

Requirements and Process to Become a Registered Dietitian/Registered Dietitian Nutritionist

The Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) defines Registered Dietitians/Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RD/RDN) as food and nutrition experts who have met CDR's criteria to earn the RD/RDN credential. RD/RDNs work in a wide variety of employment settings, including health care, business and industry, community/public health, education, research, government agencies and private practice.

“What do I need to do to become a Registered Dietitian?”

There are five basic requirements to become a Registered Dietitian:

- 1. Completion of the required coursework in General Education including: Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Social Science, Statistics, Anatomy, Physiology, Pharmacology and Genetics.*
- 2. Completion of didactic coursework in nutrition and dietetics including: research methodology, principles and techniques of patient care and education, principles of Medical Nutrition Therapy and the Nutrition Care Process, role of environment and food and lifestyle choices in health promotion and disease prevention, management theories and business principles, continuous quality management of food and nutrition services, fundamentals of public policy in dietetic practice.*
- 3. Completion of a minimum of 1000 clock hours of supervised professional practice.*
- 4. Completion of all of the requirements to earn the Verification Statement from an ACEND-accredited program.*
- 5. Pass the Registration Examination for Dietitians.”*

Additional information about eligibility requirements, career information, RDN Frequently Asked Questions, and current Registration statistics can be found at

<https://www.cdrnet.org/certifications/registered-dietitian-rd-certification>