

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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Exam Eligibility

1. Q. What is the turnaround time between processing the registration eligibility application and a candidate being able to take the registration examination?

A. The process can usually be completed within a week depending on candidate's response and CDR's application volume. The "[Flow Chart, Registration Eligibility Application Process](#)" on CDR's website outlines the times for various application aspects.

2. Q. How many times can a candidate take the exam?

There is no limit on how many times a registration eligible candidate can take the examination. There is a 45-day waiting period in between each examination experience.

Candidate Information

3. Q. Why can't CDR release the names of students with their scores?

A. Donald A. Balasa, JD, MBA, Former Chair, National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and Executive Director and Legal Counsel of the American Association of Medical Assistants provided the following information.

Compliance with all the Standards and Standards of Interpretations is **mandatory** for certification programs to become or remain accredited by the NCCA. CDR is accredited by NCCA.

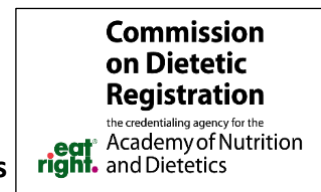
It is the opinion of the NCCA that NCCA-accredited certification programs are permitted to include on the examination application form a statement that the name of each candidate and her/his test score(s) will be released to the academic program from which she/he has graduated (or will graduate) unless the application indicates on the form that she/he does not want this information released. This statement must be in a conspicuous place on the examination application form and in reasonably noticeable type so that it would not be overlooked by the average candidate.

- a. Scores are disclosed to the education program, ***unless the candidate opts out.***
- b. Scores are **not** disclosed to education programs, ***unless the candidate opts in.***

Generally, licensure is a mandatory credentialing system established by state law.

Generally, certification is a voluntary credentialing system provided by a private sector body.

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There is a major difference between: (a) the authority of a state licensing board to mandate release of licensing examination scores to academic programs (or event more widely); and the right of a private sector certifying body to release test scores to academic programs. The primary purpose of licensure is public protection.

Because of the strong interests of the state and its people, the state legislature can require the names of candidates for licensure and their scores to be released to their respective academic programs. However, certification is not a creature of state law, and candidates' rights of confidentiality/privacy pertaining to their test scores are greater than they are in a licensure situation. In other words, in certification there is no countervailing state interest militating in favor of releasing examination results to programs.

The Federal Privacy Law, enacted in 1974, prohibits the release of examination scores without the permission of the examinee. Unlike many other credentialing programs, CDR releases scores without the examinee name regardless of the number of examinees included on the institutional score report. Many other credentialing programs do not provide institutional score reports if the number of examinees falls below a minimal number, e.g., less than 10, due to the increased likelihood that individual student scores could be identified. CDR encourages Program Directors to continue to emphasize to their graduates the importance of releasing score information.

The following is the question asked of candidates while scheduling their exam. They must select "Yes" or "No" to proceed with scheduling.

*Pearson VUE will send my test results to my Program Director. I authorize Pearson VUE to send my name as well to my Program Director. Test results are only used by the Program Director as part of ongoing program evaluation to improve effectiveness.

4. Q. Does CDR (Pearson VUE) require that both the candidate's name and address match on their government issued photo ID, and authorization to test and appointment letters to be admitted to the testing center?

A. No. Only the name must match.

5. Q. Does CDR collect ethnic, race, age or gender demographic information regarding examination candidates or its registrants?

A. No. This decision was made by the Commission at its beginning, based on the recommendation of its legal counsel, and the Commission has maintained this policy. The Academy, however, does collect this information regarding its members and it has been extrapolated to the registered dietitians and dietetic technicians, registered.

Exam Preparation

6. Q. Does CDR provide study resources?
- A. Yes. CDR provides free exam resources. Here's some of what graduates can find at www.cdrnet.org/study:
1. **Comprehensive Study Outline:** A detailed guide to help your students organize and structure their study plan effectively.
 2. **Suggested Study References:** Recommended materials to supplement their preparation and broaden understanding of key concepts. These are the references used by item writers on the actual exam.
 3. **How to Study for an Exam Infographic:** A visual guide to assist students to optimize their study methods and techniques.
 4. **Practice Exam Questions, Answers and Rationales:** CDR is working with its Exam Panel to add additional exam practice questions.
 5. **How to Apply for Exam Accommodations**
7. Q. Which study resource includes questions which most closely match the actual examination question style?
- A. The free practice questions found on CDR's website: <https://www.cdrnet.org/study> are questions that were once part of the actual examination item pool. These questions will most closely resemble the style of questions on the actual examination.
8. Q. For exam candidates with disabilities, is there accommodations offered?
- A. Yes. Candidates can apply for accommodations through Pearson VUE. Accommodations information can be found on their website: <https://home.pearsonvue.com/Test-takers/Accommodations.aspx>.

Examination Questions

9. Q. Why are candidates not able to go back and review or skip questions and answer later?
- A. The test format for the dietitian and dietetic technician exam is a computer-adaptive examination. On the computer-adaptive examination, candidates must answer each question as presented before going to the next question. Computer adaptive exams do not allow for skipping questions as the exam picks the next question based on the previous response.

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- 10. Q. How does CDR address the fact that standardized testing is a culturally biased process considering diversity goals/needs for the profession?**
- A.** From the inception of its testing program in 1970, CDR has been committed to the inclusion of bias prevention steps in its examination development process. The basis of this process is the use of practice audit data that is practice/job related and representative of cultural diversity in dietetics practice to develop the examination content specifications. In the subsequent examination development step, the process of item writing and review, CDR has consistently included writers and reviewers who represent diverse population subgroups engaged in dietetics practice. This assists in ensuring that under-represented group perspectives are represented in the items.

All volunteer item writers/reviews must view a Bias Sensitivity Training video before each workshop or meeting. This review activity is repeated throughout the examination development process. Annually, all newly written items are reviewed by a Bias Review volunteer group comprised of underrepresented population groups. These volunteers conduct a careful review of all new questions to identify and remove any questions that may be biased.

- 11. Q. How does the test development process ensure that examination questions are current? Are question writers required to provide references for each question?**
- A.** New questions are written every year by trained RD or DTR item writers representing diverse geographic, ethnic and dietetics practice perspectives. The CDR Examination Panel and subject matter experts (SMEs) representing diverse ethnic, geographic and practice perspectives review all new questions for currency, accuracy, and absence of bias before they are pretested. Entire item pools are reviewed on an annual basis when outdated items are archived and new items are introduced. Every item must be referenced by the item writer prior to submission.

Item writers are educators, employers of new practitioners, and new practitioners. Educators can volunteer as exam item writers by signing up through your [myCDR](#) profile on the CDRnet.org website; go to the left purple navigation bar, scroll to the bottom, and select Volunteer Opportunities.

- 12. Q. Does every candidate get a comparable test as far as the percentage of questions coming from each domain being equal to the test specifications?**
- A.** Yes. Every examinee receives a test that adheres to the content specifications described in the *Candidate Handbooks*. However, it is important to note that each examinee also receives unscored pretest questions (twenty for dietitian examinees and thirty for dietetic technician examinees), and each exam candidate receives different pretest questions. These questions are newly written and when presented on the

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candidate's exam may or may not adhere to the content outline. Depending on the needs of CDR examination question pool, the pretest questions may focus on one or two content areas. This may lead examinees to perceive that their examination is heavily weighted in a particular content area.

13. Q. Does the exam begin immediately, or are there practice questions to get the exam candidate used to the format?

A. An examination tutorial is available at the beginning of each examination. The testing appointment is scheduled for a three- and one-half hour period to allow examinees twenty minutes to complete the tutorial before going on to the three-hour examination.

14. Q. Do questions start out at a certain level of ability and then increase in difficulty?

A. No. The examination questions do not increase in difficulty as the examination progresses. Each question has its own level of difficulty. However, when all the questions on an examination are pooled together, the level of difficulty from one examination to another varies slightly and is adjusted through the scaled scoring process.

15. Q. Are there always four answers per question?

A. Yes.

16. Q. Are questions weighted?

A. Yes.

17. Q. Are all the questions numbered?

A. Yes.

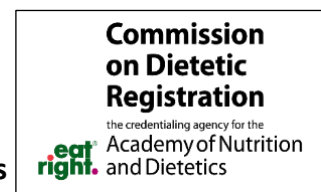
18. Q. Are examinees expected to have any equations/math formulas memorized for the test?

A. No. Other than knowing basic formulas, the examination candidate should not have to remember mathematical formulas.

19. Q. Is the content outline only based on survey respondents?

A. The content outline is based on the results of the entry-level Dietetics Practice Audit (Job Analysis) survey conducted every five years. The last audit was done in 2020. Practitioners from 0-5 years were surveyed. Survey responses demonstrated a change in practice between 3 and 4 years, so only responses from 0–3-year practitioners were considered in developing the content outline. This is in line with previous practice audit findings and existing definitions of entry-level practice.

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20. Q. How often is a job analysis (dietetics practice audit) conducted?

A. A job analysis (dietetics practice audit) is conducted every 5 years. The last practice audit (job analysis) was conducted in 2020. Current test specifications have been effective since January 1, 2022.

21. Q. Why isn't the registration examination based on the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) competency standards?

A. The registration examinations are designed to assess entry-level competence to practice, rather than as educational assessment examination. The registration examinations are based on the results of the dietetics practice audit conducted every five years. These results are then shared with ACEND to help inform the revision of its competency standards. This ensures congruence between the examination and the educational competencies.

While the CDR examination must be careful to test for competence to practice, the educational competencies may include skills and "cutting edge" new information that cannot be assessed on the registration examination, for example counseling skills are difficult to assess on the multiple-choice registration examination.

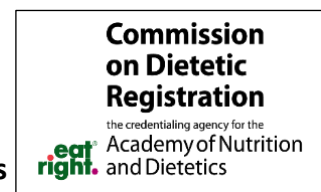
22. Q. Why can't CDR release all examination domain sub-scores? It would help to inform progress or potential need for improvement in a program.

A. It is important to note that program directors do receive a breakdown of their candidates' performance in the different domains with their 6-month reports. If program directors have questions about interpreting their exam reports, they should contact their ACEND program manager or email cdrexams@eatright.org.

While CDR understands the need for program faculty to assess the effectiveness of their educational programs, it is important to note important differences between educational and certification testing. Certification testing methodology focuses its measurement precision on discriminating at the cut score or passing level, with a corresponding lack of measurement precision at the higher and lower levels of performance. In addition, modern computer-based testing models allow pass/fail decisions to be made with many fewer questions than previously needed.

This is helpful in controlling development costs and reducing item exposure, and it reduces the number of questions taken by certification candidates, therefore, reduces the number of questions available to produce valid and reliable sub-scores on an examination. While certification tests are extremely reliable near the pass/fail level of performance, they are necessarily less reliable near the extremes of performance, and therefore particularly unsuited and unreliable for diagnostic or educational testing, or for student ranking purposes.

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The number of questions required to make a reliable pass/fail decision in a broad area of practice (such as on a certification examination) is far fewer than the number required to produce a number of stable, reliable sub-scores. A small number of test questions in a sub-area (say 5 or 10), is very likely to produce spurious, non-reliable results, which is often worse than no information at all, causing students and educators alike to draw incorrect conclusions.

23. Q. Why did CDR add 30 minutes to the RD and DTR exams in 2024?

- A.** The addition of extra time was originally a request made by NDEP program educators of students for whom English as a second language (ESL) and ACEND. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Academy) IDEA Committee – Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Committee, as well as the Academy House of Delegates (HOD) and Council on Future Practice (CFP), also requested for extra time for ESL student candidates and for those with culturally diverse backgrounds to receive extra time for the exam.

CDR makes every effort to encourage inclusion, diversity, equity, and access (IDEA) by striving to recognize, respect and include differences in ability, age, creed, culture, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, size, and socioeconomic characteristics in the nutrition and dietetics profession.

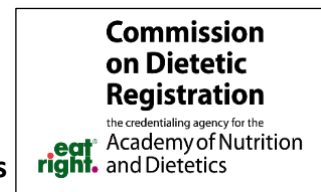
This being said, CDR could not increase the time just for those for whom ESL and for those with culturally diverse backgrounds for two reasons. First, this would not be equitable to other groups who also feel they may also need extra time. Secondly, ESL is not defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as a disability and therefore special accommodations such as additional time could not be provided.

To provide an equitable solution which addressed the concerns regarding extra time, the decision was made to extend the exam by 30 minutes for all candidates. Statistically, there are very few candidates who do not complete the minimum number of questions within the time allocated. In 2022, only 0.3% of exams ended due to the examinee timing out. So, while extra time is not statistically indicated as necessary, the aim was to alleviate the stress candidates may have felt rushing through the examination.

24. Q. Why was the optional Test Bundle Voucher program initiated? Why couldn't CDR just offer a discounted retake without a bundle?

- A.** The Test Bundle Voucher program was started in response to feedback from educators. This optional program provides candidates with a second attempt to pass their RD or DTR exam at a discounted rate, should they have an unsuccessful first attempt. For a total of \$325 (RD) or \$215 (DTR), candidates can purchase both their initial attempt and a voucher valid for a discounted retake. This option can provide the support that some candidates need on the journey to becoming registered and provide the reassurance they need to succeed.

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The Test Bundle Voucher program was modeled after test assurance programs used by other allied health professions. We surveyed these health professions before implementing our program and they confirmed their programs have been received favorably by candidates.

Pearson VUE's system does not make it possible for us to offer the same examination at different price points and therefore, we were not able to simply offer a second or subsequent attempt at a lower price. The optional Test Bundle Voucher program was the best option to provide a discounted second attempt. The CDR Finance Committee and Commission Board reviewed other options to work around this limitation of Pearson VUE's system and could not identify a solution other than the Test Bundle Voucher that was financially viable to provide exam candidates the second attempt at a discount.

25. Q. Why is the entry level exam for dietitians based on 3-year knowledge?

- A.** The ACEND Standards Committee has been developing standards and competencies for "new doctoral standards for education in nutrition and dietetics for the Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RD/RDN) with a minimum of three years full-time post-credentialing work experience or equivalent."

<https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/accreditation-standards-fees-and-policies/advanced-practice-standards-for-doctoral-programs>

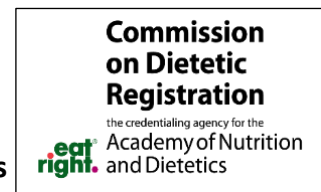
The 2020 Dietetics Practice Audit Task Force endorsed the continued definition of entry-level (EL) practice for both RDs and DTRs as their first 3 years since registration, primarily to preserve comparability with past audits. An analysis of 2020 results, comparing EL RD activity involvement between those in their first 3 years of registration and those in year 4 and 5, showed that involvement levels between the groups differed significantly for 83 of the 176 activities measures - suggesting that the nature of practice changed in a noteworthy way at that point, i.e. at 3 years. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jand.2020.09.027>.

Exam Scoring

26. Q. What is a scaled score?

- A.** CDR uses a scaled score to report examination scores; the scale is 1-50 with 25 always being the passing scaled score. The number of questions the examinee must answer to obtain the scaled passing score of 25 varies. This variation is because each examination includes a different set of questions. Because every examination is different, one may be more difficult or easier than another. To compensate for the differences, the "raw" scores are adjusted on the scale so that the examinee is not penalized because their examination was more difficult or rewarded because their examination was easier. Testing vendor psychometricians know the difficulty of each examination question based on past administrations. The scaled score process is used to report most national standardized examination results such as the college entrance examinations.

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27. **Q. Are examination scores for students who completed a dietetics education program several years ago included on the institutional summary reports provided to program directors?**
- A. CDR includes aggregate examination score information for program graduates who completed the dietetics education program within the last five years.
28. **Q. Explain what it means that the exam is variable in length.**
- A. Up to 20 additional questions can be presented to an examination candidate to clarify their pass or fail status. The computer can terminate the examination at any time between question 125 and 145 (dietitian) or question 110 and 130 (technician) if the examination pass or fail decision can be clearly determined.
29. **Q. What is CDR doing to assist candidates to pass the exam?**
- A. The primary purpose of a registration examination is to discriminate between those examinees who are minimally competent to practice at entry-level and those who are not. The RD exam is developed as a credentialing exam and not as an end-of-preparation-course or summative assessment. CDR is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and follows their best-practices for exam development and score setting.

The CDR content standards are not developed to be aligned with the ACEND Accreditation Standards. Each set of content standards has a specific focus and purpose. As a result, indicators of success on ACEND standards, such as a specific GPA, are not necessarily predictors of success on the RD exam.

In 2023:

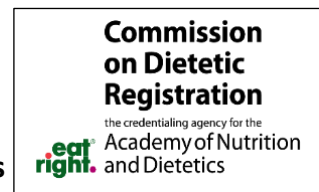
- a. The RD exam pass rate within one-year from first attempt (period ending 2023) was 88.4%.
- b. The DTR exam pass rate within one-year from first attempt (period ending 2023) was 73.4%.

The steps CDR has taken to increase test time and provide for a Test Voucher Bundle program, are just a part of the vast amount of work that CDR has put into exploring exam performance. Psychometric data from our testing vendor confirms that our examination is sound, reliable, valid, and unbiased. This is in keeping with CDR's mission to administer valid, reliable, and rigorous credentialing processes to meet the professional needs of credentialed practitioners and their employers and to protect the public.

30. **Q. What is the average number of attempts it takes for an individual to pass the exam?**

- A. The average number of attempts for individuals passing the exam is about 1.5. 89% of RD candidates with a passing final attempt achieved a passing grade on the first or second attempt.

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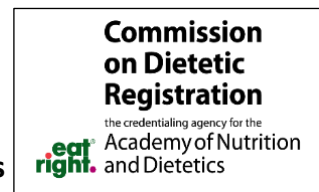


- 31. Q. How does CDR assist the examinee who fails the test in identifying areas in which they need to improve?**
- A.** There are two sub-scores that are available for the examination candidate to review: Food and Nutrition Sciences (dietitian - Domains I and II, dietetic technician – Domain I) and Foodservice Systems/Management (dietitian - Domains III and IV, dietetic technician – Domains II and III). The candidate can also review the Examination Study Outline to reflect on their examination experience and identify the topic areas in which they need further review.
- 32. Q. What suggestion do you have for candidates who have taken the exam several times and failed?**
- A.** Circumstances vary for everyone. Some candidates need to study the material more and become familiar with application versus comprehension question formats, and others may need to learn more about the strategies for taking a multiple-choice examination. It is best to interview each examination candidate to determine his/her issues and discuss possible aids and solutions. Candidates should refer to [CDR's Free Study Resources](#) available on CDR's website.

Examination Reports

- 33. Q. Who should program directors contact when they have problems accessing institutional program reports, or have concerns regarding the accuracy of report data?**
- A.** Program exam reports are compiled by CDR's testing agency, Pearson VUE and are available to be viewed online or the PDF can be downloaded from CDR's Registration Eligibility Processing System (REPS). Program directors can access their program's reports by using their assigned REPS access codes. Reports generated since 2014 can be accessed from this site.
- Questions on interpreting report content should be directed to ACEND; acend@eatright.org.
For concerns regarding the accuracy of reports, please email CDR; cdrexams@eatright.org.
- 34. Q. When are exam reports released?**
- A.** ACEND program directors are emailed about the availability of reports in the Registration Eligibility Processing System (REPS) 45 days after the reporting period ends. On August 15, January-June, six-month reports are available. On February 15th, July-December, six-month ACEND program examination summary reports and the 3-year pass rate reports are made available.

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Dietetic Technician, Registered

35. Q. How many dietetic technicians are currently registered with CDR?

A. As of April 2024, there are 3,615 DTRs.

36. Q. Is CDR discontinuing the DTR credential?

A. No. Although the Council of Future Practice 2012 Visioning Report included a recommendation to discontinue the DTR Credential, during the January 2013 Joint Meeting of the Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (now ACEND), the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR), the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Academy) Board of Directors Education Committee, the Academy House of Delegates' Council on Future Practice (CFP), and the Nutrition & Dietetics Educators and Preceptors DPG (now NDEP), it was decided per the [March 2013 Final Report](#) as follows:

- Consensus Agreement #4: Affirm the Continuation of the Dietetic Technician Registered, "The Academy and its organizational units will support and promote the DTR credential as long as it is relevant and financially viable in the practice environment."

CDR has made the decision to continue to support the credential as long as it's financially feasible to do so.

In 2014, CDR expanded the dietetic technician credential title options to include the Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered (NDTR).

Foreign Language & Test Sites

37. Q. Does CDR offer the exam in Spanish? Is additional time allowed for examinees for which English is a second language?

A. CDR has considered requests to offer its examinations in a second language (the most recent request and CDR research was conducted in 2022). CDR made the decision not to administer the registration examinations in a second language for several reasons:

- Foreign language exams are not standard in U.S. allied health professions.
- Exam candidates complete ACEND academic and supervised practice in English.
- Pearson VUE psychometricians expressed concerns about the comparability of items translated from English to Spanish.
- RDs and RDNs need to chart and communicate with peers and clients in English.
- English as a second language is not defined as a reason for special testing accommodations, such as extended time, under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

38. Q. Can exam candidates take the exam in a foreign country?

A. Yes. The registration examinations can be administered by Pearson VUE at designated international testing centers.

Item Writers

39. Q. How would an individual volunteer as an examination item writer for the registration exams?

A. Individuals who are interested in volunteering as an item writer for the RD or DTR exams, should submit their interest by logging into your [myCDR](#) on the CDR Website and select Volunteer Opportunities at the bottom of the purple left navigation bar.

Graduate Degree Requirement - Registration Eligibility

40. Q. Why was the degree requirement for entry-level registration eligibility elevated to a graduate degree?

A. In 2011, participants in a joint meeting of Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Academy) House of Delegates Council of Future Practice (CFP), Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), Nutrition and Dietetic Educators and Preceptors (NDEP), the Academy Board of Directors Education Committee, and the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) agreed that increasing degree requirements for entry into the profession to a graduate degree—either a master’s degree or practice doctorate—along with developing a new credential for Didactic Programs in Dietetics (DPD) program baccalaureate graduates, would elevate practice at all levels of the profession. This change addresses Recommendation # 1 in the Visioning Report, which provides the following rationales for this recommendation:

- The need to elevate entry-level RD education to a graduate level is consistent with the knowledge, skills, and research base required in the field of nutrition and dietetics and is necessary to protect the public, remain competitive, and increase recognition and respect.
- Almost all other health care professions have increased entry-level educational requirements.
- It has been observed that health care professionals with advanced degrees tend to have higher self-esteem and attain a higher profile within the profession as writers, researchers, and leaders.
- “Healthcare will continue to grow fastest and provide some of the best paying jobs in the nation—but the people in these jobs will increasingly require higher levels of education to enter the field and continuous certification once they are in” (23, pg 15).
- Updated information from the original report: The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicates that many dietitians have advanced education degrees, and that employment of dietitians is expected to increase 11% from 2020 to 2030, faster than the average for all occupations (20).

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- 41. Q. How was the 2024 implementation deadline date decided upon?**
- A. CDR calculated a five-to-six-year window for those entering a Didactic Programs in Dietetics (DPD) program in 2014 to complete the DPD program followed by two years to find and complete a supervised practice program and then two years as a cushion for any unforeseen circumstances that would interfere with submission of the registration eligibility application by January 1, 2024.
- 42. Q. Did the registration examination content change with the graduate degree requirement?**
- A. Since the content of the entry-level registration examination is based on the results of a job analysis, not on the degree content or level, the graduate degree requirement will not impact examination content until there is a change in practice.
- 43. Q. Will current RDs who do not have a graduate degree have to obtain a graduate degree by this deadline date?**
- A. No. The graduate degree requirement only applies to initial applicants for registration eligibility.
- 44. Q. Will former registered dietitians*, who do not have a graduate degree, have to obtain a graduate degree if they are applying to reinstate registered status?**
- A. No. Individuals who were credentialed as RDs and lost their credentials are still exam eligible and therefore can apply for exam reauthorization without meeting any additional academic, didactic, or supervised practice requirements.
- *Former RDs are those individuals who were registered prior to January 1, 2024 and lost their registered status by voluntarily terminating their status, by not paying annual maintenance fees, or not completing Professional Development Portfolio (PDP) recertification requirements.
- 45. Q. Will individuals who established eligibility with a bachelor's degree prior to January 1, 2024, but did not pass the registration examination, have to meet the graduate degree requirement?**
- A. No. Provided registration eligibility was established prior to January 1, 2024, a graduate degree is not required.

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- 46. Q. Did the DTR eligibility degree requirement change to a bachelor's degree?**
- A.** No. CDR did not change the degree requirement for eligibility to take the registration examination for dietetic technicians to a bachelor's degree.
- 47. Q. Does the graduate degree requirement effect any other didactic or supervised practice eligibility requirements?**
- A.** No. DPD and supervised practice requirements (CP, DI, GP or ISPP), remain the same. The only change is the degree level moving from minimum of a bachelor's degree to a minimum of a graduate degree. The foreign degree equivalency requirement also remains in effect.
- 48. Q. Does the graduate degree need to be in any specific major to qualify an individual for registration eligibility?**
- A.** No. Just as the bachelor's degree requirement could be met in any area, a graduate degree may also be, provided it is granted by a university accredited by a USDE recognized accrediting agency, or foreign equivalent.
- 49. Does the graduate degree have to be completed after the supervised practice program?**
- A.** No. A graduate degree may be completed at any time prior to applying for registration eligibility.