

COLLEGE

Briefings

December 2020 Edition

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College Office

The College of Dietitians of Alberta (CDA) continues to operate a virtual office with the ability to take appointments at the physical office as necessary.

- The College is accessible by phone or email each weekday (Monday-Friday) from 9:00am to 4:00pm. If we are unable to assist you when you call the main office number 780-448-0059, please leave a message or send an email. We will address all questions or requests as soon as we can.
- The College office location in downtown Edmonton is open **by appointment only** on Tuesdays and Thursdays, until further notice.
- Please contact Lisa Omerzu to discuss options for mail/delivery.

For General Inquiries & Registration Questions, please contact Lisa Omerzu, Executive Assistant & Registration Coordinator at execasst@collegeofdietitians.ab.ca

For Practice Questions & Continuing Competence Questions, please contact Shannon Mackenzie, Director of Professional Practice at ppc@collegeofdietitians.ab.ca

For Complaints & Concerns, please contact Doug Cook, Executive Director & Registrar at registrar@collegeofdietitians.ab.ca

Holiday Hours: The College office will be closed from December 24, 2020 to January 3, 2021. The College office will re-open Monday, January 4, 2021.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES for Learning Module Requirements

December 31, 2020: Mandatory Training under Bill 21: An Act to Protect Patients

All regulated members must complete the online training program “Protecting Patients from Sexual Abuse and Misconduct” by **December 31, 2020**. A reminder email was sent December 1st to regulated members who have not cleared the mandatory requirement with the College office. The College must receive the Certificate of Completion in order to clear the requirement from your College record. Please email the certificate to Lisa Omerzu at execasst@collegeofdietitians.ab.ca

Further information on the training program is available on the College website under [For Dietitians – Bill 21 Mandatory Training](#).

If you have any questions regarding Bill 21, please contact Doug Cook, Registrar & Executive Director by email registrar@collegeofdietitians.ab.ca. If you have any questions regarding the online training program, please contact Lisa Omerzu, Executive Assistant & Registration Coordinator by phone at 780-448-0059 or by email execasst@collegeofdietitians.ab.ca

March 2021: Jurisprudence Learning Module

Prior to Registration Renewal in March 2021, regulated members should confirm whether the Jurisprudence Learning Module will be a requirement for continued registration. All regulated members are required to complete the module every 5 years therefore, you can determine when you will be required to complete the learning module by adding 5 years to the date of your last Jurisprudence record (found under My Exams).

For regulated members who are required to complete the Jurisprudence Learning Module, when you login to the registrant database (<https://cdav6.alinityapp.com>) on the Home Page under My Exams, you should see a Jurisprudence Learning Module exam with “Available” beside it. It is the responsibility of each regulated member to ensure that you are completing the requirement when available; you will not receive an individual notification for completion. If you do not see an available exam record, you may not be required to complete the learning module at this time.

Further information on the Jurisprudence Learning Module can be found on the College website under the [For Dietitians section](#).

Continuing Competence Program (CCP) Update 2020/2021

To maintain registration with the College, Registered Dietitians and Registered Nutritionists must participate in the mandatory Continuing Competence Program (CCP) of the College. Since March 2020 many things have changed, including some regulated members’ jobs and/or roles. Remember that CCP is tied to registration renewal and is required - regardless of job title or role - to maintain registration.

In December, you should be finalizing your learning goals and activities and considering the impact your learning and achievement of your goals has had on your practice. You still have until the end of February to complete the last of your activities to wrap up your learning, and to apply what you have learned to your practice.

The College has received calls about updating or changing goals and taking on new learning activities based on changed roles over the past 9 months. Even though your role may have changed, and you may not be practicing in a dietitian role at the moment, the *Standards of Practice* still apply to you.

Remember that the *Standards of Practice* are not dietetics-practice area-specific; new roles, new goals and new learning can still fit within the *Standards* to enhance your skills as a regulated health professional.

It is especially important that you check back in with the original goals set to see if they are still meeting your needs and/or if you should re-evaluate and adjust.

Modifying learning goals part way through the CCP year is a completely acceptable part of the learning process, particularly when circumstances have changed. The College understands this. Remember that if you set learning goals in March that you have already achieved, you may consider completing the CCP workbook now, including drafting your reflection, if you feel you have met your goal. This gives you the chance to finish up early and be ready for renewal.

If your goals have changed as a result of job or task changes, please re-review the self-assessment and make an adjustment as necessary to the indicator(s) online. If you have undertaken learning activities that you didn't expect you would, but you feel your learning is complete, again you may be able to reflect on the achievement of the new learning goal.

If your learning is still ongoing, this is also acceptable. Take a moment to document the learning activities you have undertaken to this point, ensure you have the verification to support the learning in the case of an audit, and determine what else you still need to learn or work on to complete your revised goal.

You can access your online CCP by clicking on [Login for Regulated Members](#) and going to My Learning. Resources and Information for the College's CCP can be found on the College website under [For Dietitians – Registration Renewal – Continuing Competence Program](#).

If you have any questions about CCP, please do not hesitate to contact Shannon Mackenzie, Director of Professional Practice by email at ppc@collegeofdietitians.ab.ca or by phone at 403-669-7435.

Ministerial Order: Nasopharyngeal Swabs

On October 29, 2020, Health Minister Tyler Shandro signed a Ministerial Order that enables regulated members of the dietetic profession (subject to conditions) along with Pharmacists, Dental Hygienists and Assistants, to administer nasopharyngeal swabs for the purpose of COVID testing. The College has posted important information and the Ministerial Order on the College website (<https://collegeofdietitians.ab.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/CDA-Memo-Ministerial-Order-regarding-nasopharyngeal-swabs.pdf>).

The College Council has approved regulated members to administer nasopharyngeal swabs for the purpose of COVID testing, as long as training and competence has been met. At this time the College asks RDs to be aware of this Order, but not to act on it until further information on implementation is made available.

If you have any questions regarding the Ministerial Order, please contact Shannon Mackenzie, Director of Professional Practice by email at ppc@collegeofdietitians.ab.ca or by phone at 403-669-7435.

Virtual Practice

Virtual practice has become more and more common as we have gotten further into the throws of COVID-19. Given the recent Alberta Health announcement once again encouraging work from home when able, the emphasis on virtual practice remains appropriate for client care.

Continue to be aware of consults coming in from other provinces, and connecting with regulators in those provinces to determine their requirements for practice.

The College has received many questions on this topic. Sometimes the rules about registration and who can work with which patients/clients and where are not clear cut.

As found on the College website under [For Regulated Members – Regulated Member Resources](#), the College is in the process of updating the “Virtual, electronic communications during the Pandemic” guideline to reflect some of the topics arising; the Alliance of Dietetic Regulators is also updating the “Cross Border Dietetic Practice in Canada” resource. We will share these updates with regulated members as soon as they are complete.

Partnership for Dietetic Education and Practice (PDEP) Update

Revised *Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice*

The Partnership for Dietetic Education and Practice is pleased to release revised *Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice* (ICDEP) to guide education, continuous quality improvement and registration related to dietetics in Canada. Please see the official release attached [in English](#) and [in French](#).

A copy of the *Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice* (v3, 2020) is available on the College website under [About Us – Regulatory Documents](#).

PDEP Member Communique (November 2020)

The Partnership for Dietetic Education and Practice (PDEP) is an unincorporated collaborative inter-organizational network bringing education, regulatory and professional association sectors together to work on priority issues at the intersection of their roles. PDEP provided a communique in November 2020, to be shared with the College’s network. The full communique can be viewed by clicking on the following link:

<https://mailchi.mp/07aa2b8c38ef/pdep-member-communique-communique-aux-membres-2020-november?e=839f65b981>

Reconciliation Action Plan Committee

The Council of the College of Dietitians of Alberta would like to inform regulated members they are focusing on reconciliation efforts as part of the College’s strategic direction. Council formed the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Committee who will be developing an action plan

for reconciliation that will inform our overall strategic planning. We encourage regulated members to watch for resources and other reconciliation initiatives.

If you are an Indigenous RD or have experience working in an Indigenous environment and would like to contribute to or work with the RAP Committee on future reconciliation initiatives, we would like to hear from you. You can contact the office at office@collegeofdietitians.ab.ca

New Resources for Regulated Members

The College has posted new resources on the College website which include:

- Guidelines for Prescribing and Recommending in Dietetic Practice
- Guidelines for Recommending Vitamin D Supplementation and Dietetic Practice
- Social Media Practice Guidelines (updated)
- Insulin Dose Adjustment Position Statement

The College encourages regulated members to access these resources on the College website under [For Regulated Members – Regulated Member Resources](#).

If you have any practice questions, please contact Shannon Mackenzie, Director of Professional Practice at ppc@collegeofdietitians.ab.ca or directly by phone at 403-669-7435.

November 2020 Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination (CDRE) Follow-up

For all Temporary regulated members who recently wrote the recent sitting of the Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination (CDRE), the College anticipates receiving the results from the November 23-24, 2020 CDRE in early January 2021.

As you await the results from the CDRE, candidates should:

- Ensure that your contact information is current by accessing the [Login for Regulated Members](#) and reviewing your Profile.
- If you convoked after receiving registration on the Temporary Register, the College office will require a set of official transcripts showing the degree received. Please request a set of official transcripts be mailed to the College office.
- As a Temporary Registrant, you must continue to maintain regular contact with your Temporary Supervisor.

If you have any questions regarding the CDRE or registration with the College, please contact Lisa Omerzu, Executive Assistant & Registration Coordinator at the [College office](#).

Opportunities for Dietitians

The College posts events and opportunities on the website, under [News & Events](#). Please check back often for new postings and any updates.

- Opportunities for Dietitians: CDRE Manager Part Time/Contractual position

- Requests for Feedback from Dietitians: Statistics Canada’s questionnaire on the *Impacts of COVID-19 on Health Care Workers: Infection Prevention and Control*, University of Alberta’s *Gluten Free Food Guide Survey: Health Care Professionals*

Ensuring your Profile is Current

The College reminds all Dietitians that as regulated professionals, you have a duty to update your profile within 30 days of any change in the information required for the College’s Register. This includes changes to your legal name, contact information (phone and email), mailing address, and employment information. You may update your profile information online by logging onto the [Login for Regulated Members](#) to complete a Profile Update.

If any information found on the [Public Register](#) is inaccurate or incomplete, please [contact the College office](#) to request a correction.

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**COLLEGE OF DIETITIANS
OF ALBERTA**

The College of Dietitians of Alberta office is located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.