

Advanced Clinical Nutrition Practice Certification FAQ

Question	Answer
General Certification Questions	
Is specialty practice advanced practice?	No, specialty practice is not advanced practice. Advanced Practice dietitians maybe specialists, but not all specialists are advanced practice dietitians. Advanced practice dietitians are recognized by their peers and the professionals who supervise their work for their expert knowledge base and complex decision-making skills and competencies. They are dietitians with more than just specialized knowledge. They have built on their specialized knowledge to acquire new practice skills and expand their practice. Often these dietitians function autonomously in their areas of practice.
What is the difference between a certification, such as the Advanced Practice certification and a recognition program such as the Fellow of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (FAND)?	A certification is a process, often voluntary, by which individuals who have demonstrated the level of knowledge and skill required in the profession, occupation, role, or skill are identified to the public and other stakeholders. The Fellow of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (FAND is a recognition certificate that identifies Academy members who have made significant and sustained contributions to the field of nutrition and dietetics, establishing them as role models.
What is the title of the certification and what are the credentials that will be received?	The title of the certification is Advanced Practice Certification in Clinical Nutrition. The credentials received after passing the examination is RD-AP or RDN-AP.
How long does the certification last?	The certification period lasts five years.
When will the examination be administered?	There will be one three-week examination window a year. The first examination window is November.2-20, 2015.
What is the cost for this certification?	There is a \$100 eligibility application fee and a \$500 examination fee. The eligibility application fee is non-refundable.
What is the eligibility application and fee deadline?	The eligibility application and non-refundable eligibility fee (\$100) is due August 3, 2015 (for the November 2015 examination window). Applications will not be reviewed until the eligibility fee is received. The eligibility fee can be paid when the application is submitted.
When is the examination fee deadline?	The examination fee (\$500) can be paid after the application is reviewed and approved. An e-mail will be sent to candidate to pay the fee. The deadline for the November 2015 examination fee is 8/26/2015.
What is the test format?	The test may include a variety of types of questions, such as, multiple choice questions, key feature questions, sequenced items, multiple drop down lists, highlighted text. The test may also include patient data and images, such as, pictures, x-rays, patient records.

How many questions will be on the test?	Candidates will have to pass two sections, Part 1 Nutrition Care Process and Part 2 Support and Manage Systems of Nutrition Care. Both sections will have to be passed in order to pass the examination.
What information will be on the test?	The content outline/test specifications is available on CDR's website.
Will there be a study guide	No, there will not be a study guide. There will be a content outline and reference list. Sample questions may be available when the Candidate Handbook is released.
How much time will candidate be given to take the examination?	Candidates will have 5 hours to complete the examination. There will be additional time to complete the tutorial, exit survey and a break in between exam sections. The Candidate Handbook will have further information regarding the examination timing.
Initial Certification	
How many years must a candidate be an RD/RDN before applying to sit for the Advanced Practice Clinical Nutrition certification exam?	Candidates must be an RD/RDN for a minimum of four calendar years.
How many advanced practice clinical nutrition hours are required in order to become eligible to sit for the exam initially?	Candidates must document 8,000 hours of clinical nutrition practice within the past 15 years. 800 of these hours must be completed within the past two years.
Is a graduate degree required in order to be eligible to sit for the Advanced Practice Clinical Nutrition certification exam? If so, must the advanced degree be nutrition- related?	To sit for the exam, a graduate degree, granted by a US regionally accredited college/university or Foreign equivalent, is required for certification eligibility. The qualifying degrees will include all degrees, except those from arts and humanities categories.
Alternate Pathway Eligibility	
Is there alternate pathway available in order to be able to sit for the Advanced Practice Clinical Nutrition certification exam if one does not have a graduate degree?	Yes there is alternate pathway. The baccalaureate degree certification applicant, who meets all other eligibility requirements, along with completion of two of the three following eligibility criteria post-RD/RDN will be eligible to take the advanced practice in clinical nutrition certification examination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evidence of presenting at a national, state or local professional conference in clinical nutrition (e.g. practice topics/poster/research) within the past five years from the application deadline date. ▪ Published a clinical nutrition research or non-research article in a peer reviewed professional journal; had a clinical nutrition book or book chapter published(not self-published); edited or reviewed a clinical nutrition peer reviewed professional journal article or book; or had a clinical nutrition abstract published in a peer reviewed journal within the past five years from the

	<p>application deadline date. Candidates would have to be the first author</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specialist Certification in a clinical nutrition-related topics. The specialist certifications must include the RD/RDN as a prerequisite qualification. Candidates must hold the specialist certification at the time of the examination.
Documentation of Clinical Nutrition Practice Hours	
What is the definition of clinical practice?	Clinical Nutrition practice is defined by the Task Force as the provision of direct nutrition care to individuals and/or groups.
How do candidate document the required hours?	Forms are provided for documentation with the online eligibility application
Can private practice hours be submitted to fulfill the 8,000 advanced practice clinical nutrition hour requirement?	Yes. Candidates must document private practice hours. This documentation includes tax returns for their business practice, and published billing rates for their clients on their website.
Do volunteer practice hours count for practice hours?	No. Candidates must have paid clinical nutrition practice hours into to apply to sit for the exam.
Recertification	
To recertify, will candidates have to document clinical nutrition practice hours?	Yes, recertifying candidates will have to be a current RD/RDN document 800 hours within the past two years.
Will the recertification eligibility requirements be the same for the certificants who completed the Alternate Pathway Eligibility requirements when they initially applied?	Yes, requirements for recertification will be the same independent of the initial route of eligibility.
Will the examination be required for recertification?	Yes, the examination will be required for recertification.