



# Nova Scotia College of Dietitians & Nutritionists

## Registration Policies

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*Updated December 2023*

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the policy and procedure manual is to:

- Assist with orientation by serving as a training tool for new staff and committee members,
- Provide guidance for consistency and continuity in decision-making related to registration,
- Serve as a record of specific policies to direct decision-making.

The policy and procedure manual includes policies, procedures, and reference material relevant to the Nova Scotia College of Dietitians & Nutritionists (NSCDN). The terms of reference for the Registration Committee are as per Appendix A.

The board of directors approves policies related to NSCDN's core functions (registration, continuing competency, complaints and professional practice), governance and finances. Registration policies are in accordance with the [Dietitians Act](#) (2009) and [Dietitians Regulations](#) (2022).

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Use of Protected Titles and Terms</b>	<b>Policy # 1</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Act – section 21</b>			
<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Effective</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/1</b>

## **BACKGROUND**

A person not licensed in accordance with the Dietitians Act (2009) are not authorized to use titles, designations or terms stated in section 21 of the Act, including dietitian, nutritionist, R.D, P.Dt, R.D.N or any derivation, translation or abbreviation thereof or describe the person’s activities as “dietetics”, “nutrition therapy” or “diet therapy”. These titles and terms can not be used either alone or in combination with other words, letters or descriptions to imply that the person is entitled to practise as a dietitian.

The purpose of protecting titles and terms is to ensure that the public understands that those who use such titles and terms have specific credentials, education, training, continued competence, and experience certified by a regulatory body, and is subject to the oversight of a regulatory body. Protected titles and terms provide clarity to the public about the qualifications of the individual professional who is providing services.

## **POLICY**

Unauthorized individuals using protected titles or terms are notified to cease-and-desist.

## **PROCEDURE**

1. Upon notification of the unauthorized use of titles or terms, conduct an internet search and collect evidence of where and when titles and terms were used.
2. a) Inform the individual and employer (if applicable) that they are in violation of the Act.  
b) If the individual is a regulated health professional, inform the applicable regulatory body of the violation.
3. If the individual does not comply within 15 business days of receiving notice of violation, arrange for legal counsel to send letter.
4. If individual remains in violation of the Act 10 days business days after they receive the second notification, the registrar shall proceed according to section 31 of the Dietitians Act to act pursuant to the Summary of Proceedings Act.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Liability Insurance</b>	<b>Policy # 2</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Regulations Dietitians Act</b>			
<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Effective 11/02/23</b>	<b>Reviewed 22/09/23</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/</b>

## BACKGROUND

Section 11(2)(c) of the Regulations respecting the registration, licensing and professional accountability of dietitians requires all dietitians to provide proof of insurance before the commencement of active practice, in the amount of and type approved by the Board.

## POLICY

The NSCDN requires all dietitians to hold a minimum of \$5 million in aggregate and single-occurrence professional liability insurance before engaging in dietetic practice. The board of directors recommends obtaining legal expense endorsement insurance independent from the employer's policy.

## PROCEDURE

1. A dietitian must hold the required professional liability insurance in the specified amount before engaging in paid or volunteer dietetic practice.
2. Registrants may obtain liability insurance from:
  - a. Employer
  - b. Membership with Dietitians of Canada through LMS ProLink Ltd.
  - c. Trisura Insurance through: <https://secure.trisura.com/diet/default.aspx>
  - d. Other private insurance providers.
3. If a dietitian has professional liability insurance through their employer, this coverage applies to this specific practice setting and employment scope of practice. If a dietitian is looking to expand their scope of practice within this setting, the dietitian must understand their insurance coverage for the proposed expanded scope. If the dietitian is looking to practice dietetics separate from their employer, paid or unpaid, additional professional liability insurance is required.
4. NSCDN recommends obtaining legal expense endorsement insurance independent from the employer's policy. Legal expense endorsement insurance covers a dietitian's legal expenses in the circumstance of a legal occurrence.

5. Dietitians must submit proof of liability insurance to NSCDN in the amount specified in the policy above. Dietitians must upload proof of insurance to the supporting document section of their NSCDN profile before engaging in dietetic practice. For employer insurance coverage, proof of coverage should be in the form of a letter from an employer stating the insurer's name and policy number. For individual insurance, proof of insurance coverage should be through an insurance certificate or proof of purchase indicating the insurer's name, policy number, and date of purchase.
6. Dietitians must keep their insurance information up to date in their registration profile. The NSCDN will conduct regular insurance audits. If insurance documentation in a dietitian's registration profile indicates an insurance policy is out of date, the dietitian will be notified. If the dietitian fails to upload proof of insurance within three business days, the dietitian's license will be suspended, and their employer will be notified. The dietitian will be required to pay the \$300 insurance lapse fee to move back to an active-practice license.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Candidate License</b>	<b>Policy # 3</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Act Dietitians Regulations</b>			
<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Effective 29/03/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised 02/12/2023</b>	<b>Page 1/2</b>

## BACKGROUND

To be eligible for a candidate license, the applicant meets all criteria for the active practice license, except for the writing of the Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination (CDRE) - Dietitians Regulations, section 10(2).

Candidate dietitians shall have all rights and privileges of active-practicing dietitians except voting privileges; eligibility to be an officer or director; and use of designations as outlined in the Dietitians Act. Candidate dietitians must use the designation Registered Dietitian (candidate), or RD(c).

## POLICY

An applicant for candidate licensure must apply to the College, upload all supporting documentation, and pay the applicable application and licensing fees. The licensing fee for a registered dietitian candidate will cover a candidate license from the date of application approval to 8 weeks following the next sitting of the CDRE. This fee is non-refundable. The fee for those registering for the November exam shall be one-third of the annual registration fee; the fee for those registering for the May exam shall be one-half of the annual registration fee.

All candidates are expected to write the next sitting of the CDRE. The Registration Committee may grant an exception based on the written request of the candidate stating sufficient reason. The decision to grant an exception is solely determined by the Registration Committee and their decision is final. A licensing fee will apply when a candidate license expiry date is extended.

Upon successful completion of the CDRE, candidate dietitians are eligible for active practice licensure. To obtain an active practice license, all active practice criteria outlined in section 11 of the Dietitians Regulations must be satisfied. A registration fee and proof of professional liability insurance must be received by the College before the expiry date of the candidate license. The fee for those passing the November exam shall be one-third of the annual registration fee; the fee for those passing the May exam shall be two-thirds of the annual registration fee.

In the case of failure of the CDRE, the candidate license expires immediately upon notification of exam results. See policy: *Renewal of Candidate License* for information related to the renewal of a candidate license following the failure of their first CDRE attempt.

In the case of failure of the second attempt of the CDRE, the candidate license is revoked, and the employer is notified, if applicable. Upgrading will be required before the third attempt of the CDRE. See policy: *Upgrading after a Second CDRE Failure* for more information.



<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Supervision of Registered Dietitian Candidates</b>	<b>Policy # 4</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Act Dietitians Regulations</b>			
<b>Approved by the Registration Committee</b>	<b>Effective 29/03/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/2</b>

## BACKGROUND

The Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination (CDRE) confirms a dietitian's competence to enter dietetic practice in Canada. Prior to fulfilling the CDRE requirement, NSCDN has a commitment to the public to implement measures pertaining to dietitian candidates that ensures dietetic care is provided in a safe, ethical, and competent manner. According to the Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice (2020), entry-level dietitians apply approaches consistent with standards and best practices in the profession. They recognize situations beyond their capacity and take appropriate steps to ensure such situations are addressed safely and ethically. The intent of this regulation (x) and policy is to ensure that the dietitian candidate is supported in practice until the individual is eligible for an active practice license.

## POLICY

1. A registered dietitian candidate is permitted to practise dietetics under the mentorship of a dietitian. With prior approval from NSCDN, another regulated health professional may act as a mentor.
2. The mentor must possess knowledge and skills relevant to the registered dietitian candidate's practice area.
3. Mentorship may include:
  - a) Guiding a registered dietitian candidate in practice and supplement their learning through answering questions, providing resources, case studies, offering advice and discussions;
  - b) Conducting random review of chart notes, if applicable, and provide feedback;
  - c) Answering questions or assist with problem-solving or ethical dilemmas in a mentorship capacity;
  - d) Reviewing relevant aspects of the Jurisprudence Handbook and e-Learning Module with the candidate;
  - e) Referring to NSCDN Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics as they apply to the candidate's role;
  - f) Supporting the dietitian candidate in establishing professional development goals.

4. Upon commencement of practice, the registered dietitian candidate provides the Candidate Mentor Agreement Form (Appendix B) to the mentor. This form lists suggested activities to the mentor (as per #3 above). The mentor completes the form to confirm to NSCDN that they acknowledge that the individual requires mentorship during their candidacy.

The registered dietitian candidate is responsible for finding a mentor from a professional outside or within their workplace.

## **PROCEDURE**

1. The registered dietitian candidate is responsible for seeking a mentor and ensuring completion of the Registered Dietitian Candidate Mentor Agreement Form.
2. A Registered Dietitian Candidate Mentor Agreement Form must be completed prior to a registered dietitian candidate engaging in paid or volunteer dietetic practice.
3. Once completed, the registered dietitian candidate must upload this form to their NSCDN profile.
4. Meetings between the mentor and registered dietitian candidate must occur regularly, at a minimum of a biweekly basis. Meetings must be documented to include the date, items discussed, and signatures or electronic acknowledgement by both parties. The NCDN may request meeting documentation.
5. If a mentor cannot fulfill their commitment, the registered dietitian candidate must contact the NSCDN immediately and seek a replacement mentor.
6. The mentor must contact NSCDN if they have concerns about the registered dietitian candidate's competency to practice or conduct.
7. Upon successful completion of the CDRE, the registered dietitian candidate is eligible for an active practice license and mentorship will no longer be required.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Renewal of Candidate License</b>	<b>Policy # 5</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Act Dietitians Regulations Alliance of Canadian Dietetic Regulatory Bodies CDRE Policies</b>			
<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Effective 29/03/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised 02/12/2023</b>	<b>Page 1/2</b>

## POLICY

A candidate dietitian who had an unsuccessful first attempt of the Canadian Dietetic Registration Exam (CDRE) may apply for a renewal of their candidate license. They must be able to defend their request for an extension to the Registrar. The renewed candidate license will be issued on the condition that the registered dietitian candidate practices under the supervision of an active practice dietitian. A licensing fee will apply when a candidate license expiry date is extended. A candidate may only request renewal of their candidate license after the first failure. Renewals will not be considered after second and subsequent failures.

The following procedure outlines the criteria will be used by the Registrar, or their delegate, in approving the supervision plan.

## PROCEDURE

- 1) A candidate license expires immediately upon receiving notice of an unsuccessful CDRE attempt.
- 2) A candidate who has failed the CDRE on their first attempt may request a renewal of their candidate license and submit a supervision plan for approval. It is the candidate's responsibility to find a supervisor.
  - a. A candidate **must not resume practice** until NSCDN has granted permission in writing.
- 3) The plan will outline how the supervision will address the following requirements:
  - a. Assessment of the risk in the candidate's work environment. The candidate and the supervisor will provide an analysis of the risk assessment that will consider:
    - i. the nature of the client group in the work environment;
    - ii. practice activities the candidate is responsible for that pose a risk to the public if not done competently; and
    - iii. the work environment (e.g., legal ethical requirements of the work environment; variability/predictability of the client group; does the candidate work in isolation or are their colleagues to consult or collaborate with?).

The plan should outline how the results of the risk analysis have been considered and addressed in the development of the plan. Exam results provided by the candidate may also be considered.

- b. The plan will include a means for the supervisor to understand the candidate's practice (with specific emphasis on identified areas of risk). The understanding may

occur via direct observation (in-person or virtual) or may take place through other means of communication. The plan should ensure that the supervisor is able to:

- i. Gain an understanding of the candidate's practice to identify strengths and limitations in practice, including the candidate's communication skills; and
  - ii. Provide feedback, guidance, and mentorship to confirm areas of competence and to help strengthen areas of weakness.
- c. The plan will identify how the supervisor will be contacted if the candidate requires feedback or guidance about a non-routine situation. This should include access to all relevant client information as well as the method of communication between the candidate and the supervisor.
  - d. The plan will outline how the supervisor will evaluate specific areas of the candidate's practice on an ongoing basis.

The supervisor must be:

- a. a current Active Practice Licensee of the NSCDN in good standing;
  - b. experienced in the registered dietitian candidate's area of practice;
  - c. available for weekly in-person or virtual meetings; *and*
  - d. free of any conflict of interest regarding the registered dietitian candidate, including personal relationships such as friendships or family.
- 4) The registered dietitian candidate is supervised according to the:
    - a. Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice;
    - b. NSCDN Code of Ethics; *and*
    - c. NSCDN Standards of Practice.
  - 5) Supervision must be in place until the registered dietitian candidate receives the results of the second CDRE attempt.
    - a. If the second CDRE attempt is successful, the candidate becomes eligible for an active practice license, without conditions. To obtain an active practice license, all active practice criteria outlined in section 11 of the Dietitians Regulations must be satisfied. A registration fee and proof of professional liability insurance must be received by the College before the expiry date of the candidate license. The fee for those passing the November exam shall be one-third of the annual registration fee; the fee for those passing the May exam shall be two-thirds of the annual registration fee.
    - b. If the second CDRE attempt is unsuccessful, the candidate license is revoked.

If the Registrar does not approve the renewal, the candidate may appeal the decision to the Registration Committee.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Initial Registration – Graduated from an Accredited Education Program</b>	<b>Policy # 6</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Regulations</b>			
<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Effective 02/12/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/2</b>

## BACKGROUND

Licensure is granted by the College through the review and approval of information submitted by or on behalf of the applicant. Applicants who do not meet the requirements as set in Section 11 of the Dietitian Regulations, may be considered for registration under section 19 of the Dietitian Regulations, candidate license.

Accreditation Canada, under the EQual program, is the accreditation provider as approved by the NSCDN board of directors. Existing Partnership for Dietetic Education and Practice accreditation awards will continue to be recognized by Canadian dietetic regulatory bodies as approved programs for the purposes of registration until February 15, 2024.

## POLICY

1. All applicants must demonstrate currency of dietetic knowledge, skills, abilities, and judgement.
2. The application for registration must be fully completed using the NSCDN’s online platform.
3. The completed application must include personal and contact information for the public register per the Regulated Health Professions Act.
  - a. Name change documentation (such as an original, notarized or photocopied marriage certificate) is required if the applicant’s name is different from the name on the applicant’s transcript or practical training documentation. Note: Official application for registration documents that are not written in English must be translated into English by a certified translator, at the expense of the applicant.
  - b. Personal and employment information must be kept up to date, including the contact information of a registrant’s supervisor.

Applicants must provide evidence of successful completion of an accredited dietetic education program. Evidence of successful completion includes authentic documentation for all years of post-secondary education for the dietetics degrees granted. Accepted “authentic” documentation include:

- a. official transcripts sent directly to the College, from the academic institution; or
  - b. official transcripts sent directly to the College from another Canadian dietetic regulator.
5. Applicants must provide evidence of successful completion of an accredited dietetic practical training program. Proof of an internship or practicum program includes:
    - a. official verification of internship completion sent directly to the College, from the Director of the accredited practical training program; or
    - b. official verification of internship completion sent directly to the College, from another Canadian dietetic regulator where an applicant is currently registered; or
    - c. inclusion, on an applicant's transcript, of an accredited Canadian dietetic program.
  6. Evidence of successful completion of the Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination (CDRE). includes:
    - a. official exam results document sent by the testing agency; or
    - b. official copy of the exam result document sent directly to the College from another Canadian dietetic regulator.
  7. The declaration section on the NSCDN application must be accurately completed.
  8. Applicants must submit evidence of good character as outlined in the Good Character Policy.
  9. Applicants must submit a criminal record check with vulnerable sector check to the College upon application submission, per the Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Policy.
  10. The liability insurance requirement must be met in the amount outlined in the policy *Liability Insurance*.
  11. All applicable fees must be paid in full, prior to registration being reviewed and granted.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>“Good Character Requirement” OR “Past Offences, Findings and Conduct”</b>	<b>Policy # 7</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Act</b>			
<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Effective 02/12/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/3</b>

## **BACKGROUND**

As health care professionals, dietitians have a special relationship with members of the public rooted in mutual trust, confidence, and respect that is essential to good practice. The College must be satisfied that dietitians will practice the profession safely and ethically, and in accordance with the law.

Dietitians Regulations 10(1) states that an applicant for registration must submit a completed application on a form prescribed by the Registrar together with all of the following:

- a) if currently or previously registered or licensed in another jurisdiction, a certificate of standing from each jurisdiction where the applicant practised to disclose whether there are any outstanding complaints, prohibitions, conditions or restrictions against the member in that jurisdiction;
- b) any information the Registrar requires to establish whether Section 45 of the Act applies to the applicant;
- c) any information the Registrar requires to establish the applicant has the current capacity, competence and character to safely and ethically practise;
- d) any additional information the Registrar requires to assess whether the applicant meets the criteria for registration.

## **POLICY**

All applicants and registrants will have their past and present character, capacity and competence assessed for registration and renewal. Establishing their character, capacity and competence rests with the individual. A NSCDN applicant or registrant must demonstrate evidence of good character for registration eligibility.

1. An applicant or registrant is required to self-report if they:
  - a. have been found guilty of a disciplinary finding in another jurisdiction;
  - b. have had a licensing sanction imposed by another jurisdiction;
  - c. are the subject of an investigation or disciplinary process in any jurisdiction.
2. Good character assessments will focus on whether an individual has acted, or there is reason to believe they are liable of future acts;
  - a. that places the risk on the health, safety, or well-being of a client or other member of the public;
  - b. that their registration would undermine public confidence in the profession;

- c. that indicates an unwillingness to act in compliance with professional standards;
  - d. in a dishonest manner.
3. Good character may also be assessed through evidence that an individual has good character. A lack of evidence of poor character is an indication of good character.
4. A non-exhaustive list of good moral character and evidence that an individual is a fit and proper person to be registered and licensed as a dietitian includes the following:
  - a. honesty;
  - b. integrity;
  - c. reliability;
  - d. trustworthiness;
  - e. governability;
  - f. respect for others;
  - g. not engaging in discriminatory conduct against others.
5. A non-exhaustive list of evidence indicating a lack of good character and that an individual is not a suitable person to be registered or licensed as a dietitian includes:
  - a. charges or findings of guilt related to conduct involving dishonesty or a breach of public trust;
  - b. conduct that demonstrates a disregard for honesty, integrity, and trustworthiness, including providing inaccurate, untruthful, or misleading information in the application for registration and renewal;
  - c. behaviour that demonstrates a lack of respect for others, including conduct that demeans others based upon sex, race or colour, religious beliefs, or any prohibited ground of discrimination according to the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act;
  - d. disciplinary findings made by a regulatory authority in another jurisdiction based upon incompetence, unprofessional or unethical behaviour;
  - e. a medical, physical, mental or emotional condition, disorder or addiction that renders the applicant unable to practise with reasonable skill or judgement or that may endanger the health or safety of patients;
  - f. had their employment terminated or suspended for an alleged cause;
  - g. was denied registration or licensure elsewhere based on the good character requirement.
6. The College will only issue a license once an applicant's character has been assessed.

## PROCEDURE

1. An applicant or registrant must complete the declarations as they appear in the application or renewal form.
  - a. When completing the declaration questions, the individual should:
    - i. read the questions carefully and answer them accurately;
    - ii. contact the College for clarification on the declaration questions and how to respond to them, if needed.
  - b. failure to answer the declaration questions truthfully may result in an immediate suspension of the application process, despite the application type (e.g., initial or renewal application).
  - c. An applicant or registrant must notify the College immediately if any changes occur to their circumstances related to their answers about history of charges,



convictions, misconduct, incompetence, incapacity, or professional negligence, after and application has been submitted.

2. An applicant or registrant who holds dietetic registration in another jurisdiction must provide evidence of good standing from all regulatory bodies where registration is currently held. An applicant or dietitian who is registered as a regulated health professional outside of the dietetic profession in any jurisdiction, must submit a registration/licensure verification form. These verifications must be reviewed and assessed prior to the processing of a registration or renewal application.
3. The applicant or registrant must provide evidence or documentation allowing the College to assess the presence or lack of good character accurately.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>
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<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector</b>	<b>Policy # 8</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Act</b>			
<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Effective 01/04/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/2</b>

## BACKGROUND

Section 45 of the Dietitians Act states:

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or the regulations, where a person

(a) has been charged with, pleaded guilty to, been convicted or found to be guilty of any offence in or out of Canada that is inconsistent with the proper professional behaviour of a member of the College, including a conviction under

- (i) the Criminal Code (Canada);
- (ii) the Controlled Drug and Substances Act (Canada); or
- (iii) such other legislation as prescribed in the regulations,

unless a pardon has been issued;

(b) has been found guilty of a disciplinary finding in another jurisdiction;

(c) has had a licensing sanction imposed by another jurisdiction; or

(d) is the subject of an investigation or disciplinary process in any jurisdiction,

and such person is a member of the College or applies for registration or a licence or the renewal of a licence, the Registrar may, by such notice as the Registrar prescribes, require the person to attend a hearing before the Complaints Committee to fully disclose the facts and circumstances of the matters referred to in clauses (a) to (d).

## POLICY

The NSCDN requires all applicants and College registrants to submit a criminal record check with vulnerable sector check (4 months validity), if applicable, to the College upon application submission and every fifth year following registration.

## PROCEDURE

1. Applicants who resided in Canada prior to registration must submit a Canadian criminal record check with vulnerable sector check before their application will be processed.
  - a. A Canadian criminal record check with a vulnerable sector check may not be required if the applicant provides evidence to the satisfaction of the College that they have not resided in Canada before submitting their application.
2. If the applicant resided outside of Canada prior to submission of their application, the applicant is required to submit an international criminal record check for the country in which they resided.

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- a. Verification of a clear international criminal record check received directly from another Canadian regulatory body is sufficient to meet this requirement.
  3. An original criminal record check with a vulnerable sector check or international criminal record check must be:
    - a. paid for by the applicant;
    - b. requested under all names the applicant or registrant has ever held and include the correct date of birth;
    - c. presented in the English language (English translation costs are incurred by the applicant, if applicable);
    - d. current within four months before the applicant's registration or renewal; and
    - e. uploaded to the applicant's NSCDN profile.
  4. Only original criminal record checks are accepted. These can be obtained from a
    - a. local police force or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)
    - b. criminal record search company that can conduct vulnerable sector checks and is accepted by the College.
  5. The College will refrain from processing an application until an applicant's criminal record has been assessed.
  6. The College will destroy criminal record checks and all related documents following assessment or a registration decision.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Active Practice Hour Requirement</b>	<b>Policy # 9</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<a href="#"><u>Dietitians Act</u></a> (2009): section 2(a), 2(x), 14			
<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Effective 24/01/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/2</b>

## POLICY

1. To meet the hourly requirement for entry to the active-practising roster, a registrant must have practiced 500 hours (paid or unpaid) in the past three years. Active practice hours relate to engagement in the practice of dietetics (as defined in the [Act](#) (section 2(x)), and includes research, education, consultation, management, administration, regulation, policy or system development relevant to the defined scope).
2. The registrar will review all positions where questions arise to determine whether the position falls within the legislated definition of the ‘practice of dietetics.’ Factors to consider include one or more of the following:
  - a) required to be a dietitian or a regulated health professional for their role,
  - b) role impacts the nutritional health of the public,
  - c) role impacts the practice of dietetics,
  - d) role requires the knowledge of the health care system or influences the health care system,
  - e) role requires the education, competencies, and similar experience to that acquired through dietetics education and practice.
3. To qualify for an active practice license, it is not necessary to have the job title of *dietitian* or *nutritionist*.
4. If the dietitian is also practicing and using the title of another regulated health profession (e.g., nurse, naturopath), their role must impact the nutritional health of the public or impact dietetic practice. The number of hours of *dietetics-related practice* qualifies as active practice hours and must either be validated by a regulated health professional, or the dietitian is able to submit evidence of their dietetics-related practice.
5. The registrant who has successfully completed the Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination (CDRE) or those who have completed a re-entry program in the three years immediately before submitting an application are exempt from the active practice requirement.

6. If the registrant is enrolled in a dietetics-related course or program, a half-credit will qualify as 45 practice hours. The Registration Committee will deem which university course(s) or program(s) eligible for active practice hours.
7. An individual may move from the non-active roster to an active practice license if they meet the criteria for the active practice license. If the criteria have not been met, the individual may remain on the non-active roster and be referred to the Registration Committee. The Registration Committee may require the completion of a re-entry program or may issue an active practice license with conditions or restrictions.

## **PROCEDURE**

1. In the calculation of active practice hours, time away from work for parental leave, sick leave, leave of absence, long term disability, vacation, statutory holidays, travel to and from work, days off or on-call hours spent waiting for work are not considered active practice hours.
2. Registrants are expected to obtain and maintain documents that substantiate paid and unpaid reported practice hours. Documentation may consist of pay statements, invoices, or verification in writing from employer, organization or another regulated health professional. This documentation may be requested to validate reported hours.
3. Registrants are required to declare the number of paid and/or unpaid practice hours each year.
4. Registrants who declare unpaid practice hours toward their active practice hourly requirement must maintain detailed documentation of the nature of the work.
5. If the registrar questions whether a registrant has practiced dietetics based on the definition of active practice and criteria listed above (2a-e), the registrant will submit, in writing, how their role meets the criteria listed about in 2 (a-e). If the registrar is unsatisfied that the registrant qualifies for active practice, the registrar shall refer the decision to the Registration Committee.
6. The Registration Committee's decision can be appealed to the Registration Appeal Committee within 30 days of written notice.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Non-Active Roster</b>	<b>Policy # 10</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Act Dietitians Regulations</b>			
<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Effective 02/12/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/1</b>

## BACKGROUND

The Dietitians Act (2009) defines roster as the record of the category of licensing. The Nova Scotia College of Dietitians and Nutritionists (NSCDN) has two rosters: the active-practice roster and the non-active roster.

## POLICY

A registrant must remain on the active-practice roster if they are physically located in Nova Scotia and:

- Practicing dietetics, as defined in section 2(x) of the Dietitians Act (2009), this includes both paid and unpaid dietetic practice.
- Using the title dietitian or nutritionist.

A registrant must move to the non-active roster if they:

- No longer meet active practice requirements.
  - The registrant may request to be referred to the Registration Committee. The Registration Committee may issue an active practice license with conditions or restrictions or may require the completion of a re-entry program.

A registrant may move to the non-active roster if they:

- No longer practice dietetics in Nova Scotia or are taking a leave of absence from dietetic practice.

## PROCEDURE

To move to the non-active roster, a registrant must:

1. Update their NSCDN profile to reflect their current employment status.
2. Contact NSCDN's Registration Coordinator by email to request to move to the non-active roster. Provide a general reason (i.e., retirement, move out of province, leaving profession, leave of absence) and an effective date. They will receive formal confirmation of your move to the non-active roster by email.

To move to the active-practice roster, a registrant must:

1. Complete a reinstatement application through the NSCDN member database and paid all applicable fees.
2. Meet all criteria to obtain an active practice licence, detailed in section 11(2) of the Dietitians Regulations and the policy *Active Practice Hour Requirement*.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Registration Through Labour Mobility</b>	<b>Policy # 11</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Act Dietitians Regulations</b>			
<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Effective 22/09/23</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/1</b>

## **BACKGROUND**

Individuals registered in good standing in another Canadian jurisdiction are eligible for registration in the same license classification (under the Agreement on Internal Trade).

## **POLICY**

An applicant who is registered in Canada with a provincial dietetic regulator and who meets the eligibility criteria below shall be registered with the College without further assessment through Labour Mobility.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible for registration through labour mobility without further assessment the applicant must:

1. be currently registered in good standing with a provincial dietetic regulator,
2. meet the Colleges active practice requirement,
3. be of good character,
4. clear of a criminal record,
5. have registration without conditions, restrictions or limitations,
6. provide the following documentation should a dietetic regulatory body be unable to provide as part of labour mobility:
  1. verification of registration with a provincial regulator
  2. academic transcripts showing the degree received
  3. internship verification
  4. national examination results (if completed)
  5. name change documentation (if required)

If the applicant has held registration with any additional regulatory bodies, verification of registration must be received from each regulatory body.

The registrar may waive one or more of the documentation requirements based on justifiable cause. The registrar will use their discretion to refer an applicant who does not meet the eligibility criteria for automatic recognition to the Registration Committee for further assessment.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>License Renewal</b>	<b>Policy # 12</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Act Dietitians Regulations</b>			
<b>Approved by the Registration Committee</b>	<b>Effective 29/03/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/1</b>

## BACKGROUND

A dietitian is not authorized to practice on April 1 of the fiscal year if the renewal application is incomplete, unacceptable, or not yet processed.

A renewal deadline set one month prior to the expiry of an active practice dietitian's license provides time for the dietitian to rectify an incomplete or unacceptable renewal application without disrupting the dietitian's employment. The deadline set in advance of the license expiry date also enables staff to process renewal applications in advance of April 1.

## POLICY

1. Dietitians on the active practice roster are required to annually renew their license by the renewal deadline.
2. The renewal deadline is February 28.
3. (a) A complete renewal application includes:
  - completion of the online application form in entirety
  - completion of the online CCP learning log
  - completion of the online Jurisprudence eLearning Module (if applicable, as per CCP Policy #3)
  - payment of fees
  - proof of liability insurance as per policy *Liability Insurance*.
  - proof of legal entitlement to live and work in Canada (if applicable)
- (b) When assessing renewal applications, NSCDN staff will screen CCP learning logs and consider a renewal application incomplete if the CCP learning log is missing two learning goals and/or includes insufficient documentation of learning activities and critical reflection.
4. A late fee is charged if a dietitian fails to submit an application or submits an incomplete application (as per 3 above) by midnight on February 28.



<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Failure to Renew Active Practice License</b>	<b>Policy # 13</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Act Dietitians Regulations</b>			
<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Effective 29/03/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised 02/12/2023</b>	<b>Page 1/1</b>

## BACKGROUND

The license year runs from April 1 to March 31. An active practice license remains in effect until the end of the licensing year in which it is issued. A dietitian is not authorized to practice on April 1 if a renewal application is incomplete, unacceptable, or not yet processed. Registrants practicing dietetics or using title while their license is suspended are in violation of the Dietitians Act (2009).

## POLICY

If the registrant does not complete their renewal by March 31, their license will be suspended. If the registrant does not comply with the renewal requirement by October 1, they will move to the non-active roster. Practicing without an active license may be considered professional misconduct and subject to a complaint. If repeated and flagrant violations of these deadlines and the renewal process occur, a complaint may be referred to the Complaints Committee.

## PROCEDURE

1. If a registrant does not renew before March 20, NSCDN will send a written notice of the intention to suspend the registrant.
2. After 11:59 pm on March 31, all registrants whose completed renewal is past due will be suspended. The Registrar, or delegate, will send a letter to registrants whose license is suspended.
3. On April 1, or the first business day following April 1, the Registrar, or delegate, informs the registrant's employer that the registrant failed to renew their license and that their license is suspended.
4. Applications to reinstate a license suspended due to failure to renew are subject to the late fee and the reinstatement fee.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Partial Fee and Reimbursement</b>	<b>Policy # 14</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>				
<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Effective 17/06/2008</b>	<b>Reviewed 03/01/2017</b>	<b>Revised 03/01/2017 07/03/2007 02/12/2023</b>	<b>Page 1/1</b>

## **POLICY**

Individuals submitting an application after September 30 for an active practice license shall pay half of the annual registration fee.

Registrants resigning from the active practice roster before September 30 are entitled to a refund of half the annual registration fee.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Resignation from Active Practice Roster</b>	<b>Policy # 15</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Act Dietitians Regulations</b>			
<b>Approved by the Registration Committee</b>	<b>Effective 29/03/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/1</b>

## **POLICY**

1. As per the policy *Non-Active Roster* dietitians may resign from an active practice roster if they retire or move to another province to practice.
2. Upon resignation, confirmation of dietitian's standing upon resignation is sent to the dietitian.
3. Standing may be considered "good", or the registrar may indicate an explanation for otherwise, which may include:
  - a. unacceptable CCP submission at the last renewal deadline
  - b. complaint under investigation
  - c. complaint unresolved.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Reinstatement</b>	<b>Policy # 16</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitians Act Dietitians Regulations</b>			
<b>Approved by the Registration Committee</b>	<b>Effective 29/03/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/4</b>

## **BACKGROUND**

Under the Dietitians Act (2009), individuals are registered and then licensed to practice. This policy refers to individuals registered with the College who are applying for an active practice license. Those registered with the College who are not licensed, are on a non-practicing roster.

Those who renewed their license under the Nova Scotia Dietetic Association who did not meet the active practice hour requirement are registered with the College and are on the non-active roster.

Those who move from an active practice license to the non-active roster remain on the College register. These individuals may be on a leave of absence from their employment, or they may have moved to another jurisdiction. An individual who resigns from the College remains on the College register.

For those who apply for reinstatement of an active practice license, the Registration Committee will assess the need for a condition, restriction or upgrading. A condition may include practicing under the supervision of a regulated health professional or a mentorship agreement. A restriction may be to limit practice to a practice area that falls within the registrant's individual scope of practice.

For the purpose on this policy, "registrants" are individuals on the College register.

## **POLICY**

1. Registrants applying for reinstatement must meet the criteria for the active practice license as defined in the Dietitians Regulations (section 11).
2. A registrant who previously passed the CDRE is not required to re-write the national entry-to-practice examination.
3. Registrants who have practiced dietetics for 500 hours in the past three years, are eligible for reinstatement to the active practice license roster having also met all other criteria for the active practice license defined in the Dietitians Regulations (section 11).
4. If the registrant met the active practice hour requirement in another jurisdiction, and the profession is not regulated in the other jurisdiction, the employer(s) must confirm dietetic employment in good standing, including a description of the role, confirmation of practising 500 hours/3 years, that they have practised competently and that there has been no incident of professional misconduct.

5. The Registration Committee will review the registrant's reinstatement application if they have not practiced dietetics for 500 hours in the past three years and if three years have lapsed since they passed the CDRE. The Registration Committee will assess the need for a condition, restriction or upgrading.
6. If the registrant has practiced dietetics within the past three years, but has not met the active practice requirement, the Registration Committee will grant an active practice license with condition or restriction.
7. If the registrant has not practiced dietetics within the past three years, the Registration Committee will determine upgrading requirements.
  - a) If the Registration Committee deems upgrading is required, the registrant must have successfully completed academic upgrading (minimum grade of B- or 70%) and/or an upgrading practicum and/or the College of Dietitians of Ontario's Practice Based Assessment, as determined by the Registration Committee.
  - b) The Registration Committee will provide the registrant with direction and a timeline for completing the upgrading deemed necessary. The decision will be based on thorough consideration of the applicant's academic qualifications, practical training, related work experience, and evidence of continuing competence activities.

## PROCEDURE

Upon application, request

- Verification of registration in good standing in the other jurisdiction(s) (or from the employer(s) if the applicant is not regulated the other jurisdiction);
- If the regulatory body in the other jurisdiction does not confirm active practice hours, the employer to send NSCDN verification of practice hours describing the nature of practice, and number of hours.

## PROCEDURE FOR 5(c): DETERMINING UPGRADING REQUIREMENTS

Action	Time	Responsibility
1. Request that the applicant submit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a resume,</li> <li>• documentation of competence activities based on the Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice (ICDEPS) and/or NSCDN Standards of Practice.</li> </ul>	Within two weeks of receipt of application	Registration Coordinator
2. Review the documentation and meet with the candidate, if possible and appropriate, to determine if academic and/or practicum upgrading and/or PBA is necessary.	Within one month of receipt of documentation	Registration Committee
3. Determine the academic and/or practicum upgrading required based on the applicant's experience and the following guideline.  <b>Academic Upgrading:</b>	Within one month of making decision to	Registration Committee

<p>A minimum of one half-credit course (equal to 3 practice hours) is required for each 3-year period since lapse in practice.</p> <p>3-year lapse: one half-credit course Advanced Clinical Nutrition</p> <p>4 -6-year lapse: two half-credit courses Advanced Clinical Nutrition <u>and</u> Management (e.g., Basic Principles of Management, Food Service Management, Quantity Food Production Management) <u>or</u> Health Promotion or Population Health</p> <p>7--9-year lapse: three half-credit courses Advanced Clinical Nutrition <u>and</u> Management (e.g., Basic Principles of Management, Food Service Management, Quantity Food Production Management) <u>and/or</u> Health Promotion or Population Health</p> <p>10–12-year lapse: four half-credit courses Advanced Clinical Nutrition <u>and</u> Management (e.g., Basic Principles of Management, Food Service Management, Quantity Food Production Management) <u>and/or</u> Health Promotion or Population Health <u>and/or</u> Professional Practice <u>and/or</u> Advanced Foods</p> <p>Over 12 years: five half-credit courses Advanced Clinical Nutrition <u>and</u> Management (e.g., Basic Principles of Management, Food Service Management, Quantity Food Production Management) <u>and/or</u> Health Promotion or Population Health <u>and/or</u> Professional Practice <u>and/or</u> Advanced Foods</p> <p>All courses must be advanced study (third or fourth year) from an accredited university or be approved by the Registration Committee.</p> <p>Academic upgrading must be started prior to the Upgrading Practicum but can reasonably overlap with it.</p>	<p>require upgrading</p>	
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<p><b>Upgrading Practicum</b></p> <p>The Registration Committee may require an upgrading practicum.</p> <p>The Upgrading Practicum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• must include placement in Clinical Nutrition,</li> <li>• may include placement in Community and/or Food Service practice areas,</li> <li>• must be at least 12 weeks duration,</li> <li>• must be arranged by the applicant and approved by Registration Committee prior to commencement,</li> <li>• may be extended as required to meet the unique learning and training needs of the applicant as determined by the applicant, supervising dietitian(s) and/or Registration Committee,</li> <li>• must be completed in Canada,</li> <li>• must be supervised by a dietitian(s)</li> <li>• must be confirmed by acceptable documentation of attainment of competencies.</li> </ul>		
<p>4. Provide the applicant with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reason(s) upgrading is required, as determined by the Registration Committee</li> <li>• Time frame for completing required upgrading, as determined by the Registration Committee</li> <li>• - the following documents: <i>Planning and Documenting your Upgrading Practicum</i> and <i>Supervising/Coordinating an Upgrading Practicum</i> (to be given to supervising dietitian).</li> </ul>	<p>Within two weeks of determining the upgrading requirements</p>	<p>Registrar</p>
<p>5. The Registration Committee will determine that academic and practical training upgrading requirements have been met by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reviewing original transcripts of successfully completed course(s); and</li> <li>• reviewing original verification from the supervising dietitian(s) that all aspects of the program design have been successfully completed and that required duration has been met.</li> </ul>	<p>Within 6 weeks of receipt of transcripts and verification.</p>	<p>Registration Committee</p>

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Access to Registration Records Requests</b>	<b>Policy # 17</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>				
<b>Approved by the Registration Committee</b>	<b>Effective 29/03/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/2</b>

The Nova Scotia College of Dietitians and Nutritionists (NSCDN) will provide an applicant with access to records held by the NSCDN that are related to the applicant's application.

### **Request**

1. Requests for access to an applicant's records must be made to the registrar in writing.
2. Written requests may be made by email.
3. Requests for access to an applicant's records may be made by the applicant him/herself or by any person authorized by the applicant, in writing, to communicate with the NSCDN on the applicant's behalf.

### **Timing**

1. The NSCDN will respond to an applicant's request for access to their records within 10 business days of receiving the applicant's request.
2. Where an applicant's request for access to their records cannot be accommodated within 10 days, the NSCDN shall inform the applicant of the timeframe when their records will be accessible, such timeframe not to exceed 30 days from the date of the applicant's request.
3. The NSCDN will retain copies of records relating to an applicant's application for 5 years following receipt of a complete application package for the applicant.

### **Exclusions**

4. The NSCDN will not provide access to the following documents that may form part of an applicant's record:
  - a. the document or any information in the document is subject to a legal privilege that restricts disclosure of the record or the information, as the case may be another enactment, including an Act of the Parliament of Canada or a regulation made pursuant to such an Act, or a court order or order of a quasi-judicial tribunal prohibits disclosure of the document or any information in the document in the circumstances;
  - b. granting the access could reasonably be expected to lead to the identification of a person who provided information in the record to the regulating body explicitly or implicitly in confidence, and the regulating body considers it appropriate in the circumstances, that the identity of the person be kept confidential;
  - c. granting the access could reasonably be expected to threaten or harm the mental or physical health or the safety of another person; or



- d. granting the access could negatively affect public safety or could undermine the integrity of the registration process.

**Access**

5. The College will provide copies of an applicant's records by mail, electronically, or facsimile, as requested by the applicant.
6. In the event that NSCDN refuses to provide access to all of the applicant's documents it holds, the College will provide reasons for denying access.

**Fees**

7. The College will charge a fee for making an application file available to an applicant, which will not exceed the amount of reasonable cost recovery.
8. The applicant will be informed of the fee amount, and said fee must be paid, before the records will be released to the applicant.
9. If an applicant requests their records be sent by courier, the applicant shall pay the cost of the courier service.

**Corrections**

10. If an applicant believes the information held by the College is inaccurate, the applicant may request that the College correct its records by making a written request to the executive manager with documentation supporting the applicant's request.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Temporary Reinstatement of Dietitians Applying to Assist in Emergency Situations</b>	<b>Policy # 18</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>				
<b>Approved by the Registration Committee</b>	<b>Effective 29/03/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Page 1/1</b>

## POLICY

In the event of an emergency situation, the NSCDN has a mechanism for temporary reinstatement of dietitians who are willing to assist with an emergency or health crisis in Nova Scotia.

Dietitians may be eligible for temporary reinstatement with NSCDN provided they meet the following criteria for registration.

The applicant

- a) was a member in good standing at the time of resignation;
- b) held a license within the past 5 years; and
- c) was active in clinical practice within the past 5 years.

Applicants who do not meet (c) may be considered for a temporary reinstatement with NSCDN under an agreement that the employer has identified a non-clinical role within the institution under which the dietitian can practice.

The NSCDN board of directors authorizes the Registrar to issue a license for 60 days and to waive the application and registration fees for an applicant who is applying for a license for the purpose of assisting with a declared emergency situation or health crisis in Nova Scotia where there are critical staff shortages in a Health Authority or a private company. Should the situation extend beyond 60 days, the registrar is authorized to extend the temporary reinstatement license as dictated by the emergency response needs, not exceeding a total of one year.

Should the dietitian wish to remain licensed beyond the crisis, the policy *Reinstatement* will apply, and payment of the applicable application and registration fees will be required.

<sup>1</sup> a clinical role is one that involves the provision of services to meet the nutrition-care needs of individuals.

Adapted with permission: Nova Scotia College of Respiratory Therapists. 2020 Pandemic Plan. [https://www.nscrt.com/images/Approved\\_NSCRT\\_2020\\_Pandemic\\_Plan\\_19March2020.pdf](https://www.nscrt.com/images/Approved_NSCRT_2020_Pandemic_Plan_19March2020.pdf)

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Eligibility for Registration without an Accredited Degree or Practicum</b>	<b>Policy # 19</b>		
<b>APPLICABLE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT</b>	<b>Dietitian Regulations</b>			
<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Effective 29/05/2023</b>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised 02/12/2023</b>	<b>Page 1/1</b>

## **BACKGROUND**

The Nova Scotia College of Dietitians and Nutritionists (NSCDN) recognizes The College of Dietitians of Ontario (CDO)'s Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) process. The PLAR process is designed to assess the current knowledge, skills, and competence of applicants against the national entry to practice standards for graduates of accredited Canadian programs.

Accreditation Canada, under the EQual program, is the accreditation provider approved by the NSCDN Board of Directors for dietetic education programs. The Partnership for Dietetic Education and Practice accreditation awards will continue to be recognized by the NSCDN as approved programs for the purposes of registration until February 15, 2024.

## **POLICY**

This policy permits an applicant who:

- has a degree and/or practicum from a non-accredited Canadian institution; or
- has a degree and/or practicum from an institution outside Canada,

to complete the PLAR process to become eligible for registration with NSCDN.

To be deemed eligible to initiate the PLAR process to attempt the Knowledge and Competence Assessment Tool (KCAT) and/or the Performance-Based Assessment (PBA), an applicant must meet the requirements set out by CDO.

## **PROCEDURE**

1. An applicant who seeks to write the KCAT and/or the PBA must submit a PLAR application to CDO.
2. An applicant is deemed to have successfully completed the PLAR process if they:
  - a. Receive a Level I result on the KCAT and pass the PBA;
  - b. Receive a Level I or II result on the KCAT, followed by successful completion of bridging program at Mount Saint Vincent University, and pass the PBA;
  - c. Have completed an accredited degree and pass the PBA;
  - d. Have completed an accredited practicum and receive a level I on the KCAT; or
  - e. Are otherwise deemed by CDO to have completed the PLAR process.
3. An applicant deemed to have successfully completed the PLAR process by CDO is deemed eligible for a candidate license with the NSCDN.

## Appendix A

### Terms of Reference: Registration Committee

#### Background:

According to the Dietitians Act (2009, section 13):

13 (1) The Board shall appoint a Registration Committee, the membership of which consists of one public representative and not fewer than two dietitians from the active-practising roster.

(2) The Board shall appoint one of the members of the Registration Committee as the Chair of the Committee.

(3) The majority of the Registration Committee constitutes a quorum.

(4) The Registration Committee shall perform such functions as are set out in this Act, the regulations and the by-laws.

(5) Each member of the Registration Committee has all the rights, powers, privileges and immunities of a commissioner appointed pursuant to the Public Inquiries Act.

**General mandate:** The Registration Committee is a statutory committee established by the Board. Its purpose is to oversee and facilitate an evidence-based, fair, timely, transparent and equitable process to register dietitians competent to practice.

Specifically, the Registration Committee is responsible for

- Developing and monitoring the effectiveness of policies and procedures to support the Committee's general mandate.
- Upon referral by the registrar, determining whether an applicant meets all the criteria for registration or a license roster.

The activities of the Registration Committee shall be conducted in accordance with the Act, Regulations, Bylaws and relevant NSCDN policies.

#### Specific responsibilities:

- Establish policies that address assessment for registration and licensing;
- Establish or endorse methods and tools to assess the competence of applicants;
- Establish the proficiency level of English required for registration;
- Establish the information required that demonstrates competence to safely and ethically practise dietetics;
- Define acceptable supervision of candidate dietitians;
- Provide written reasons to applicants when registration or a license has been refused, and when conditions or restrictions have been imposed on a license without the applicant's consent.

**Frequency of meetings:** The Registration Committee will meet at the call of the Chair four times per year to a maximum of 12 meetings per year.

**Size and membership of committee:** The Board appoints the committee chair and members of the Registration Committee. The committee will consist of not fewer than two dietitians and a public member. The Committee will strive to have broad representation from various practice settings, including representation from dietetic educators and cultural diversity. One position on the Committee is a designated position whereby the individual is a member of African/Black or indigenous communities or is an internationally educated dietitian.

**Quorum:** A quorum at any Registration Committee meeting shall be the majority of its membership. All decisions require the vote of a majority of the Committee. The Chair of the Committee may vote.

**Ability to retain expert resources:** The Registration Committee retains the right to consult experts in the field of professional regulation.

**Reporting obligations:** The Registration Committee reports to the registrar.

**Annual evaluation of the committee's effectiveness:** The Registration Committee completes a committee evaluation in accordance with the Board's macro agenda.

### ***Vision***

Trust and excellence in regulation and practice

### ***Mission***

In the public interest, NSCDN regulates dietitians and nutritionists to practice in a safe, ethical and competent manner.

## Appendix B: Registered Dietitian Candidate Mentor Agreement Form

Thank you for agreeing to support (insert NAME OF REGISTERED DIETITIAN CANDIDATE) in a mentorship capacity while they practice in advance of writing the national entry to practice examination (the Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination). The exam is offered every May and November.

A mentor supports a registered dietitian candidate. From an experienced perspective, a mentor will offer professional knowledge and expertise relevant to a registered dietitian candidate's role. A mentor is not responsible for preparing the Registered Dietitian Candidate for the CDRE.

Suggested activities:

- Guide a registered dietitian candidate in practice and supplement their learning through answering questions, providing resources, case studies, and offering advice and discussions;
- Conduct random review of chart notes, if applicable, and provide feedback;
- Answer questions or assist with problem-solving or ethical dilemmas in a mentorship capacity;
- Review relevant aspects of the Jurisprudence Handbook and e-Learning Module with the candidate;
- Refer to NSCDN Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics as they apply to the candidate's role;
- Support registered dietitian candidate in establishing professional development goals.

A registered dietitian candidate should initiate the first meeting with their mentor to develop a communication plan for future interactions. Regular communication between a registered dietitian candidate and mentor will provide the registered dietitian candidate with an opportunity to ask questions and engage in practice-related discussions. This may begin with weekly meetings and evolve to bi-weekly meetings as the dietitian candidate continues to gain additional knowledge and skill. Meetings must be documented to include the date, items discussed, and signatures or electronic acknowledgement by both parties.

I, (insert dietitian's name), agree to act as a mentor for (insert registered dietitian candidate's name) during the time that they are registered with the Nova Scotia College of Dietitians and Nutritionists as a registered dietitian candidate / RD(c). I agree to contact NSCDN if I have concerns about the registered dietitian candidate's competency to practice or conduct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of mentor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Mentor's profession	
Registration #	
Area of practice	
Employment phone number	
Employment email	