The Registration Examination Experience

Orlando, FL
October 9, 2022
11:30am – 1:00pm
Disclosures

Test development and delivery vendor representatives:
• Mary Mulhern, Pearson VUE
• Bob Blackwood, Pearson VUE

2022 FNCE® speaker expenses underwritten by the Commission on Dietetic Registration
Learning Outcomes

• Upon completion, the participant will be able to design their examination review program and select appropriate study resources.

• Upon completion, the participant will be able to delineate the exam format, timing and scoring processes.

• Upon completion, the participant will be able to navigate the online scheduling, payment and special accommodations programs.
Examination Development Process

Mary Mulhern
Content Developer
Examination Development Process

How do items get on the exam?
Testing is a Cycle

- Revise and Review
- Item Writing Workshop
- Administration
- Pool Review
- New Item Review
- Test Content Outline
- Practice Analysis
- Passing Score
- Study
Registration Examination for Dietitians

Percentage Breakdown by Content Area

- Nutrition Care for Individuals and Groups: 45%
- Principles of Dietetics: 21%
- Management of Food and Nutrition Programs and Services: 21%
- Food Service Systems: 13%
Registration Examination for Dietetic Technicians

Percentage Breakdown by Content Area

- Management of Food and Nutrition Services: 38%
- Food Science and Food Service: 21%
- Nutrition Science and Care for Individuals and Groups: 41%

- Food Science and Food Service
- Nutrition Science and Care for Individuals and Groups
- Management of Food and Nutrition Services
Item Development Cycle

• Credentialed practitioners, educators, employers contribute to every step of the process

• Annual pool review – all items reviewed
  o For accuracy
  o Performance evaluated
  o Archived if no longer relevant
  o Gaps in the item bank are identified
Item Development Cycle

- New items are written to address topics that are lacking in the item bank
- Experienced coaches work with writers
Item Development Cycle

- Small groups collaborate to review, edit, and approve newly written items

New Item Review Workshop
CDR Registration Examination for Dietitians

CBT Type: CAT for Ability

Test Length: 125 – 145 items (100-120 scored, 25 pretest)

Total Time: 3.0 hours

Tutorial: ~ 30 minutes

Exam: 2.5 hours
CDR Registration Examination for Dietetic Technicians

CBT Type: CAT for Ability
Test Length: 110 – 130 items (80-100 scored, 30 pretest)
Total Time: 3.0 hours
Tutorial: ~ 30 minutes
Exam: 2.5 hours
The Testing Process

Each test is composed of:
- Scored items (RD 100-120) (DTR 80-100)
- Pretest items – unscored (RD 25) (DTR 30)

Scored items determine pass/fail status
- Application and Knowledge items
  - Application items require using concepts or principles to show understanding (ex. Basic calculations, problem solving)
  - Knowledge are likely to be found on one page of a textbook (ex. definitional, identification)

Pretest items are not identified to the examinee
- Pretest items are not scored; professional examination administrative staff analyze these items
- Acceptable items become part of the scored item pool
Non-disclosure Agreement

I understand that the content of this examination is confidential. No part of the materials conveyed during this examination may be copied, downloaded, reproduced, stored, disseminated, transferred, or used in any form by any means without prior consent of the Commission on Dietetic Registration. Violators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Final adjudications will be reported to all applicable administrative agencies. By accepting this non-disclosure agreement you are acknowledging that you have read and understand all policies and procedures in the Handbook for Candidates.

I certify that I have read and understand the terms written above and will neither give or receive assistance of any nature.

A. Yes. I have read the above statement and AGREE to terms thereof.
B. No. I have read the above statement and DO NOT AGREE to terms thereof.

Failure to agree will result in termination of the exam and there will be no refund.
Non-disclosure Agreement

Meaning of Non-Disclosure agreement

- Legal and ethical

Past consequences of noncompliance with non-disclosure agreement

- One candidate was made ineligible to test for a period of two years.
- One candidate was made permanently ineligible to test for any CDR credentialing examination.
Tutorial Screens – Functionality

Features

- Clock – shows time remaining, located in the upper right corner of the screen
- Candidates select answers using either the mouse or clicking the keyboard
- Each item must be answered, cannot return to a previous item
- There may be a scrollbar if an item has an image; it is required to view the entire image before moving on to the next item
- An onscreen calculator is available; a handheld calculator is available upon request
Dietitian Examination Sample Item
(Knowledge Item)
(all items are 4-option multiple choice)

Which of the following types of enteral nutrition is recommended for patients who will need enteral feeding for more than 4 weeks after undergoing an esophagectomy?

A. Nasogastric
B. Gastrostomy
C. Jejunostomy
D. Nasojejunal
A patient requiring 2,500 kcal is currently receiving a 1.5 kcal/mL enteral formula at 30 mL/hour from 6 PM to 12 PM daily. What percent of kcal needs are currently being met?

A. 22%
B. 29%
C. 32%
D. 43%
Important Tips

• Choose the **best** answer of the four options provided.
  • The overall best answer may **not** be among the four options, but one of the four options is better than the remaining options.
  • Know the steps in a process.

• Focus on the question being asked and the answer options provided.

• Do not try to second guess, or “read into” the item or answer options.

• If you are making a calculated guess, your first answer is usually the best.
Score Reporting

Scale Scores Reported
• Total test score (maximum 50)
• Sub scaled scores (maximum 30 per section)
  • Food and Nutrition Sciences
  • Foodservice Systems/Management

Passing Score
• Scale Score of 25 minimum (on the total test)

Printed score report given to examinee at test center.
Important Tip to Remember

CAT Exam
Correct Answers Contribute to a Passing Decision

Evidence for Passing

- Incorrect Answer
- Correct Answer
Incorrect Answers Contribute to a Failing Decision

Evidence for Failing

- Incorrect Answer
- Correct Answer
Questions are Administered Until a Decision is Made

Passing Results

Incorrect Answer

Correct Answer
Important Tips to Remember

• The questions you are administered are intended to narrow in on any individual candidate’s ability level.

• Items are chosen based on:
  - Content specifications
  - Item information

• Scaled scores are **NOT** a direct conversion from number of questions answered correctly.

• Not all items are equal.

• Some items “weigh” more.
A Scoring Example

Items that are more discriminating, provide more information, answered correctly will add more weight to a passing score.

If a candidate answers most of the light-weight questions correctly, but answers the challenging (weighty) questions incorrectly, they will fail the exam.
Important Tips to Remember

• Never stop the exam on your own!
• Always let the computer tell you when it has gained enough information to stop the exam... even if you have answered more than the minimum number of items.
• Watch the item count to assure you answer the minimum number of items.
  • You must answer at least 125 RD items or 110 DTR.
  • You must select a response for each item in order to move forward to the next item.
  • You must answer the minimum number of exam questions within 2.5 hours in order for the exam to be scored.
• If the minimum number of questions are not answered after 2.5 hours, the exam will be terminated, and the candidate will receive a score of 2 – indicating that the exam was not completed.
How to Prepare for a CDR Examination

• Reference the comprehensive Study Outline and use your academic references to review topics as needed

• Use the Study Guide

• Practice with the on-line examination (published in the Study Guide)

• Take the examination ASAP after eligibility is established

• Be sure to watch the onscreen clock
Accessing the Examination Test Specifications and Study Guide

https://www.cdrnet.org/study
Examination Registration and Scheduling

Bob Blackwood
Senior Business Development Manager
- Am I eligible to sit for the CDR exam?
- How do I know when I am authorized?
The Eligibility Process

1. Register
2. Schedule
3. Pay
Authorization to Test

- Exam title
- Time period of your authorization
- Candidate Client ID for first time users

Links to important websites and information: the CDR website, Pearson VUE website, Pearson VUE call center contact number, and CDR candidate handbook.

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**PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS E-MAIL**

CDR has requested a Pearson VUE Web Account be created to allow you to schedule and manage your exam appointments at www.pearsonvue.com. Below are your username and temporary password.

Username: John Doe
Temporary Password: XXXXXXXX

We recommend choosing a new password that is both easy to type and easy to remember so that you do not have to record it where someone else might see it. Your new password must contain at least seven characters and may not contain your username. Use both uppercase and lowercase letters as well as numbers and/or symbols, preferably in unexpected ways. Avoid names and words that would be easy to guess.

http://www.pearsonvue.com/legal/privacy/
• When and how do I schedule my appointment?

• How do I prep for exam day?
Pearson VUE Testing Centers

- Pearson Professional Center
- Pearson VUE owns and operates 289 testing centers in US.
Online Scheduling

Available – 24/7 x 365
Accessible – WCAG 2.0 compliant
Responsive – mobile friendly
Feature-rich – interactive

Commission on Dietetic Registration

This page provides specific information about the registration examination for dietitians and registration examination for dietetic technicians.

Mission Statement

The Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) administers valid, reliable, and rigorous credentialing processes to meet the professional needs of credentialed practitioners and their employers and to protect the public.

Values

The Commission on Dietetic Registration incorporates the following values to realize the Mission and Vision:

- **Inclusivity** - Make decisions with consideration for all
- **Innovation** - Embrace change with creativity and strategic thinking
- **Integrity** - Act ethically and with accountability

Strategic Focus

The Commission on Dietetic Registration focuses its efforts on Credentialing, Practice Area Competence, and Stewardship.

The Commissioners oversee the Strategic Plan, governance and policy that guide credentialed practitioners through program of work activities of its committees, panels, task forces and advisory groups.

The Commission's RD and DTR certification programs are fully accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), the accrediting arm of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence based in Washington, D.C. This accreditation reflects achievement of the highest standards of professional
Exam Details

Exam:
RD: Registration Examination for Dietitians

Price*:
USD 200.00

Language:
English

*Prices listed are based on today's date and do not include local taxes which may be applicable.

Previous

Schedule this Exam
My Authorization Information

Exam Details

Exam:
RD: Registration Examination for Dietitians

View Testing Policies

Price*:
USD 200.00

Language:
English

*Prices listed are based on today's date and do not include local taxes which may be applicable.

Authorization Information

Authorization 1

Exam: RD: Registration Examination for Dietitians

Start Date: Jan 15, 2019

End Date: Jan 15, 2020

Remaining Authorizations: 1

Client Authorization ID: 151020

View details about candidate authorization for the selected exam
### My Order

#### Description

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**Language:** English  
**Exam Length:** 180 minutes

#### Appointment

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<tr>
<td>Start Time: 08:00 AM CST</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

**Location:**  
Pearson Professional Centers-Chicago Financial Dis  
200 West Adams Street  
Suite 1105  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
United States

Click on **Change Appointment** to return to appointment selection – Choose date page.

Click on **Remove** to clear appointment.

Click on **Change Test Center** to clear appointment selection and return to test center search.
If you do not receive an appointment confirmation email from Pearson VUE upon completing your order...

**You do not have an appointment**

Return to your account on the Pearson VUE website and be sure to select the “Submit Order” button to complete your order.
Enhanced Customer Service

Customer Service

We encourage you to schedule or purchase your exam online. Get started by signing in to your Pearson VUE account. If needed, use the self-help links here to reset your username or password.

Chat is the quickest way to reach a customer service agent.

If chat is unavailable, click on your region below for further contact information.

Americas Region
Asia-Pacific Region
Europe-Middle East-Africa Region
Accommodations

Accommodations application process and scheduling can be found at:

https://home.pearsonvue.com/Test-takers/Accommodations.aspx

The above link can be found in the candidate handbook specific to your exam on both the CDR and Pearson VUE/CDR websites:

- **Handbook for the Registration Examination for Dietitians**
- **Handbook for the Registration Examination for Dietetic Technicians**
• Preparing for testing day.

• What to expect on testing day.

• Tips for success!
Preparing for Testing Day!

- Your name must match the name on the Authorization to Test e-mail.
- You must present a government issued picture ID reflecting your name as it appears on the Authorization to Test e-mail (driver’s license, state ID card, or passport).
Test Center Protocols

- Non-scientific calculators are provided
- Lockers are provided to store your personal affects.
- Only test center issued white boards are allowed in the testing room for security purposes.
- All potential security breaches and suspicious behavior are reported to CDR.
Bathroom Breaks

- Part of examination time
- The count-down clock does not stop
- Re-admission time to testing area
- ID verification upon return from break
Tips for Testing Day

- **Review the Candidate Handbook** to refresh your awareness of policies and procedures.

- **Get a good night’s sleep** before you take your exam. Being well rested and relaxed when you take your exam will help you concentrate on the task at hand.

- **Bring a current form of identification.** The form of ID must be a government issued ID with a photo and signature, like a driver’s license, state ID, or passport. Keep in mind that the name on your reservation must match the name on your ID.
Tips for Testing Day (cont.)

○ **Travel light.** The only thing that can be brought into the testing room is you. Everything else, including your watch, cell phone, pager, purse, etc., MUST be secured elsewhere. The testing centers have lockers to store personal belongings, but the less you bring with you the better. Study materials as well as food and drink are prohibited in the test center.

○ **Know where the test center is** before you try to get there. Like heavy traffic, getting lost can stress you out and cause you to miss your appointment. You may want to do a “dry run” to make sure you know where you are going.

○ **Give yourself plenty of time** to get to the test center. It is suggested that you be there at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the exam for registration. No later than 15 minutes. Traffic issues can do more than stress you out—they can cause you to miss your appointment.
In Summary

- Understand important attributes of test construction and delivery
- Use the resources available to prepare for the exam:
  - Study Outline (available via CDR’s website)
  - CDR Study Guide (available to purchase)
  - Online Practice Exam (included with CDR Study Guide purchase)
- Effectively navigate the online registration and scheduling process
Questions

Thank you for your time today and choosing to attend this special session!