

Executive Summary

RETIREMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Executive Summary
- History
- Analysis and Benchmarking
- Conclusion



• EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Working in the field of nutrition and dietetics gives credentialed nutrition and dietetics practitioners a sense of professional identity and purpose. For this reason, the consideration of retirement can be a daunting life change. However, to ensure the accurate use of the credential and to align with the Commission on Dietetic Registration's (CDR) mission to protect the public, CDR **does not** offer a retired status for the credential.

www.cdrnet.org

• HISTORY

CDR established the retired registered designation in June 2003. After much confusion from practitioners and the public, CDR made the decision in 2004 to discontinue the Retired Registration status effective June 1, 2005. In order to protect the public and ensure individuals are competent, credentialed nutrition and dietetics practitioners must maintain the credential and any applicable state licensure until the RD or DTR is no longer practicing.

• ANALYSIS AND BENCHMARKING

Of the 112,307 RDs in our query, 102,018 (91%) are 65 and under, 10,289 (9%) are 66 and over. The full retirement age (FRA) for Social Security benefits in the United States depends on your year of birth:

- 1960 or later: 67
- 1955-1959: 66 and 2, 4, 6, 8, or 10 months
- 1943-1954: 66

Similar results were found for the DTR credential.

CDR also benchmarked other healthcare associations' use of a retired status for their credential(s). For organizations that offered such a status, they required individuals to contractually declare they have no plans to practice, including volunteering. Note terminal education degrees (eg, MD, PharmD, DPT, DDS) are not practice credentials, therefore there is no option for a retired status.

• CONCLUSION

CDR **does not** have a retired status. Practitioners who wish to remain active in the profession must maintain their credential(s) by completing the Professional Development Portfolio (PDP) recertification requirements and paying the annual registration maintenance fee to be listed in CDR's [online verification system](#). Practitioners may relinquish their credential(s) if they no longer wish to practice. To voluntarily discontinue registration status, email cdre@eatright.org.

