



PDEP - PFPN

Partnership for Dietetic Education and Practice
Partenariat pour la formation et la pratique en nutrition

August 14, 2020

To: Council/Board Members of provincial dietetic regulatory bodies of the Alliance of Canadian Dietetic Regulatory Bodies (Alliance)

From: Partnership for Dietetic Education and Practice (PDEP) Steering Committee

Re: Revised Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice

The PDEP Steering Committee (SC) is pleased to announce the revision of the Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice (ICDEP) has been completed by the ICDEP Working Group (WG), led by Dr. David Cane of Catalysis Consulting who was involved with the initial development of the ICDEP in 2009. Please consult the versions of the updated ICDEP: English version ([here](#)) and French version ([here](#)), last revised on August 4, 2020. The ICDEP serve two main purposes: they define the minimum set of practice abilities that dietitians are expected to possess at entry-to-practice and they delineate the manner in which these competencies will be assessed prior to full registration.

The SC understands that each provincial dietetic regulatory body holds legislative responsibility and authority of establishing conditions and requirements for registration which includes the approval of the competency standards for entry-to-practice. The SC seeks the official approval of the ICDEP v3.0 from each provincial dietetic regulatory body as part of the implementation process of this revised version. The previous version of the ICDEP was approved by each individual provincial regulatory body in the fall of 2013.

During the past three years, PDEP invested approximately \$190,000 towards this project and undertook a robust process for the update of ICDEP v2.0:

- **October – November 2016:** Consultant undertook discussions with stakeholder representatives (survey and online meetings with over 70 individuals representing the dietetic program Accreditation Council and surveyors, the Canadian Alliance of Dietetic Regulatory Bodies (Alliance), the Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination (CDRE) Committee, the education programs, including francophone educators) to obtain input on the effectiveness of the then-current ICDEP (v2.0, April 2013) as the standard for dietetic

education and practice, and to hear suggestions as to the extent of update required for the project.

- **July 2017:** ICDEP WG started project.
- **February – March 2018:** Draft revised ICDEP Practice Competencies (PCs) circulated to dietitians in all provinces. Stakeholder consultation was conducted by surveys in English and French with **1542 responses**.
- **June 5, 2018:** Half-day consultation and update about the status of proposed changes to the PCs following the survey results by the ICDEP WG with stakeholders at the PDEP Annual Meeting of Members in Vancouver.
- **June 5, 2018:** ICDEP WG meeting with the Alliance to provide feedback and address their comments and concerns.
- **Between June 2018 and 2019:** Discussions and feedback from stakeholders were taken into consideration by the ICDEP WG and PCs were further refined.
- **June 4, 2019:** Half-day consultation to review the further revised PCs and the revised statement of entry level practice and Performance Indicators (PIs) by the ICDEP WG with stakeholders (including the regulatory bodies) at the PDEP Annual Meeting of Members in Ottawa.
- **September 2019:** Consultation by the ICDEP WG with the Canadian Association of Professional Programs in Human Nutrition (CAPPHN).
- **October – November 2019:** National survey-based stakeholder consultation in English and French of revised PIs. Revisions were made to the Domain Structure, PCs and PIs. The online survey generated over **900 specific comments and suggestions**, resulting in additional revisions to the PCs and PIs and a completed Interpretation Guide.
- **April 2020:** CDRE Development Committee identified PIs that the CDRE could test. In 2021, the exam blueprint will be revised to reflect ICDEP v3.0.
- **July 21, 2020:** Presentation by the ICDEP WG of the final ICDEP v3.0 [sent to PDEP membership on July 7, 2020 (English version) and July 20, 2020 (French version)].

For your further understanding of the development process and updates of ICDEP V3.0, we invite you to view the July 21, 2020 presentation by the ICDEP WG. The recording of this presentation can be viewed [here](#).

The significant points of refinement and clarification that distinguish ICDEP v3.0 from v2.0 are as follows:

- A restructuring and increase in the Domains of Competence (formerly called 'areas of practice') which form the structural framework for the PCs and PIs. Domains are increased from 5 in number containing 30 PCs (v2.0), to 7 in number containing 50 PCs (v3.0). This

provides a more balanced picture of the abilities and expertise that dietitians bring to the workplace, creating a more meaningful stand-alone listing of PCs.

- Addition of a Food and Nutrition Expertise domain providing an outcome-based summary of the Foundational Knowledge Specifications listed in ICDEP v2.0.
- A shift in the deliverable requirements for dietetic education programs to 100% measurable candidate learning outcomes (PIs) and away from a partial listing of curriculum topics.
- Removal of redundant and repetitive PIs in v2.0.
- A decrease in the total number of deliverables expected within education programs from 441 items (PIs & Foundational Knowledge specifications in v2.0) to 210 items (PIs in v3.0).
- Addition of new content through 7 new PCs, to ensure currency:
 - 2.01 Practice within the context of Canadian diversity
 - 2.03 Practice in a manner that promotes cultural safety
 - 2.07 Use risk management approaches
 - 3.04 Use effective electronic communication skills
 - 4.04 Undertake knowledge translation
 - 4.07 Foster development of food literacy in others
 - 4.08 Foster development of food skills in others
- Clarification of the nature of PI assessment expected (through specifying 'Knows/Knows How/Shows How/Does assessment using an adapted Miller's Pyramid model) rather than simply noting the program components in which assessment is required.
- Addition of more thorough interpretive material including a Glossary of terminology with definitions and references.
- New French translation and thorough verification of French terminology throughout.

We hope to receive approval from the provincial Council/Boards by October 31, 2020 to move forward in the implementation process of accredited dietetic programs and the Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination. Your College/Association's Registrar is available to you, should you have immediate questions, and can forward questions to the SC Regulatory Representatives [Joanie Bouchard (College of Dietitians of British Columbia), Nicole Arsenault Bishop (New Brunswick Association of Dietitians), and Melisse Willems (College of Dietitians of Ontario)].

Sincerely,

The PDEP Steering Committee