

Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics

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

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News and Updates

ACEND Policy and Procedure Manual Revised August 2024

The **ACEND Policy and Procedure Manual** has been updated and posted to the ACEND website. The changes to ACEND policies, which take effect immediately, include updates to the following:

- Functions and Responsibilities of ACEND Board (Policy 1.2.A.2.q)
- Ethics, Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest (Policy 1.6.M)
- Appeals and Arbitration of Adverse Accreditation Decisions (2.9.M)
- Substantive Changes related to program closures (4.3.B.4 and 4.3.B.8)

Updates to the CDR Licensure Page

CDR has updated the licensure page to include information about requirements for licensure in the US territories. The webpage that programs can link to for disclosing licensure information now has information regarding American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. The link to State Licensure has not changed, so programs do not need to make updates to their statement regarding state licensure and certification. The State Licensure information can be found at this link: [State Licensure](#).

September 17, 2024 Town Hall

During the virtual town hall on **Tuesday, September 17, 2024 from 11:00 am –**

12:00 pm CT, ACEND will provide an update on the new Advanced Practice Doctoral Standards for the RDNs, which were released for voluntary adoption on June 1, 2024. The Advanced Practice Doctorate prepares RDNs as leaders, advanced clinicians, educators, practice-based researchers, administrators, and other advanced professional roles in a variety of setting. Dr. Rayane AbuSabha, ACEND Executive Director, will discuss the need for RDNs with terminal degrees, the development of the standards, and key features of the standards.

Register for September Town Hall

Upcoming Competency Software Training and Q&A Webinars

Software Trainings

ACEND and EMS will be hosting weekly 1 hour training and Q&A webinars on **Tuesdays at 1 pm CT**. The first 30 minutes will be reserved for a specific topic and the last 30 minutes will be reserved for Q&A. The webinars will be recorded and posted to the ACEND website.

Register and choose any of the following webinars you would like to attend:

- Competency Software Open Q&A: August 20th | 1 – 2:00 pm (Central time)
- Interpreting Dashboard Data: August 27th | 1 – 2:00 pm (Central time)
- Competency Software for CPs and GPs: September 3rd | 1 – 2:00 pm (Central time)
- Competency Software for DIs: September 10th | 1 – 2:00 pm (Central time)
- Competency Software for Preceptors and Faculty: September 17th | 1 – 2:00 pm (Central time)
- Competency Software for Students: September 24th | 1 – 2:00 pm (Central time)

Register For Competency Trainings

Competency Software Dashboard Data Survey

Currently, the Competency software collects data by taking the average score of all completed formative and summative assessments for a learner and displays the data as a mean percentage on the dashboard. ACEND is looking for feedback on how data is displayed on the Competency dashboard and the type of data you'd like to obtain from the system. This survey provides ideas for improvement; however, we would love to hear how the data would be most useful to your specific program type.

Access the survey here.

Please email Education@eatright.org to further explain the ideas you may have that are not compatible with this survey format. Please complete the survey by September 6, 2024.

Updates to Competency Software

Competency is continuously evolving to better serve your needs with monthly updates. To stay informed about the latest training sessions, features and improvements, please check the [Competency Software Resources](#) webpage regularly. For specific questions about the software, please email Education@eatright.org.

Recent updates include enhancements for DPD programs when adding rubrics, updates to dashboard data, and the added ability to assign yourself as a preceptor to a rotation.

Upcoming Workshop for the 2022 and Future Education Model (FEM) Accreditation Standards

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND®) will be offering a virtual Accreditation Workshop on **September 26 and 27, 2024**. The workshop is designed to help dietetic education program directors and others learn the latest 2022 and FEM accreditation standards and specific details on how to prepare for self-study reports and site visits. Individuals with a site visit scheduled in 2025-2026, individuals interested in applying to start a new ACEND-accredited program, and newly appointed program directors, are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Please visit the ACEND website under [Program Director Workshops](#) for more information and to register for the upcoming virtual workshop in September.

Reminders and Deadlines

Annual Overview of Accreditation Activities and Communications

As many ACEND programs start new cohorts in the fall, we'd like to remind programs about accreditation maintenance activities and ACEND communications that take place every year:

Accreditation Maintenance Activities:

Annual Report— annually, released early September, due mid-November. **2024 due**

date: Friday, November 22, 2024

Annual Accreditation Fee—annually, released early September, due mid-December.
2024 due date: Monday, December 9, 2024

Interim Report or Progress Report—as needed; find due dates, if applicable, on the **ACEND portal**

Substantive Changes—as needed; see **decision calendar** for ACEND board decision-making timelines

ACEND Policy Changes—keep up-to-date with ACEND announcements in the ACEND Update Newsletter

Communications:

ACEND Update Newsletter— new articles typically sent the 3rd Tuesday of the month

ACEND Townhall- Quarterly

Please mark your calendar: the week of September 9, 2024, program directors will be receiving separate notifications about the ACEND Annual Fee and the ACEND annual report.



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