



## Creating Learning Goals

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**Q. Why are SMART learning goals a requirement of the CCP?**

**A.** Setting SMART goals allow Dietitians to self-reflect and engage in intentional learning to meet self-identified learning needs. They help the Dietitian to focus on specific learning which will enable a Dietitian to achieve the goal within the CCP year.

**Q. What is the difference between a work goal or job task and a learning goal?**

**A.** Work goals or job tasks focus on carrying out specific tasks related to your job performance, while learning goals focus on increasing knowledge and competence. Work-related learning goals may be used in the CCP if there is new learning with an impact on professional competence. When using work-related learning goals, ensure they are different from job tasks. Job tasks do not necessarily lead to new learning. A work-related learning goal should focus on enhancing knowledge, skill or attitudes that underpin competence.

**Example 1**

**Job Task:** Between April 2018 and March 2019, I am going to take a Dietetic Intern.

**SMART Learning Goal:** Between April 2018 and March 2019, I am going to increase my knowledge and skills in the area of preceptorship by completing a Preceptor eLearning Course in order to effectively mentor a Dietetic Intern.

**Example 2**

**Job Task:** Between April 2018 and March 2019, I am going to create a new dining standard in a long-term care setting.

**SMART Learning Goal:** Between April 2018 and March 2019, I am going to increase my knowledge of best practices in dining standards to a long-term care setting by reviewing the national standards and reviewing recent research in this area. This will allow me to create a new dining standard in the nursing home that I am working in.

**Q. How many learning activities should I complete for each goal?**

**A.** There is no mandatory minimum of learning activities required. However, the learning activities must be sufficient to increase your understanding and lead to a meaningful learning outcome. During audit, the Quality Assurance Committee reviews the quality and credibility of the learning activities and the self-reflection should clearly identify the learning outcome of the member.

*Source: Nova Scotia Dietetic Association*