are met

### Standard 3: Provision of Services

The registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) provides safe, quality service based on customer expectations and needs, and the mission, vision, principles, and values of the organization/business.

Quality programs and services are designed, executed, and promoted based on the RDN's knowledge, skills, experience, judgment, and competence in addressing the needs and expectations of the organization/business and its customers.

(continued on next page)

	Font Inc	licators ar	e Academy	Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	The "X" signifies the indicators the level of practice		
Each	RDN:				Competent	Proficient	Expert
3.1	prog		vices that a	development and maintenance of ddress needs of the customer or	Х	Х	Х
	3.1A	princ	_	rvice development with the mission, vision, s, and service expectations and outputs of the siness	Х	Х	Х
		3.1A1	and/or	es in identifying and securing appropriate didactic supervised practice opportunities to achieve t/intern learning outcomes	Х	Х	Х
		3.1A2	superv with A	es administratively sound didactic and/or ised practice programs (eg, curricula in accordance CEND standards, academic institution guidelines, udent/intern learning outcomes)		Х	Х
		3.1A3		elationships with key organizations and businesses pport the program's mission		Х	Х
			3.1A3i	Develops policies and procedures to maintain written agreements with institutions, organizations, and/or agencies providing supervised practice experiences to meet the competencies and/or performance indicators outlined in program curricula		X	X
			3.1A3ii	Evaluates selection, adequacy, and appropriateness of facilities to ensure sites are able to provide meaningful supervised practice learning experiences		Х	Х
		3.1A4	progra experie and ac • ac • or	llaborative process for determining and monitoring m curriculum and/or supervised practice ences to assure compliance with ACEND standards ademic institution guidelines with: ademic setting faculty and administrators ganization liaison and preceptor(s) in supervised actice settings		X	Х
		3.1A5	new ad	es and/or establishes changes at systems level for dvances in education of practitioners (eg, leads we to establish a center for interprofessional ion [IPE])			Х
		3.1A6	Leads str design	ategic and operational planning and curriculum			Х

	Font Inc	dicators ar	e Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	_	ifies the indic	
Each	RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert
	3.1B	custo patie admi	e needs, expectations, and desired outcomes of the mers/populations (eg, students/interns, preceptors, faculty, nts/clients, families, community, decision makers, nistrators, client organization[s]) in program/service opment	Х	Х	х
		3.1B1	Routinely assesses needs, expectations, and desired outcomes of students/interns and potential employers to reflect in design of educational program (eg, curriculum, experiential learning, and supervised practice experiences)	Х	Х	Х
		3.1B2	Routinely assesses needs for the use of technology to meet the needs of customers/populations, and/or patients/ clients, families		Х	Х
	3.1C		decisions and recommendations that reflect stewardship of talent, finances, and environment	Х	Х	Х
		3.1C1	Advocates for staffing and other education program resources that support student/intern education and practice activities, enrollment, and achievement of academic program and ACEND standards		Х	Х
	3.1D	-	es programs and services that are customer-centered, rally relevant, and minimize disparities	Х	Х	Х
		3.1D1	Applies trends (eg, public health, policy, clinical, management) and epidemiological data to professional practice and education programs		Х	Х
		3.1D2	Insures that programs are routinely evaluated for cultural relevance, equity, and accessibility			Х
3.2	prac		c access and referral to credentialed nutrition and dietetics (eg, RDN or NDTR) for quality food and nutrition programs	х	Х	Х
	3.2A	acces	utes to or designs referral systems that promote s to qualified, credentialed nutrition and dietetics itioners	х	Х	Х
		3.2A1	Participates as part of an interprofessional team in education, research, and practice, increasing awareness of the roles and responsibilities of qualified, credentialed nutrition and dietetics practitioners	Х	Х	Х
		3.2A2	Guides development or review of a referral system as part of a supervised practice experience for students/interns			Х

	Font Inc	licators ar	e Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	The "X" signifies the indicato the level of practice		
Each	RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert
	3.2B	servio	customers to appropriate providers when requested ces or identified needs exceed the RDN's individual e of practice	Х	Х	Х
		3.2B1	Establishes and maintains campus, preceptor, stakeholder networks to support program and student/intern needs/interests		Х	Х
	3.2C		rs effectiveness of referral systems and modifies as needed to ve desirable outcomes	Х	Х	Х
	3.2D	RDN,	tudents, interns, and RDNs to the appropriate practitioners (eg, NDTR, nurse, physician, other health professionals) for purposes entoring, tutoring, and/or counseling	Х	Х	Х
		3.2D1	Maintains an updated referral system of RDNs and other credentialed practitioners who are willing to mentor students and interns		Х	Х
	3.2E		tes for credentialed nutrition and dietetics practitioners (eg, or NDTR) representation as part of faculty		Х	Х
3.3	Contri	butes to o	or designs customer-centered services	Х	Х	Х
	3.3A		s needs, beliefs/values, goals, resources of the customer, and determinants of health	Х	Х	Х
		3.3A1	Acknowledges differences and solicits input from the customers/target populations when contributing to the design of services	Х	Х	Х
	3.3B	condi	nowledge of the customer's/target population's health itions, cultural beliefs, and business objectives/services to edesign and delivery of customer-centered services	Х	Х	Х
		3.3B1	Considers customer (eg, student and/or intern and/or preceptor) concepts of education and their cultural values, belief systems, and worldviews in didactic and/or supervised practice experience	Х	Х	Х
		3.3B2	Considers how culture, gender, sexual orientation, and previous educational and work experience might influence learning and experience expectations	Х	Х	Х
		3.3B3	Adapts methods to maximize learning potential for diverse populations (eg, counseling and teaching modalities, accessibility accommodations, and electronic methods, such as distance education)	Х	Х	Х

Bold Font II	ndicators a	e Academy	Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	The "X" signifies the indicators the level of practice		
Each RDN:				Competent	Proficient	Expert
3.3C			nciples of disease prevention and behavioral iate to the customer or target population	Х	Х	Х
	3.3C1	cultura	students/interns to incorporate understanding of I safety in delivery of patient/client care and unications	Х	Х	Х
3.3D	prece	eptors) to se	the customers (eg, students and/or interns and/or et priorities, establish goals, and create customer- plans to achieve desirable outcomes	Х	Х	Х
	3.3D1	educat process necess compe	res in or develops appropriate curricula and ional methods to ensure that the educational is provides the exposure, experience, and training fary to meet the ACEND foundational knowledge, tencies, and/or performance indicators for entry-DNs and NDTRs	Х	X	Х
		3.3D1i	Evaluates the effectiveness of curricula and educational methods		Х	Х
		3.3D1ii	Conducts systematic assessment and evaluation of effectiveness of nutrition and dietetics education programs to ensure quality of services		Х	Х
		3.3D1iii	Leads interprofessional team on changes and process revisions as needed			Х
	3.3D2	1	rates understanding of current pedagogical theory to the customer-centered education of adult s	Х	Х	Х
		3.3D2i	Applies current pedagogical theory related to the education of a diverse audience of adult learners to practice	Х	Х	Х
		3.3D2ii	Develops and implements educational systems based on current pedagogical theories related to adult learners		Х	Х
		3.3D2iii	Conducts ongoing systematic reviews of program, course, and training approaches/materials/resources and updates materials/resources (eg, books, modules) as indicated		Х	Х
		3.3D2iv	Leads in developing, evaluating, and communicating success related to the different theoretical frameworks for education (eg, problem-based learning)			Х

Figure 1. (continued) Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners. Note: The term customer is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. Customer could also mean student/intern, preceptor, client/patient/customer, family, participant, consumer, or any individual, group, or organization to which the RDN provides service.

	Font Inc	dicators ar	e Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	_	ifies the indic evel of practic	
Each	RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert
	3.3E	Involve	s customers in decision making	Х	Х	Х
		3.3E1	Involves customers (eg, students and/or interns and/or preceptors) in decision making, including the development, monitoring, evaluating, and reporting of learning outcomes in didactic and/or supervised practice experiences	Х	Х	Х
3.4			ams/services in an organized, collaborative, cost-effective, -centered manner	Х	Х	Х
	3.4A		orates and coordinates with peers, colleagues, stakeholders, within interprofessional teams	Х	Х	Х
		3.4A1	Provides students/interns opportunities to participate in interprofessional team rounds, conferences, care plan, and/or discharge planning conferences	Х	X	Х
		3.4A2	Uses input and feedback from collaborations in execution of programs/services	X	Х	Х
		3.4A3	Leads nutrition/dietetics-related classes/lectures to other professions at the graduate or doctorate level			Х
	3.4B	and e scree recor	nd participates in, or leads in the selection, design, execution, evaluation of customer programs and services (eg, nutrition ning system, medical and retail foodservice, electronic health ds, interprofessional programs, community education, grant agement)	Х	Х	Х
		3.4B1	Understands and uses the concepts of nutrition screening and assessment processes and parameters for efficiency and effectiveness in didactic courses and/or supervised practice experiences	Х	Х	Х
		3.4B2	Understands and uses the concepts of the food/formulary delivery systems in terms of the nutrition status, health, and well-being of target populations in didactic and/or supervised practice experiences	Х	Х	Х
		3.4B3	Understands, applies, and educates others about the use of the Nutrition Care Process and workflow elements, standardized terminology, and electronic Nutrition Care Process and Terminology using appropriate educational pedagogy and technologies	Х	Х	Х
		3.4B4	Provides professional and technical expertise and new knowledge for ongoing revisions of programs and services (eg, participates in the development of a new nutrition screening system for a local health care institution)			Х

Bold Font Inc Indicators	licators ar	e Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	_	The "X" signifies the indicators fo the level of practice		
Each RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert	
3.4C	main trans resou [HIPA that i	and develops or contributes to selection, design, and tenance of policies, procedures (eg, discharge planning/ itions of care), protocols, standards of care, technology trees (eg, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (A)—compliant telehealth platforms), and training materials reflect evidence-based practice in accordance with applicable and regulations	X	X	X	
	3.4C1	Understands and uses the Nutrition Care Process and workflow elements and standardized terminology in didactic and/or supervised practice experiences	Х	Х	Х	
	3.4C2	Understands and uses the concepts of nutrition protocols and policies within the Nutrition Care Process and workflow elements for target populations in didactic and/ or supervised practice experiences	Х	Х	Х	
	3.4C3	Participates in the development of policies and procedures using evidence-based guidelines	Х	Х	Х	
	3.4C4	Implements education program and departmental policies and procedures consistent with evidence-based methods, pertinent federal and state regulations, and ACEND standards foundation knowledge, core competencies, and/or performance indicators	Х	Х	Х	
	3.4C5	Incorporates into educational programs regulatory, accreditation, and reimbursement processes and standards for institutions and providers that are specific to nutrition care and education		Х	Х	
	3.4C6	Designs and implements best teaching/instruction methods following systematic review of literature and consideration of past student/intern program evaluations		Χ	Х	
	3.4C7	Leads the process of developing and/or updating nutrition and dietetics program policies and procedures, protocols, guidelines, and tools			Х	
3.4D	other medi dialys settir regul	Indicated participates in or develops processes for order writing and intrition-related privileges, in collaboration with the cal staff, or medical director (eg, post-acute care settings, sis center, public health, community, free-standing clinic legs), consistent with state practice acts, federal and state ations, organization policies, and medical staff rules, actions, and bylaws	X	X	Х	

Figure 1. (continued) Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners. Note: The term customer is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. Customer could also mean student/intern, preceptor, client/patient/customer, family, participant, consumer, or any individual, group, or organization to which the RDN provides service.

Bold Font Ind Indicators	dicators ar	e Academy	Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	_	ifies the indic	
Each RDN:				Competent	Proficient	Expert
	3.4D1	proces proces physici orders therap dietary labora	participates in or leads development of ses for privileges or other facility-specific ses related to (but not limited to) implementing an/non-physician practitioner <sup>f</sup> -driven delegated or protocols, initiating or modifying orders for eutic diets, medical foods/nutrition supplements, supplements, enteral and parenteral nutrition, tory tests, medications, and adjustments to fluid ies or electrolyte replacements	Х	Х	х
		3.4D1i	Understands and applies processes related to order writing and other nutrition-related privileges, including decision making, autonomous practice, and all components of the assessment processes	X	Х	Х
		3.4D1ii	Includes teaching and/or mentoring on hospital privileging for order writing and/or with physician-delegated orders in hospitals or long-term care settings consistent with federal and state-specific regulations	Х	Х	Х
	3.4D2	proces related and pe and me home of (eg, or	participates in or leads development of ses for privileging for provision of nutrition-services, including (but not limited to) initiating erforming bedside swallow screenings, inserting onitoring nasoenteric feeding tubes, providing enteral nutrition or infusion management services dering formula and supplies) and indirect netry measurements	х	X	х
		3.4D2i	Includes teaching and mentoring on clinical privileging for the provision of nutrition-related services	Х	Х	Х
3.4E	grant adhe	-funder gui	ablished billing regulations, organization policies, idelines, if applicable to role and setting, and all and transparent financial management and	Х	Х	Х
	3.4E1	and rei	hat in supervised practice settings, relevant billing mbursement processes and organization financial nes applicable to the RDN's or NDTR's practice are sed		Х	Х
	3.4E2		financial management of program and/or grant g following established institutional guidelines			Х

	Font Inc	licators ar	e Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	_	ifies the indic	
Each	RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert
	3.4F	consi	inicates with the interprofessional team and referring party stent with the HIPAA rules for use and disclosure of mer's personal health information	Х	Х	Х
		3.4F1	Teaches nutrition and dietetics students/interns about personal health records, electronic records, and online access and how patients could use them	Х	Х	Х
		3.4F2	Reviews HIPAA rules with students/interns, including application to nutrition and dietetics practitioners when using protected health information in health care facilities, private practice, community settings, or through telehealth technologies used to communicate with patients/clients	Х	X	X
3.5	deli	very of cu	al, technical, and support personnel appropriately in the stomer-centered care or services in accordance with laws, nd organization policies and procedures	Х	Х	Х
	3.5A	with	activities, including direct care to patients/clients, consistent the qualifications, experience, and competence of ssional, technical, and support personnel	х	Х	Х
		3.5A1	responsibility and accountability of the RDN when delegating patient care activities to NDTRs and other professional, technical, and support staff (see Practice Tips: RDN/NDTR Team-Steps to Preserve https://www.eatrightpro.org/practice/quality-management/competence-case-studies-practice-tips)     circumstances where the NDTR must work with/refer patient/client to an RDN (see Practice Tips: NDTR and Autonomy https://www.eatrightpro.org/practice/quality-management/competence-case-studies-practice-tips)	X	Х	X
		3.5A2	Assigns educational and/or research activities to students/ interns consistent with his or her qualifications, experience, and competence		Х	Х
	3.5B	Supervi	ises professional, technical, and support personnel	Х	Х	Х
		3.5B1	Provides relevant training and supervision of teaching assistant or administrative staff assisting with the nutrition and dietetics education program	Х	Х	Х
		3.5B2	Guides and monitors student/intern interactions with professional, technical, and support personnel	Х	Х	Х

Figure 1. (continued) Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners. Note: The term customer is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. Customer could also mean student/intern, preceptor, client/patient/customer, family, participant, consumer, or any individual, group, or organization to which the RDN provides service.

	Font Ind	licators ar	re Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	_	The "X" signifies the indicators for the level of practice		
Each	RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Exper	
		3.5B3	Ensures preceptors meet qualifications (eg, education and experience within their areas of practice) to provide appropriate guidance in supervised practice experiences		Х	Х	
3.6		ns and implement	plements food delivery systems to meet the needs of	Х	Х	Х	
	3.6A	addre status relate care p schoo	orates in or leads the design of food delivery systems to ess health care needs and outcomes (including nutrition is), ecological sustainability, and to meet the culture and ed needs and preferences of target populations (ie, health patients/clients, employee groups, visitors to retail venues, ols, child and adult day-care centers, community feeding , farm-to-institution initiatives, local food banks)	Х	Х	х	
		3.6A1	Communicates the need for food delivery systems to address health care needs and outcomes, ecological sustainability, and to meet the culture and related needs and preferences of target populations	Х	Х	Х	
	3.6B	of me targe	coates in, consults/collaborates with, or leads the development enus to address health, nutritional, and cultural needs of et population(s) consistent with federal, state, or funding ce regulations or guidelines	Х	Х	х	
		3.6B1	Teaches students/interns to develop food and fluid items, menus, medical foods, and nutritional supplements that address health, nutritional, and cultural needs of populations	Х	Х	Х	
		3.6B2	Incorporates activities reviewing regulations and evidence- based guidelines that impact development of menus for specific populations (eg, hospitals [adult, pediatric], long- term care settings, senior feeding programs, schools, child and adult care centers, corrections facilities) into didactic and supervised practice		х	Х	
	3.6C	proce dietai	pates in, consults/collaborates with, or leads interprofessional ess for determining medical foods/nutritional supplements, ary supplements, enteral and parenteral nutrition formularies, delivery systems for target population(s)	х	Х	Х	
		3.6C1	Reviews interprofessional process used by health care settings to identify and manage nutrition-related product formularies and delivery systems (eg, group purchasing processes, role of Food and Nutrition and Pharmacy, budget responsibility, equipment [eg, infusion pumps, feeding tubes]; ordering, storage and distribution; and billing, if applicable)		Х	Х	

Indicato	ors for S	tandard	3: Provision of Services			
Bold Fo		ators ar	e Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	The "X" signifies the indicators the level of practice		
Each RD	DN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert
		3.6C2	Leads and educates students/interns on review process for choosing/maintaining nutrition-related product formularies and delivery systems			Х
3.7 N	Maintain	s recor	ds of services provided	Х	Х	Х
3	3.7A		ents according to organization policies, procedures, ards, and systems, including electronic health records	Х	Х	Х
		3.7A1	Orients students/interns to types of manual and electronic health record systems	X	Х	Х
		3.7A2	Oversees management of records related to student/intern/ human resources within the nutrition and dietetics education program			Х
3	3.7B	-	ents data management systems to support interoperable collection, maintenance, and utilization	Х	Х	Х
		3.7B1	Develops and/or uses data collection tools for analyzing process, performance, and outcomes		Х	Х
		3.7B2	Leads interprofessional collaborations to identify or develop tools to support education program data management			Х
3	3.7C	cost/k	ta to document outcomes of services (ie, staff productivity, penefit, budget compliance, outcomes, quality of services) provide justification for maintenance or expansion of services	х	Х	Х
		3.7C1	Tracks student/intern learning outcomes and competency achievement according to ACEND, institution, and department policy to support revision, as necessary, in course or supervised practice learning activities	Х	Х	Х
		3.7C2	Implements and manages information systems to track student/intern progress		Х	Х
3	3.7D		ita to demonstrate program/service achievements and liance with accreditation standards, laws, and regulations	Х	Х	Х
		3.7D1	Conducts data analysis, develops report of outcomes and improvement recommendations, and disseminates findings using informatics skills and knowledge		Х	Х
		3.7D2	Directs collaborative process for preparing data and reports for program accreditation and site visits			Х
3.8 A		es for p policy	rovision of quality food and nutrition services as part of	Х	Х	Х
3	3.8A		nicates with policy makers regarding the benefit/cost of cy food and nutrition services	Х	Х	Х
				(6	continued on r	next page)

Figure 1. (continued) Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners. Note: The term customer is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. Customer could also mean student/intern, preceptor, client/patient/customer, family, participant, consumer, or any individual, group, or organization to which the RDN provides service.

Bold Font In Indicators	dicators a	The "X" signifies the indicators fo the level of practice			
Each RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert
	3.8A1	Actively initiates and/or participates in public policy initiatives on a local, national, or international level to advocate for quality nutrition services	Х	Х	Х
	3.8A2	Guides and encourages students/interns to develop advocacy skills to effectively engage stakeholders, legislators, and decision makers; and to communicate succinct messages that inform and gain support for desired outcomes		Х	Х
3.8B	1	ites in support of food and nutrition programs and services opulations with special needs and chronic conditions	Х	Х	Х
	3.8B1	Leads advocacy activities/policy initiatives, conducts research, authors' articles, and delivers presentations on topic		Х	Х
3.8C	enga relati parti task	ites for protection of the public through multiple avenues of gement (eg, legislative action; establishing effective conships with elected leaders and regulatory officials; and cipation in various Academy committees, workgroups and forces, Dietetic Practice Groups, Member Interest Groups, State Affiliates)	Х	х	Х
	3.8C1	Routinely reviews federal and state legislation related to education and nutrition and dietetics practice to contribute and influence issues (eg, submits comments [e-mail, phone, letters] to lawmakers, attends town halls or committee hearings [eg, testify], and participates in Affiliate and Academy Public Policy Workshops)	Х	Х	Х

### **Examples of Outcomes for Standard 3: Provision of Services**

- The design of the EONDP program reflects the mission, vision, principles, values, and customer needs and expectations
- · Customers participate in establishing the EONDP program goals and customer-focused action plans
- Customer-centered needs and preferences are met
- Customers are satisfied with services and products
- Customers have access to all learning tools necessary to result in optimal learning outcomes
- Ethical and transparent financial management and billing practices are used per role and setting

### Standard 4: Application of Research

The registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) applies, participates in, and/or generates research to enhance practice. Evidence-based practice incorporates the best available research/evidence and information in the delivery of nutrition and dietetics services.

### Rationale:

Application, participation, and generation of research promote improved safety and quality of nutrition and dietetics practice and services.

(continued on next page)

	Font Inc	licators are Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Perfor		The "X" signifies the indicators the level of practice			
Each	RDN:		Compete	nt Proficient	Expert		
4.1	Reviews best available research/evidence and information for application to practice			х	Х		
	4.1A Understands basic research design and methodology		Х	Х	Х		
	4.1B	Formulates research questions pertinent to nutrition and dietetics practice and education of nutrition and dietetics students/interusing the PICO [Population; Intervention/Indicator; Comparison; Outcome] approach)	ns (eg,	Х	Х		
	4.1C	Recognizes research ethics and utilizes responsible conduct in re	search X	Х	Х		
		4.1C1 Participates as a member of an Institutional Review Boa to apply knowledge of research ethics on human su		Х	Х		
	4.1D	Uses systematic methods to extract answers that are based on scientific evidence	Х	Х	Х		
	4.1E	Mentors RDNs and other health care professionals in developing accessing and critically analyzing research and applying to practice.		Х	Х		
	4.1F	Develops evidence-based tools as a basis for stimulating aware and integration of current evidence	ness		Х		
4.2	Uses best available research/evidence and information as the foundation for evidence-based practice			Х	Х		
	4.2A	Demonstrates understanding of interpretation and application potential of primary peer-reviewed publications for education uses evidence-based practice guidelines and related resource guide education of nutrition and dietetics practitioners		Х	Х		
	4.2B	Uses evidence-based practice and education research and other to reduce variation in nutrition and dietetics education practic for design of student/intern educational experiences		Х	Х		
	4.2C	Applies evidence-based research to the design of primary, second tertiary disease prevention approaches	ondary,	Х	Х		
	4.2D	Provides leadership in the creation of nutrition and dietetics probenchmarks using evidence-based research in education	ogram		Х		
4.3	_	ates best available research/evidence and information with bes tices, clinical and managerial expertise, and customer values	t X	Х	Х		
	4.3A	Translates research findings into the development of policies, procedures, content, and guidelines for education of nutritio dietetics practitioners	n and	Х	Х		
4.4		butes to the development of new knowledge and research in nu dietetics	trition X	Х	Х		
	4.4A	Participates in research and scholarly activity <sup>9</sup> to acquire new knowledge (eg, journal clubs, Academy's research workgroup	X x	Х	Х		

Figure 1. (continued) Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners. Note: The term customer is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. Customer could also mean student/intern, preceptor, client/patient/customer, family, participant, consumer, or any individual, group, or organization to which the RDN provides service.

	Font Inc	dicators a	re Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	The "X" signifies the indicators fo the level of practice			
Each	RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert	
	4.4B	educ	outes to the development of new knowledge and research in ation of nutrition and dietetics practitioners, and/or other areas pertise	Х	Χ	Х	
		4.4B1	Participates in nutrition and dietetics education of practitioners research studies and/or other area(s) of research	X	Х	Х	
		4.4B2	Participates as a member of an editorial board on peer- reviewed journals		Х	Х	
		4.4B3	Serves as principal investigator in nutrition and dietetics education of practitioners research studies and/or other area(s) of research expertise		Х	Х	
		4.4B4	Publishes nutrition and dietetics education research studies and/or other area of research expertise in peer-reviewed journals		Х	Х	
		4.4B5	Leads nutrition and dietetics students/interns in conducting nutrition and dietetics research, including problem development, literature review, research methodology, data analysis, and preparation of final reports			Х	
	4.4C	new	ducational exemplars to generate new knowledge and develop guidelines, programs, and policies in nutrition and dietetics ation			Х	
4.5	Promotes application of research in practice through alliances or collaboration with food and nutrition and other professionals and organizations (eg, including other colleges and universities)			х	Х	Х	
	4.5A		pates in research-focused service opportunities (eg, member of mittees, task forces)	Х	Х	Х	
	4.5B		orates in practice-based research networks (eg, contributes to collection for multi-institutional studies)		Х	Х	
	4.5C	resea	ps service opportunities within partnerships to broaden arch opportunities (eg, partnering in development of multi-utional studies)			Х	

### Examples of Outcomes for Standard 4: Application of Research

- Evidence-based practice, best practices, clinical and managerial expertise, and customer values are integrated in the delivery of nutrition and dietetics services, and nutrition and dietetics education program curriculum and supervised practice experiences
- Customers receive appropriate services based on the effective application of best available research/evidence and information
- · Best available research/evidence and information is used as the foundation of evidence-based practice

(continued on next page)

### Standard 5: Communication and Application of Knowledge

The registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) effectively applies knowledge and expertise in communications.

The RDN works with others to achieve common goals by effectively sharing and applying unique knowledge, skills, and expertise in food, nutrition, dietetics, and management services.

	Font Inc	dicators are <i>l</i>	The "X" signifies the indicat the level of practice			
Each	RDN:		Competent	Proficient	Expert	
5.1		nunicates and lence	d applies current knowledge and information based on	Х	Х	Х
	5.1A Demonstrates critical thinking and problem-solving skills when communicating with others (eg, students/interns, preceptors, future employers)				Х	Х
		5.1A1	Documents interpretation of relevant information and results of communication with students/interns, preceptors, future employers, and other key stakeholders	Х	Х	Х
	5.1B		ent and relevant information related to nutrition and seducation practice	X	Х	Х
		5.1B1	Attends/presents at conferences and meetings to share information in peer-reviewed forums	Х	Х	Х
		5.1B2	Builds relationships between researchers and decision makers so that effective knowledge transfer can take place		Х	Х
		5.1B3	Provides commentary and analysis of relevant information		Х	Х
		5.1B4	Presents information to establish collaborative practice at a systems level (eg, a student/intern learning outcomes assessment program)			Х
5.2	met	hod or form	e information and the most effective communication at that considers customer-centered care and the needs of roup/population	х	Х	Х
	5.2A		munication methods (ie, oral, print, one-on-one, group, electronic, and social media) targeted to various audiences	Х	Х	Х
		5.2A1	Orients students/interns to guidelines for the appropriate use of social media and other electronic platforms in professional practice	Х	Х	Х
		5.2A2	Designs learning experiences for nutrition and dietetics students/interns to gain skills in verbal communication (ie, facilitated discussion, motivational interviewing, professional presentations)	Х	Х	Х
		5.2A3	Oversees development of marketing materials to promote nutrition and dietetics education program recruitment		Х	Х

Figure 1. (continued) Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners. Note: The term customer is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. Customer could also mean student/intern, preceptor, client/patient/customer, family, participant, consumer, or any individual, group, or organization to which the RDN provides service.

Bold Fo		icators are A	Academy C	Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	The "X" signifies the indicators the level of practice		
Each R	RDN:				Competent	Proficient	Exper
		5.2A4	outrea and/o marke nutriti	fforts for campus wide and/or community ach activities that highlight department, program r student/intern accomplishments (eg, social eting campaign initiative, with a community on focus as part of an advanced practice ncy competency)			Х
	5.2B			chnology to communicate, disseminate, and ge, and support decision making	Х	Х	Х
		5.2B1		rates use of information technology into tional programs and curricula	Х	Х	Х
			5.2B1i	Explains and applies concepts of nutrition informatics (ie, the effective retrieval, organization, storage, and optimum use of information, data, practice simulation software, and knowledge for food- and nutrition-related problem solving and decision making) to nutrition and dietetics students/interns, program faculty, staff, preceptors, and other customers, as appropriate		X	X
		5.2B2	techn	ely uses administrative software applications and ology (ie, accounting, publications, project gement) to manage department-level activities		Х	Х
		5.2B3		s education tools using web-based and other ologies that use interoperability across different gs		Х	Х
		5.2B4	web-k enviro	s expertise in creating and using electronic and based technology specific to practice setting onment and need, using interoperability across ent care settings			Х
5.3	Integrates knowledge of food and nutrition with knowledge of health, culture, social sciences, communication, informatics, sustainability, and management				х	Х	Х
	5.3A	dietetics educatio	education on environ	vility to integrate new knowledge of nutrition and no practice in varied contexts (eg, different ments, such as undergraduate/graduate, students, stolleagues); seeks assistance if needed	Х	Х	Х
	5.3B	sustaina	bility, man ry for data	culture, social sciences, communications, agement, nutrition, and informatics, which is collection, analysis, and application of new	Х	Х	Х

	Font Inc	dicators are	e Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	_	ifies the indic	
Each	RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Expert
5.4		current, e	evidence-based knowledge, and information with various	Х	Х	х
	5.4A Guides customers, families, students, and interns in the application of knowledge and skills				Х	х
		5.4A1	Develops learning modules on nutrition and dietetics skills (eg, nutrition-focused physical exam, behavior counseling) and demonstrates techniques for nutrition and dietetics students/interns to model		Х	Х
	5.4B		ndividuals and groups to identify and secure appropriate vailable educational and other resources and services	Х	Х	Х
		5.4B1	Oversees supervised practice placement for nutrition and dietetics students/interns and assures supervised practice experiences meet the need of the student, preceptor, placement site, and nutrition and dietetics education program		Х	Х
		5.4B2	Establishes and maintains administratively sound nutrition and dietetics education programs (eg, curricula in accordance with institution mission, ACEND standards, and nutrition and dietetics student/intern learning outcomes)		Х	Х
		5.4B3	Leads efforts to identify and secure appropriate and available resources and services			Х
	5.4C	Uses professional writing and verbal skills in all types of communications		Х	Х	Х
		5.4C1	Understands and demonstrates ability to write scientific peer-reviewed papers, proposals, reports, and other documents and present in oral formats		Х	Х
	5.4D	Reflects metho	knowledge of population characteristics in communication ods	Х	Х	Х
	5.4E		knowledge related to the profession of nutrition and dietetics, ing nutrition and dietetics education	Х	Х	Х
	5.4F		s invited reviewer, author, and presenter at local and regional ngs and media outlets		Х	Х
	5.4G		s invited reviewer, author, and/or presenter at national and ational meetings and media outlets			Х
5.5	the	Establishes credibility and contributes as a food and nutrition resource within the interprofessional academic, health care, and management team, organization, and community			Х	Х
	5.5A		n planning committees/task forces to conduct program review r develop/revise courses or supervised practice experiences	Х	Х	Х

Figure 1. (continued) Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) in Education of Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioners. Note: The term customer is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. Customer could also mean student/intern, preceptor, client/patient/customer, family, participant, consumer, or any individual, group, or organization to which the RDN provides service.

	Font Inc	licators ar	The "X" signifies the indicators fo the level of practice			
Each	RDN:			Competent	Proficient	Exper
	5.5B		bits of good interfacing (communication, information gathering, practices) to lead in nutrition and dietetics education practice	X	Х	Х
	5.5C	Serves a	as author for articles for consumers and professional groups	Х	Х	Х
	5.5D	Develop	os innovative approaches to practice issues		Х	Х
		5.5D1	Develops an appropriate academic remediation process to support at-risk nutrition and dietetics students/interns		Х	Х
		5.5D2	Designs educational programs with multiple entry/admission points to enhance recruitment of nontraditional nutrition and dietetics students/interns			Х
5.6	Communicates performance improvement and research results through publications and presentations			Х	Х	Х
	5.6A		s nutrition and dietetics practice and education research ties and results at the local level (eg, department meetings)	Х	Х	Х
	5.6B	other but n scient (eg, N meet Nutrit	s innovations in nutrition and dietetics practice, education, and research findings at the regional and national level, including, ot limited to, nutrition and dietetics meetings as well as tific, academic, or professional conferences and practice forums lutrition and Dietetics Educators and Preceptors [NDEP] ings; Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics annual Food & tion Conference & Expo, National Kidney Foundation, American Association, American Diabetes Association)		X	Х
	5.6C	resea	es nutrition and dietetics practice, education, and other rch activities and results (eg, NDEP newsletter, education als, and other peer-reviewed journals)		Х	Х
	5.6D		s leadership for content development of education-focused cations and national meetings			Х
	5.6E	collea	as an author of education-related publications and presenter for agues, preceptors, and future employers on topics related to ational theories and nutrition and dietetics practice			Х
	5.6F		n leadership role for publications (ie, editor, editorial advisory l) and program planning committees			Х
5.7	state gov four	Seeks opportunities to participate in and assume leadership roles with local, state, and national professional and community-based organizations (eg, government-appointed advisory boards, community coalitions, schools, foundations, or nonprofit organizations serving the food insecure) providing food and nutrition expertise		Х	Х	х
	5.7A		ates in associations related to nutrition and dietetics education ing, delivery, and evaluation with stakeholders	Х	Х	Х

Indi	Indicators for Standard 5: Communication and Application of Knowledge							
	Font Inc	dicators are Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	The "X" signifies the indicator the level of practice					
Each	Each RDN:			Proficient	Expert			
	5.7B	Seeks opportunities to share best practices related to nutrition and dietetics education planning, delivery, and evaluation with stakeholders	Х	Х	Х			
	5.7C	Serves as consultant and/or opinion leader to health care providers, business, industry, public, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and other national organizations regarding education needs of health care practitioners		Х	Х			

### Examples of Outcomes for Standard 5: Communication and Application of Knowledge

- Expertise in food, nutrition, dietetics, management, and nutrition and dietetics education is demonstrated and shared
- Interoperable information technology is used to support practice
- Effective and efficient communications occur through appropriate and professional use of e-mail, texting, and social media tools
- Individuals, groups, and stakeholders:
  - o Receive current and appropriate information and customer-centered service
  - o Demonstrate understanding of information and behavioral strategies received
  - o Know how to obtain additional guidance from the RDN or other RDN-recommended resources
- Leadership is demonstrated through active professional and community involvement

### Standard 6: Utilization and Management of Resources

The registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) uses resources effectively and efficiently.

### Rationale

The RDN demonstrates leadership through strategic management of time, finances, facilities, supplies, technology, and natural and human resources.

Indic	ators fo	r Standard 6: Utilization and Management of Resources			
Bold Font Indicators are Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance Indicators			The "X" signifies the indicators the level of practice		
Each	RDN:		Competent	Proficient	Expert
6.1	Uses a systematic approach to manage resources and improve outcomes			Х	Х
	6.1A	Follows the current ACEND Accreditation Standards for Nutrition and Dietetics Education Programs to guide planning, implementation, and evaluation of nutrition and dietetics education		Х	Х
	6.1B	Conducts a budget analysis to insure there are sufficient financial resources to meet goals and improve outcomes		Х	Х
	6.1C	Creates, maintains, and reports on department and/or program budget, keeping in mind organizational mission and vision and education needs of students/interns		Х	Х

	Font Inc	licators are Academy Core RDN Standards of Professional Performance	_	fies the indicate	
Each	RDN:		Competent	Proficient	Expert
5.2	mea reso	tes management of resources with the use of standardized performance sures and benchmarking as applicable (eg, documents use of measurable urces, such as personnel, monies, equipment, reference materials, and e in the provision of nutrition and dietetics education)	Х	Х	Х
	6.2A	Uses the Standards of Excellence Metric Tool to self-assess quality in leadership, organization, practice, and outcomes for an organization (www.eatrightpro.org/excellencetool)	Х	Х	Х
	6.2B	Participates in strategic and operational planning of education programming		Х	Х
	6.2C	Manages effective delivery of educational programs		Х	Х
	6.2D	Integrates program outcome evaluation into institutional planning and assessment			Х
5.3	prac	ntes safety, effectiveness, efficiency, productivity, sustainability ctices, and value while planning and delivering services and products student/intern educational courses and practice activities)	Х	Х	Х
5.4		pates in quality assurance and performance improvement and uments outcomes and best practices relative to resource management	Х	Х	Х
	6.4A	Participates in data collection, collation, summarization, distribution, and/ or reporting on findings; proposes possible resolution(s) to identified area(s) of concern to improve and/or maintain desired outcome(s)	Х	Х	Х
	6.4B	Proactively recognizes needs, anticipates outcomes and consequences of different approaches, and makes necessary modifications to plans/services/programs to achieve desired outcomes		Х	Х
	6.4C	Engages in continuous quality improvement through the process of program outcomes assessment		Х	Х
	6.4D	Effects long-term thinking and planning; anticipates needs; fully understands strategic and operational plans and student/intern learning outcomes; and integrates justification into plans			Х
5.5		res and tracks trends regarding internal and external customer comes (eg, satisfaction, key performance indicators)	X	X	Х
	6.5A	Conducts surveys with students, interns, faculty, and preceptors to assess key stakeholder satisfaction	Х	Х	Х
	6.5B	Identifies and develops a plan to address internal and external problems that may affect delivery of educational programs		Х	Х
	6.5C	Resolves internal and external problems that may affect delivery of educational programs			Χ

### Examples of Outcomes for Standard 6: Utilization and Management of Resources

- Resources are effectively and efficiently managed
- Documentation of resource use is consistent with operational and sustainability goals, and organizational requirements
- Data are used to promote, improve, and validate services, organization practices, and public policy
- Desired outcomes are achieved, documented, and disseminated
- Identifies and tracks key performance indicators in alignment with organizational mission, vision, principles, and values

<sup>a</sup>**Pedagogy**: *Pedagogy* is the art or science of teaching; education; instructional methods.

<sup>b</sup>Preceptor: A preceptor is a teacher, an instructor, an expert, or a specialist, such as an RDN, who provides practical experience and training to a student/intern, especially of medicine, nursing, or nutrition and dietetics.

<sup>c</sup>PROMIS: The Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS) (https://commonfund.nih.gov/promis/ index) is a reliable, precise measure of patient-reported health status for physical, mental, and social well-being. PROMIS is a web-based resource and is publicly available.

dInterprofessional: The term interprofessional is used in this evaluation resource as a universal term. It includes a diverse group of team members (eg, physicians, nurses, RDNs, pharmacists, psychologists, social workers, and occupational, physical therapists, faculty, preceptors, and academic administrators), depending on the needs of the customer. Interprofessional could also mean interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary.

eMedical staff: Medical staff is composed of doctors of medicine or osteopathy and can in accordance with state law, including scope of practice laws, include other categories of physicians, and non-physician practitioners who are determined to be eligible for appointment by the governing body.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>f</sup>Non-physician practitioner: A non-physician practitioner may include a physician assistant, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, certified registered nurse anesthetist, certified nurse-midwife, clinical social worker, clinical psychologist, anesthesiologist's assistant, qualified dietitian or qualified nutrition professional. Disciplines considered for privileging by a facility's governing body and medical staff must be in accordance with state law. 7.8 The term privileging is not referenced in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services long-term care (LTC) regulations. With publication of the Final Rule revising the Conditions of Participation for LTC facilities effective November 2016, post-acute care settings, such as skilled and long-term care facilities, may now allow a resident's attending physician the option of delegating order writing for therapeutic diets, nutrition supplements or other nutrition-related services to the qualified dietitian or clinically qualified nutrition professional, if consistent with state law, and organization policies. 10,11

<sup>9</sup>Scholarly activity: Scholarly activity is defined differently across institutions of higher education; for example, from http://www. fresnostate.edu/academics/facultyaffairs/documents/apm/325.pdf: 1) as a teacher-scholar strengthening and updating professional expertise for classroom instruction (Scholarship of Teaching); 2) as a scholar strengthening and broadening the faculty member's scholarly and academic credentials (Scholarship of Discovery); 3) as a practitioner engaging in both theory and application (Scholarship of Application); and 4) as an integrated scholar placing specialties in a broader context (Scholarship of Integration).