

## **Dietetic Technician Registration Eligibility Pathway III Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. Why did CDR establish this new pathway?**

**A:** For the past several years CDR has noted that number of dietetic technicians, registered has been declining at a rapid rate. This decline, coupled with the uneven geographic distribution of DTRs, poses a significant challenge for employers who seek to hire DTRs. CDR strongly supports the role of the dietetic technician and believes that this new pathway will address both of these issues. This decision is consistent with CDR's public protection mission in that it provides a credential for the numerous non-credentialed DPD graduates currently employed in dietetic technician positions. Once credentialed, these individuals will be required to comply with CDR recertification requirements, the Code of Ethics for the Profession of Dietetics and the Standards of Practice. CDR also believes that this alternative registration eligibility option will provide a dietetics career ladder increase the availability and visibility of DTRs throughout the country ultimately enhancing the value of the DTR credential.

### **2. Can an individual who has their DPD Verification Statement and an original baccalaureate degree transcript submit their "Registration Eligibility Application for the Registration Examination for Dietetic Technicians" directly to CDR for processing?**

**A:** No. Programs directors provide the technical review and verification of all applicant documentation and then they submit the approved candidate application to CDR for final processing. The only exception to this procedure is when the DPD program is no longer open.

### **3. If the applicant obtained a baccalaureate degree in a foreign country does the degree have to be verified as an equivalent to a degree by one of the foreign degree equivalency agencies specified by CDR?**

**A:** Yes, the degree must be determined equivalent by one of the agencies listed on Academy's Website at: <http://www.eatright.org/students/getstarted/international/agencies.aspx> or a degree equivalency office at a US regionally accredited college or university.

### **4. If an applicant has their international transcript evaluated by an agency not approved by CDR, does it have to be re-evaluated by one of the approved agencies?**

**A:** Yes. Transcript evaluation agencies are reviewed against specific CDR criteria. If approved, the agency is added to CDR's listing of approved transcript evaluation agencies. No other agency evaluation will be accepted.

### **5. Who is now eligible to take the registration examination for dietetic technicians?**

**A:** Individuals who have completed a minimum of a Baccalaureate degree granted by a US regionally accredited college/university or foreign equivalent and a Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) program as verified by a DPD Program Director.

**6. Is there a recency of education requirement?**

**A:** No. CDR does not require recency of education. However, individuals that graduated under a Plan IV curriculum rather than a Didactic Program curriculum will not be eligible to sit for the DTR examination without first meeting current Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) requirements.

**7. Are graduates of a Coordinated Program (CP) in Dietetics or a Dietetic Internship (DI) Program who have already established eligibility to take the registration examination for dietitians now eligible to take the registration examination for dietetic technicians?**

**A:** Yes, provided they have completed DPD program requirements through either an undergraduate program or a Coordinated Program (CP) in dietetics. These individuals should contact Elaine Butler at 800/877-1600, ext. 4859, to request an examination application.

**8. Will Didactic Programs receive information on the success of their graduates who take the registration examination for dietetic technicians?**

**A.** CDR will generate six-month and five-year Summary Reports on the examination results of DPD graduates that sit for the DTR examination and provide these to the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) for distribution to assist programs in the evaluation of the outcomes of their graduates.