



## KENTUCKY BOARD OF LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION FOR DIETITIANS & NUTRITIONISTS

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### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q: I'm trying to find a copy of Kentucky's regulations regarding dietitian scope of practice. I'm looking for something that generally states what we can do under our licensure (such as order taking privileges). Where can I find this?**

A: Dietitians are subject to the standards of professional responsibility and practice adopted by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND). Scope of Practice and Standards of Practice are set forth there. We also refer individuals to any pertinent CMS regulations if you work in a health care facility, regulatory agencies accrediting their facilities, and policies and procedures of the facility.

**Q: I am working on gaining order writing privileges for dietitians in our hospital. I need to know how the Kentucky statutes address order writing privileges for dietitians.**

A: This is not specifically addressed by the Kentucky Board's laws. We refer individuals to CMS regulations, Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND) Scope of Practice, and review applicable hospital regulations.

**Q: I am a certified personal trainer. I am inquiring to find out if a nutrition certification is required in the state of Kentucky to assist my clients with meal planning, as in some states this is not required.**

A: Under KRS 310.070(1), it is unlawful to engage in the practice of dietetics or nutrition, to act or represent oneself as a dietitian or nutritionists, or to use such titles as dietitian, nutritionists, or licensed dietitian or certified nutritionists, unless the individual holds a license or certification by the Board. There is an exception under 310.070(3) which states that KRS 310 shall not apply to a person who owns a health food store or who manufactures, distributes, or sells health foods, dietary supplements, or vitamins nor shall the provisions of this chapter be construed to affect any other person who provides nutritional or dietary advice or sells nutritional or dietary supplements if the person does not use the title dietitian, licensed dietitian or, certified nutritionist. For the complete laws and regulations, please visit our website, <http://bdn.ky.gov>.

**Q: To become a Licensed Dietitian - What universities in Kentucky can I attend that currently have an accredited dietetics program?**

A: There are only three (3) accredited universities in Kentucky that allow you to become a Registered/Licensed Dietitian – University of Kentucky, Murray State, and Western Kentucky University.

**Q: To become a Certified Nutritionist - What coursework must I have completed in order to apply for the CN credential?**

A: Our regulations state that you must be RD eligible. To be RD eligible you must have completed didactic coursework from a program accredited by ACEND (Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics). This program is usually attached to a BS degree in Dietetics that would end with a DPD verification statement (Didactic Program in Dietetics).

**Q: How do I apply for my Kentucky Dietitian/Nutritionist license?**

A: Go to the website <http://bdn.ky.gov>, click on Forms and Documents, and download the Application Form for Licensure. Fill it out completely and provide all the required documentation.

- Dietitians/Dual Dietitian and Nutritionist – Attach a current copy of your CDR card. You may also submit the letter stating you passed the exam if you do not have your card yet. No transcripts are needed for this option.
- Nutritionists – Attach a certified copy of your official transcripts (master’s degree or higher). The laws and regulations relating to licensure as a dietitian and certification of a nutritionist that apply are KAR 310.021 and 310.031
- If you hold (or have held) a license in another state or jurisdiction, you must have that board send an official license verification directly to Kentucky before the application can be reviewed. Contact those state boards directly to see if there is a fee. You may use page three of the application to send to those boards.

Send in the application, documents, and the application fee for board approval. The check must be made payable to KENTUCKY STATE TREASURER. Applications are reviewed once per month. If your application for licensure is approved, you will be assigned a license number and notified via email/mail. If it is deferred, you will receive a notification explaining what you need to do to resubmit.