

NEWS for the Licensed Dietitian



A newsletter published by the Oregon Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Special points of interest:

- ▶ *On the Pulse*
- ▶ *Licensure Update*
- ▶ *Q & A About Licensure*
- ▶ *A Little History.....*

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Ann Aalund, Exec. Officer
Bd. Of Ex. For Licensed Dietitians
800 NE Oregon St, Suite 407
Portland, OR 97232-2162
(503) 731-4085
FAX: (503) 731-4207
[Http://www.bld.state.or.us](http://www.bld.state.or.us)

Welcome to the August 2000 *Licensed Dietitians Newsletter!* The Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians recently held a strategic planning session. Driven by our mission, the board established goals and a plan to achieve them over the next few years.

Two goals are to launch the website and

increase the frequency and scope of the Licensed Dietitian Newsletter. Another goal is to establish a mechanism for potential licensees to obtain licensure in the interim year of the two year license cycle.

Above all, it is our plan to communicate to the public how licensed dietitians' practices protect the public health, safety, and well-being of Oregonians.



Please feel free to contact any of the board members with questions and feedback.



CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW LICENSEES

As of June 12, 2000 there are 282 Licensed Dietitians in the State of Oregon. Please welcome these new members who have become Licensed Dietitians since November 1, 1999:

Albany— Sandra Lee Strohmeier, Jeana Van Dyke

Ashland— Kerri Traynor

Beaverton—Jennifer Coan, Jane Steffes

Corvallis— Deborah Bella

The Dalles— Leslie Belfanti

Hillsboro—Lisa Cooper, Julie Ann Hutchins

Medford—Patrick D'Haem

Ontario—San Juanita Aguilar

Pendleton—Dusty Bachman

Portland— Kim Ball, Patricia Cwiklinski, Kelly Lee, Kaatje Meeves, Lila Ojeda, Tina Patnode, Diane Stadlar, Shannon Turner

Prineville—Charise Dalrymple-Breese

Salem—Molly Gleason

West Linn— Heather Helmy



ON THE PULSE: News from the ADA

Hawaii Licensure Bill Becomes Law

House Bill 749, providing for licensure of dietitians in Hawaii, was enacted into law on June 22, 2000. The legislation provides for a dietitian licensure program to be established within the Department of Health and administered by the Director of the Department. The director has the power under the new law to appoint an advisory committee of

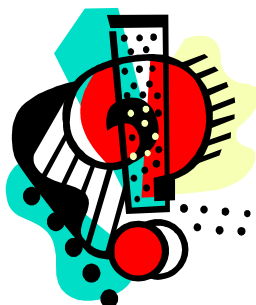
licensed dietitians to assist with the implementation of this new program.

The bill also sets minimum guidelines for issuance of a license as:

- a) baccalaureate or higher degree with a major course of study in dietetics, human nutrition, food and nutrition, or food systems management;
- b) a documented, supervised practice experience component in dietetic practice of not

less than nine hundred hours approved by ADA's Commission on Dietetic Registration; and

- c) successful completion of the registration examination for dietitians administered by ADA's Commission on Dietetic Registration. Applicants who provide evidence of current Registered Dietitian status will be deemed to have met the guidelines. The law takes effect on July 1, 2000.



Q & A: Answering Your Questions

Q. "I forgot to renew my license. Can I still renew my license?"

A. Yes! Any license that is not renewed by the expiration date (October 31st of odd-numbered years) is automatically suspended. However, by paying a late fee of \$25.00 and past unpaid renewal fees before the end of the biennium (two-year licensing period) you may be reinstated. Of course, you must still provide a current notarized copy of your Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) card.

Q. "I work with a new Dietitian from another state. She arrived after the first year of the licensing period, but she wants to become licensed. How much does she have to pay to license?"

A. If you are new to the state

or have just decided it's an important professional link and you want to join for the last year of the biennium, your licensure fee is pro-rated. You pay the one-time only \$50.00 application fee and \$75.00 for one year.

Q. "What happens on renewal?"

A. The renewal period is up as of October 31st of odd number years (example: next renewal period begins 10/2001). If you have kept your address current with the Board, you will receive a renewal application in the mail in September for the next biennium. The fee will be \$150.00 for the full biennium, provided you renew before November 1st.

Q. "How do I get the correct forms?"

A. You can visit our website <http://www.bld.state.or.us> and download a form or you can call the Board at 503-

731-4085 and have one mailed. Be sure to decide if you should fill out a two-year or one-year form. Remember, if you are licensing for the first time and apply after November 1, 2000 you only pay for one year.

Q. "What happens if I don't renew for a full biennium?"

A. You will have to reapply for licensure and pay the non-refundable application fee of \$50.00 again, plus the licensure fee of \$150.00 for the biennium

Q. "What if I still have questions?"

A. Call the Board at 503-731-4085 or read the Statutes and Rules on our website. You may need to leave a voice mail, but your call will be returned. All calls are recorded onto a telephone log which when reviewed may lead to another Question and Answer dialog!

WHY LICENSURE WORKS

Recently an insurance company contacted a hospital-based dietitian looking for a Licensed Dietitian. They had a client who had met the insurance company's criteria for service from a Licensed Dietitian, and did not know how to

locate one. The hospital dietitian referred them to the Board of Licensed Dietitians and was thus able to assist in providing names of LD's in their client's location.



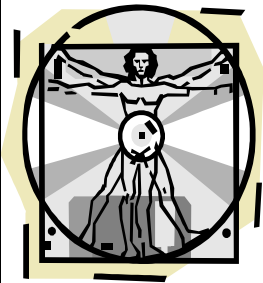
HISTORY OF OREGON DIETETICS PRACTICE ACT

Between 1980-89, many Oregon registered dietitians felt that Oregon consumers needed formal legal protection. They wanted the consumer to know that they could trust the information, qualifications and services provided by dietitians in the state, just as other medical professions valued. Therefore, the dietitians decided to pursue a practice act that would allow for licensure. The Oregon legislature was petitioned several times to allow for the role of Licensed Dietitian and for the formation of the Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians to oversee the licenses of those qualified. This occurred in 1989 after about 10 years of lobbying by many dietitians and others. Licensed dietitians rec-

ognize that while "RD" acknowledges education credentials, the "LD" is a license to practice the profession within the State of Oregon; much as is obtaining an MD by completing medical school, and obtaining a license to practice medicine in a state.

In Oregon most health care and other professionals (example: barbers, hairdressers, and massage therapists) are licensed—dietitians were one of the few unlicensed professions. Since 1989, Oregon consumers have had the ability to choose a dietitian who agrees to be held to the standards of the Oregon statute when they seek dietitian services. Should the LD violate licensing standards, the consumer has recourse through the Board

of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians. Oregon Licensed Dietitians see this as a service and protection to Oregon consumers and make the commitment to this standard. A Licensed Dietitian, therefore, declares to others, both consumers and health care colleagues, that they consent to this recognized public standard of accountability.



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WEB: <http://pub.das.state.or.us/dietitians>

*The **News for Licensed Dietitians** is published by the Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians as part of its mission to protect the public's health, safety and well being by regulating licensed dietetic practice.*

***...protecting the public's health,
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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
<http://www.bld.state.or.us>
