

COLLEGE

Briefings

Spring 2024 Edition

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Registration Renewal 2024/2025 Complete

As we enter a new registration year, the College of Dietitians of Alberta (the College) had 1,351 regulated members renew their registration on the General Register. The College also had 4 regulated members on the Temporary Register for a total of 1,355 regulated members as of April 1, 2024.

Practice permits and official tax receipts are available on the [Registrant Portal](#) under “Download Registration”. The College archives previous year’s permits and receipts.

- Regulated members are required under the *Health Professions Act* to have their practice permit available when requested by employers and the public. Employers and the public can also verify registration by accessing the Public Register of the College at <https://cda.alinityapp.com/Client/PublicDirectory>
- Official tax receipts include the breakdown of practice permit fees to include GST paid.

The College received renewal feedback from only a handful of regulated members. The College continues to have resources available in several formats for regulated members to refer to when completing any process throughout the year. [For Dietitians – Registration Renewal – Important Resources for Renewal and CCP.](#)

A **NEW RESOURCE** is a “Guide to the Registrant Portal” video (<https://youtu.be/aw2w03gcNzg>) which gives you a brief tour of the College’s Registrant Portal. We encourage all regulated members, new and long-time, to check out the video as a refresher for the Registrant Portal.

Scope of Practice Survey Update

The College supports Dietitians working to their full level of competence. To this end, the College conducted a member survey earlier in the year with the purpose of determining: 1. if there are areas of practice/tasks that dietitians are performing or being asked to perform that traditionally may not be considered “within scope of practice”; and 2. to determine if those activities require amendments to our regulations.

The College thanks all registrants who provided their input and feedback. The College Council will review the information obtained from the survey which will inform a regulation amendment request to government that would impact dietitian practice in Alberta. We will keep members informed as this process moves forward.

The following is a summary of the most relevant survey findings:

- 254 members (17.5% of membership) responded to the survey. Of those who responded, 168 (68%) identified their area of practice as patient/client care (clinical, long-term care, primary care, etc.).
- 25% (64) of respondents reported they perform restricted activities.
- 21% (50) of respondents identified the following restricted activities most often (top 4) as one’s dietitians should be performing (adding to scope of practice, above and beyond the College’s current restricted activity list):
 - Ordering labs
 - Ordering/prescribing vitamins and minerals, IVs or other meds, and nutrition supplements, etc.
 - Prescribing insulin or anti-hyperglycemic agents
 - Inserting CGMs, insulin pump sets, etc.
- 78% (195) of respondents feel the definition of medical nutrition therapy is adequate; 90% (222) feel the definition of nutrition support is adequate.
- 55% (137) of respondents indicated that medication management is integral to the nutrition care of clients, identifying the following medication categories of greatest relevance (top 3):
 - Anti-hyperglycemic agents, insulin
 - Vitamins and minerals
 - GI meds including pancreatic enzymes, anti-emetics, prokinetics and bowel routine

If you have any questions regarding the Scope of Practice survey or regulation amendments, please contact the [College office](#).

Reconciliation *Standard of Practice* Update

The Reconciliation Working Group of the College has completed their draft Reconciliation *Standard of Practice*. The standard has gone through member consultation as well as with external stakeholders. Currently, the standard is with government for final consultation. Once consultation is complete, the standard will come back to Council for review of feedback. As we await government’s final consultation, the Working Group will begin discussing appropriate resources for members in relation to the standard. [About Us - Reconciliation](#)

Social Media and Conflict of Interest Follow-up

Some of you may be following the media coverage around anti-diet messaging, dietitians, and conflicts of interest, as posted in the Washington Post several months ago, and on CBC's The Current earlier this week.

To manage conflicts of interest, and other ethical dilemmas, the College continues to encourage dietitians to review the resources available on our website under [Regulated Member Resources](#), Practice Statements and Guidelines, as well as the *Standards of Practice* and *Code of Ethics* (available under [Regulatory Documents](#)).

For example, as stated in the *Standards of Practice*, Standard 7. Conflict of Interest:

Registered Dietitians will avoid real or perceived conflicts of interest in which professional integrity, professional independence or the provision of professional services could be compromised. Conflicts of interest which cannot be avoided must be disclosed and managed.

The College encourages dietitians to review these resources and contact the [College office](#) when questions or concerns arise.

Continuing Competence Program (CCP) Audit Process

Continuing Competence Program (CCP) submissions were completed in March by all regulated members for 2023/2024. The CCP audit process has begun in April 2024.

- For any regulated members selected for **Review Audit**, you will see this selection noted in the [Registrant Portal](#) under "My Audits". Please note, no action is required from you unless you are contacted by the College.
- For any regulated members selected for **Document Audit**, in addition to having a record noted in your "My Audits" section online, you will also receive an email by the end of April requesting the required documentation. The College will communicate by email when requesting audit documentation.

Further information on the Continuing Competence Program, including information to assist you in completing the program requirements throughout the year, can be found on the College website under the [For Dietitians section](#).

Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination (CDRE)

For all Temporary regulated members who are scheduled to complete the **May 16-17, 2024** sitting of the Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination (CDRE), the College anticipates receiving the results by late June.

Please ensure your profile with the College remains current to ensure you receive up-to-date information from the College office.

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Technology Requirements and Support

Candidates for the CDRE should ensure they have reviewed Meazure's technology requirements and should test their technology's ability to connect with the online remote proctor system. Candidates are required to ensure all technical requirements are in place and operational for the exam. Emails from Meazure include important information about the examination. Please read correspondence from Meazure carefully, including the section dealing with frequently asked questions: <https://cdre.ysasecure.com/faq>

Live Q&A Session

The Alliance of Canadian Dietetic Regulatory Bodies (the Alliance) will be hosting a Live Question & Answer session for the May 2024 sitting of the CDRE. This will be an opportunity to ask questions about the CDRE at a virtual Q&A Session. The session in English will be **May 1, 2024 (1 p.m. MT)**. Once registered, a link to a Teams meeting will be emailed to you. Eligible candidates will receive an email from the College office with the link to register for the session.

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

External Survey "ACH Pediatric Project ECHO"

The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Centre developed Project ECHO, a model aimed at training community-based and allied healthcare providers in assessing and treating various medical conditions. This model utilizes video conferencing technology to connect community providers ("spokes") with an interdisciplinary panel of experts ("hub"). ECHO clinics serve as virtual learning sessions focused on case-based learning and the dissemination of evidence-based practices.

In a bid to improve access to care for children with medical complexities, including children with global neurodevelopmental disorders, the Alberta Children's Hospital is initiating a Pediatric Project ECHO. This project aims to empower community healthcare providers to address disparities in care by offering consistent, timely, accessible, and culturally responsive services to children and families within their communities. To enhance support provided by the hospital to community healthcare providers, it's crucial to understand the perceived barriers and supports required in managing the care of children with medical complexities in Alberta.

Please note: This survey is for ALL types of healthcare providers, please feel free to distribute across your clinics.

<https://redcap.albertahealthservices.ca/surveys/?s=D7JMWCD8883JPA89>

Contacting the College Office

The College office hours are Monday-Friday from 9:00am to 4:00pm. College staff are available by phone or email during regular business hours. If we are unable to assist you when you call the office, please leave a message, or send an email. We will address all questions or requests as soon as possible.

The College office is open by appointment only. Please call the College office at 780-448-0059 to schedule an appointment. The College may have limitations in place for the health and safety of any visitors and the College staff.

Doug Cook, Registrar & Executive Director (*he/him*)

Lisa Omerzu, Executive Assistant & Registration Coordinator (*she/her*)

Shannon Eklund, Director of Professional Practice (*she/her*)

College's Registrant Portal

Resources for Regulated Members

The College has a variety of resources available for regulated members to refer to when using the Registrant Portal, including a Guide for Using the Registrant Portal, Demo Videos for the Registrant Portal, Help sections throughout the Online Forms, and the Continuing Competence Program (CCP) Manual. The resources can be found under [For Dietitians – Regulated Member Resources, Registrant Portal Resources](#).

Ensuring Your Profile is Current

All Dietitians, as regulated professionals, have a duty to ensure their profile information with the College is updated 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 should update your profile information online by logging onto the [Registrant Portal](#) to complete a Profile Update.

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

Two-Factor-Authentication Security

Two-Factor-Authentication is well established as an essential component of security best practices. The College of Dietitians of Alberta is committed to protecting the privacy and security of your personal information. The College's [Registrant Portal](#) requires Two-Factor-Authentication for each user. For information on this process and how to complete the steps to validate your browser, please refer to the **Guide for Using the Registrant Portal** found online under [Regulated Member Resources](#).

Ensuring you Receive CDA Emails

To ensure you receive all important communications from the College office in a timely manner, please add **CDA Administration (office@collegeofdietitians.ab.ca)** to your safe sender list or address book.

Adding our sending domain (collegeofdietitians.ab.ca) to your list of accepted email senders (often referred to as a "whitelist", "safe list", or "list of privileged senders") will ensure that you receive College communications from all College email addresses.

Failure to receive emails from the College does not excuse missed deadlines or requirements for maintaining your registration.

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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.