

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2022 Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance for RDNs (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in Public Health and Community Nutrition

What are the Standards of Practice (SOP) and Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP)?

- SOP and SOPP are consensus standards for RDNs to use for professional development and to assure competence.
- The standards provide a guide for self-evaluation; determine education and skills needed for advancing practice levels; and may be used by employer or regulatory agencies to determine competence for credentialed nutrition and dietetics practitioners.

SOP – Direct Care to patient/client/customer

- Nutrition Assessment
- Nutrition Diagnosis
- Nutrition Intervention/Plan of Care
- Nutrition Monitoring and Evaluation

SOPP – 6 Domains of Professionalism

- Quality in Practice
- Competence and Accountability
- Provision of Services
- Application of Research
- Communication and Application of Knowledge
- Utilization and Management of Resources



WHAT?

What is a Focus Area?

- A focus area of nutrition and dietetics practice is a defined field of practice that requires specialized knowledge, skills and experience.
- It relates to how a practitioner specializes in a specific area of practice (i.e., diabetes care, pediatric nutrition, sports and human performance nutrition).¹
 - The SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for RDNs² serves as the blueprint for the SOP SOPP in Public Health and Community Nutrition (PHCN) in competent, proficient, and expert levels of practice.



WHEN?

When is a Focus Area SOP SOPP updated?

- Seven-year review process
- Indicated by changes in
 - healthcare and other business segments
 - public health initiatives
 - new research that guides evidence-based practice and best practices
 - consumer interests
 - technological advances
 - emerging practice environments



HOW?

How were the PHCN Standards updated?

The article, indicators, and figures were revised with input and consensus of content experts representing diverse public health and community nutrition practice areas/settings and geographic perspectives.

Reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee of the PHCN Dietetic Practice Group and the Academy Quality Management Committee.

Sources:

¹ Definition of Terms List. Accessed September 30, 2022. <https://www.eatrightpro.org/practice/scope-and-standards-of-practice>

² 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.

Public Health and Community Nutrition Overview and Application



Community



SDoH



Food Security



Practice Standards

Overview

- Public health nutrition is the application of nutrition and public health principles to design programs, systems, policies and environments that aims to improve or maintain the optimal health of populations and targeted groups. Community nutrition encompasses individual and interpersonal-level interventions that create changes in knowledge, attitudes, behavior and health outcomes among individuals, families or small, targeted groups within a community setting. See Fig 1 for 10 essential skills in public health and community nutrition (PHCN) practice.
- PHCN aims for an asset-based community-engaged approach grounded in trauma-informed programs to increase the voice of community members in their own nutrition-related care and interventions
- Public health models incorporating policy, systems, and environmental initiatives that address social determinants of health (SDoH) allow RDNs to have a greater impact on the root causes of nutrition inequities.
- Access to healthy and culturally relevant food persists as an ongoing issue in the US and abroad, with 10.5% of households facing food insecurity in the US and 22% of children are stunted globally.

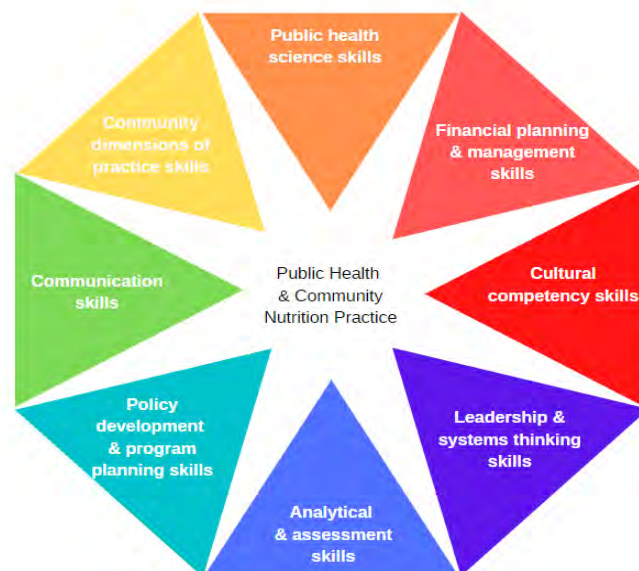


Fig 1. Applying the 10 essential skills of Public Health Practice to Public Health and Community Nutrition¹

Role Example – Emergency Preparedness Practitioner

“An RDN working in emergency preparedness is planning and coordinating the delivery of emergency food relief to those affected by a disaster or pandemic. The RDN uses the SOP and SOPP in PHCN to support assessment, decision making, and coordination of care in alignment with competency and available resources. The RDN uses the SOP and SOPP to evaluate knowledge, skills, and competence for the delivery and design of a plan and quality improvement process for effectively managing food and water safety and access in alignment with population characteristics.”¹

Additional Information

Webpages:

- Scope of Practice: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/practice/scope-and-standards-of-practice>
- Standards of Practice: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/practice/scope-and-standards-of-practice>

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- Scope and Standards for RDNs and NDTRs Collection: <https://jandonline.org/content/core>
- Focus Area Standards for CDR Specialist Credentials Collection: <https://jandonline.org/content/credentialed>
- Focus Area Standards for RDNs Collection: <https://jandonline.org/content/focus>

Public Health and Community Nutrition Dietetic Practice Group: <https://www.phcnp.org/home>

Sources:

¹ Bruening M, Perkins S, Udarbe A. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2022 Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in Public Health and Community Nutrition. *J Acad Nutr Diet.* 2022; 122(9): 1744-1763.e49.