

June President's Message

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Hello Academy members, I am honored to begin my term as your 2026-2027 President of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

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I'm particularly excited to serve as we continue to advance our shared mission and raise the voice and visibility of our profession.

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I would be remiss if I didn't start by thanking Immediate Past President Deanne Brandstetter for her thoughtful leadership and dedication throughout her year as Academy President, along with the Academy staff whose work across the organization help support members and keep our profession moving forward.

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Over the past year, our strategic plan helped guide meaningful progress across Academy initiatives from research and advocacy to professional visibility, education and member support and engagement.

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The Academy continued to advance evidence-based nutrition through research, publications and practical resources.

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This includes 16 peer reviewed scientific publications, Nutrition Fact Check resources that translate complex nutrition topics into clear evidence-based information,

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the Food as Medicine Strategic Roadmap and digital hub, positioning our profession as the leaders in this growing space and the Academy's first medical nutrition therapy position paper.

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To support payment advocacy, we also relaunched the Center of Excellence program and have already recognized four new facilities this year.

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The Academy is also driving policies that expand access to nutrition services and improve reimbursement pathways.

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This includes support for federal nutrition programs, advocacy for the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act, expansion of the Dietitian Licensure Compact, and ongoing work to help policy makers, healthcare leaders, and the public understand the value of RDNs and NDTRs and the services our profession provides.

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Member engagement was also a major focus.

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Through all member town halls, surveys, feedback opportunities, and ongoing conversations with leadership, members had more ways than ever before to hear directly from Academy leaders, ask questions and share their thoughts.

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That feedback matters and it helps shape our work and ensures we are hearing what members need to be successful.

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There was also progress in education and credentialing.

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ACEND released the 2027 standards supporting competency based pathways, expanded clinical competencies and stronger international recognition.

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CDR strengthened workforce insights and continuing education support while achieving the lowest credential drop in five years.

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Another important milestone and probably my favorite accomplishment of last year was the launch of *A Seat at Every Table*, our multi-year professional visibility campaign.

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Built with member feedback,

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this campaign is helping to strengthen recognition of the profession as trusted leaders in food and nutrition.

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In the year ahead, we will build on the campaign with our next phase, expanding our efforts to include healthcare providers so that they better recognize the role nutrition and dietetics professionals play in improving health.

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As I begin my year as President, I am so proud of what we have accomplished and excited for where we will go next.

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My focus will be on listening to you, our members, to ensure the Academy remains responsive to members and ready for the future.

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Thank you for the work that you do every day to improve lives through food and nutrition.

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I look forward to working with you, learning from you, and continuing to move our profession forward together.