

Note: The State of California requires that dietitians obtain registration with the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR). There is no other California Licensure requirement.

1. **Educational Credentials Evaluation**- If you are a dietitian who graduated outside of the United States, the first step is to review the Commission on Dietetic Registration's website ([www.cdrnet.org](http://www.cdrnet.org)) and confirm if CDR has a reciprocity agreement with your country's dietetic association or regulatory board. As of 2008, CDR had reciprocity agreements with Canada, The Netherlands, The Philippines, Ireland and the United Kingdom. If your country is not on this list, you must have your educational credentials evaluated by a CDR approved credential evaluation service. Request a detailed course-by-course evaluation. The most current Foreign Degree Equivalency Validation List is located at the following link: <http://www.eatright.org/CADE/content.aspx?id=5966&terms=foreign+degree>
2. **Dietetics Program Director Evaluation**- Once you have your credential evaluation report, you must contact the Program Director of a Commission on Accreditation of Dietetics Educators (CADE) accredited dietetics program. You can find a list of accredited dietetics programs at <http://www.eatright.org/CADE-DPD/> The Program Director will review the equivalency report of your previous academic preparation and advise you about any additional coursework necessary to meet the academic requirements for the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) verification statement. This verification statement is the proof that you have completed all of the DPD academic requirements of the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education.
3. **Supervised Practice** - You must complete an accredited Dietetic Internship (DI). This program currently consists of a minimum of 900 plus hours of supervised practice. The American Dietetic Association (ADA) publishes CADE's "*Directory of Dietetics Programs*" located at the following link: [http://www.eatright.org/cps/rde/xchg/ada/hs.xsl/career\\_401\\_ENU\\_HTML.htm](http://www.eatright.org/cps/rde/xchg/ada/hs.xsl/career_401_ENU_HTML.htm) This directory includes a list of CADE accredited supervised programs. It is possible to complete both any required academic coursework and supervised practice program through a Coordinated Program (CP). Once you complete your supervised practice and obtained a verification statement, the Program Director of the supervised practice will submit the registration eligibility information directly to the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR). You will then receive an application for the *Registration Examination for Dietitians* from ACT, Inc., CDR's testing agency. You can also consider enrolling in a Master's Program in Nutrition in order to complete your DPD and supervised practice requirements.
4. **Registration Examination for Dietitians**- The examination is administered by computer and offered year round at over 225 ACT testing centers. The cost of the exam in 2010 is \$200. You have one year from the date your exam application has been processed to take the test. If you fail the exam, you must contact CDR to request a reauthorization to take the examination.

\*\* If you do not meet the academic requirements as a dietitian, you may want to inquire about the requirements for dietetic technicians. Dietetic technicians also must complete a supervised practice and take an examination.

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