



WINTER NEWSLETTER 2025

THE NSCDN

The Nova Scotia College of Dietitians and Nutritionists (NSCDN) is the regulatory body for the profession of dietetics in Nova Scotia. In the public interest, the NSCDN regulates dietitians and nutritionists to practice in a safe, ethical and competent manner.

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.

WE'RE HIRING

PRACTICE ADVISOR (Part-time): The NSCDN is seeking a Practice Advisor whose primary role will be to act as a resource to registrants by providing guidance on professional obligations found in legislation, regulations, bylaws, Code of Ethics, and standards of practice. The Practice Advisor will also lead and contribute to relevant projects and initiatives. This role requires 12 hours per week and primarily involves remote work performed during business hours. More information about this role can be found on the [JOB POSTING](#). **Application deadline: January 31, 2025**

REGISTRATION COORDINATOR (Part-time, term): The registration coordinator manages inquiries and processes applications for dietitian and nutritionist licensing, oversees CDRE scheduling and accommodation requests, supports the Registration Committee, and oversees the annual license renewal process. More information about this role can be found on this [JOB POSTING](#). **Application deadline: February 13, 2025.**

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

The NSCDN is currently recruiting volunteers for the following Committees:

- Registration Appeals Committee
- Complaints Committee
- Professional Conduct Committee
- Fitness to Practice Committee



More information regarding these committees can be found in the [Committee Member Application Form](#). If interested in a committee, please submit a completed application to deputyregistrar@nscdn.ca by **February 28, 2025**.



CCP VIRTUAL DISCUSSION AND LEARNING

On January 22, 2025, Nicole MacPherson will join the Dietitians Network of Nova Scotia (DNNS) as a guest speaker to provide an overview of the Continuing Competency Program. Following the presentation, there will be an opportunity to network and discuss learning goals for 2025/2026. The event will take place from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. To register for this event through DNNS, please use this [LINK](#).

RENEWAL

The 2025/26 renewal period is now open. For questions about the renewal process, please refer to the documents provided and the Q&A section below. If the College receives multiple inquiries about the same issue, they will address them using the announcement feature in the online registration portal. If your questions remain unanswered after reviewing these resources, please contact the NSCDN Deputy Registrar, Nicole MacPherson at registration@nscdn.ca.

[Professional Liability Insurance](#)
[Vulnerable Sector Checks](#)
[CCP Updates – Webinar](#)

[Registrant Portal Guide – Self-assessment and Learning Plans](#)
[Other CCP resources](#)

*Due to changes in the renewal process and the online registration portal, dietitians are strongly encouraged to initiate the renewal process well in advance of the **February 28, 2025, deadline**.*

RENEWAL Q&A

Q: I submitted a vulnerable sector check to NSCDN in 2024, do I need to provide a new check?

A: No, a new vulnerable sector check is not required. The College has a record of all previously submitted checks. When completing the profile update portion of renewal, please enter the date of issue of the previously submitted vulnerable sector check.

Q: My employer provides professional liability insurance coverage; do I need an additional policy?

A: Yes, all active practice licensees are required to have professional liability insurance in their own name. Practice specific or employer insurance is not acceptable. Proof of professional liability insurance in the dietitian's name must be included with the renewal application.

Q: How can I obtain individual professional liability insurance coverage?

A: The Professional Liability Insurance page on the College website provides a list of insurance options that align with the Professional Liability Insurance Policy. Any policy that fulfills all the requirements outlined in the NSCDN Liability Insurance Policy is also acceptable. Note: If purchasing insurance coverage through Aon, please allow several weeks for processing.



Q: What date must individual professional liability insurance be effective?

A: The policy must be effective by April 1, 2025, when the new insurance requirements take effect. If the provider cannot issue insurance with an April 1 start date before the February 28, 2025, renewal deadline, the policy may start earlier. Dietitians must maintain continuous coverage beyond this date, and proof of insurance must be submitted with the renewal application.

Q: I don't have all my documents ready to submit but I want to work on my learning plan, is that possible?

A: Yes, you can complete the learning plan by following the instructions in the registrant portal guide. If you have started a renewal and have not completed the profile update form, you will be blocked from accessing learning plans. You can withdraw the profile update form in order to regain access to your learning plans.

Q. I uploaded my vulnerable sector check and proof of liability insurance, but I can't see them on my registration profile. Why is that?

A. Documents uploaded through the online registration portal cannot be viewed by licensees or applicants due to the system's prebuilt processes and functionality. However, NSCDN staff can access these documents once they have been uploaded. If there are any issues with the uploaded documents, the NSCDN will return the application for the registrant to request any necessary changes.

Q: Is it possible to change the indicators selected on the self-assessment?

A: Yes, you can update your self-assessment through your dashboard. To do so, select 'all' to view all indicators and choose the ones you want to use. Be sure to uncheck the indicators you previously selected before selecting new ones.

Learning plan

2024/2025 - Submitted

Please select between 1 and 2 indicators for your learning plan

Show Recommended All

* 7. d

Activities

Maintain competence in the present area(s) of practice, incorporating evidence into professional services.

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Activities

Acquire the knowledge and skills to practice competently in emerging practice areas as required.

Save Indicators



Q: Can I use the same indicator for both goals? Can I use the same indicators for next year's goals?

A: Yes, both goals can be based on the same indicator, and future goals can also be based on previously used indicators. However, it is important that the learning goals remain distinct, even if they fall under the same indicator.

REGULATED HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT

The Nova Scotia Government introduced the Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA) in 2023, a common foundations legislation applicable to all regulated health professions in Nova Scotia. Once dietetic regulations are proclaimed, the RHPA will replace the Dietitians Act 2009. We anticipate a complete transition to RHPA legislation and regulations by late spring or summer of 2025. The College will distribute applicable updates concerning regulatory changes associated with this legislation through email and the NSCDN Website.

[Regulated Health Professions Act](#)
[General Regulations](#)

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The College extends its gratitude to all dietitians who shared their feedback on recent consultation requests. The following standards were introduced or updated in the fall of 2024:

[Dual Licensure Position Statement](#) (New)
[Sexual Abuse and Sexual Misconduct Standard](#) (New)
[Nutrition Prescription Standards](#) (Updated)
[Code of Ethics](#) (Updated)

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions regarding the NSCDN, please visit the NSCDN website at www.nscdn.ca or email your question to info@nscdn.ca.

PRESCRIBING UPDATE

The NSCDN has been working diligently on the process for dietitians to achieve authorized prescriber status. Despite our best efforts, this process is currently delayed due to circumstances beyond the College's control. The NSCDN has been advised of an updated timeline, with an estimated minimum delay of 12 months before dietitians can be integrated into external systems required for authorized prescriber recognition within the Nova Scotia healthcare system.

In the meantime, dietitians can continue to perform tasks within the dietetic scope of practice that do not require authorized prescriber status, such as writing diet orders for therapeutic or texture-modified diets or conducting swallowing assessments. Dietitians must ensure they are educated, trained, and competent in these tasks, hold professional liability insurance covering all professional activities, and comply with their employer's policies.