

Commission on Dietetic Registration

the credentialing agency for the
eat right. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6995

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**Dietetic Technicians,
Registered in the
Long-Term Care Facility**



DTRs are excellent candidates to serve as your facility's Director of Food and Nutrition Services.

DTRs help maximize the work of the RD, who is often employed in multiple facilities. DTRs provide a daily presence in the facility for food and nutrition management and direct patient care in between the visits of the registered dietitian. DTRs are versatile employees who have been trained in both food service and clinical aspects of nutrition management and care. The DTR designation complies with the latest CMS requirements as it is a national certification for food service management and safety from a national certifying body. In addition to their food service expertise, DTR's have the clinical knowledge to work in a complementary role to that of your facility's registered dietitian.

Responsibilities of a DTR in a long-term care facility:

- Contribute to nutrition assessment, intervention and monitoring
- Minimum Data Set (MDS) patient health questionnaire
- Care Area Assessment (CAA)
- Nutrition education, under the supervision of the RD
- Menu and recipe management
- Food service management



Employers value the DTRs in their facilities—here's why:

"DTRs are efficient, they do all the legwork. They are your team, your go-to person."

Renee Hinojosa, RD, Texas

"DTRs are underutilized and many people do not realize all that they can do. In long-term care they have many responsibilities."

Dawn Howard, RD, Ohio

"DTRs are essential to the nutrition care process. I could not imagine taking care of patients without them, they are like your right hand."

Emily Lisciandro, RD, Ohio

Dietetic Technicians, Registered (DTR), are healthcare practitioners credentialed by the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR). All DTRs have a background in food science, nutrition, and food service management, have completed an education program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and have successfully passed the registration examination for dietetic technicians, administered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration.

Not all individuals with the job title of "Dietetic Technician" are credentialed as Dietetic Technicians, Registered (DTR). Non-credentialed individuals who seek to fulfill this position do not meet the CMS requirements for long term care facilities.

	Diet Tech	DTR
Has met specific educational requirements in nutrition and dietetics	Sometimes	Yes
Has passed a computerized, practice-based credentialing exam	No	Yes
Meets rigorous continuing professional education standards to maintain the credential	No	Yes
Works closely with a Registered Dietitian	Yes	Yes
Upholds the Code of Ethics for the Profession of Dietetics	No	Yes
Educational background in clinical nutrition and food service systems/ management	Sometimes	Yes
Certification program is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies	N/A	Yes

For more information, visit www.cdrnet.org