



**Ohio Board of Dietetics**  
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## It's Time to Renew Dietitian licenses for FY 2010 !

Your FY 2010 license renewal application is enclosed with this issue of the Communiqué. As usual we have some reminders for you when completing your renewal application:

1. Renew timely!! **Your current license expires on Tuesday June 30, 2009!**  
**Renewal applications must be postmarked on or before June 30.**

Be sure to renew early if you expect to have your license ID card in hand on July 1. Please allow 10 days for the processing of your renewal application and return by mail of your license ID card.

**Fees this year are:**      **Timely Renewal postmarked by June 30- \$95.00**  
**July – August 15 - \$95.00 plus \$47.50 late fee (\$142.50)**  
**After August 15 - \$180.00 to reinstate an expired license**

2. Make sure that you **check the name and address printed on the application**. If there are errors, or if your name or address has changed, be sure to complete the name/address change section and provide legal evidence of name changes.
3. If you are **considering not renewing your license, read the Status Change section** on page #2 carefully. Requests for status changes need to be submitted by the June 30 deadline.
4. **If you are supervising dietetic technicians, or nutrition associates** be certain to **report all of the required information** – including their name, business address and phone number, title used, and the correct exemption that they claim. This is a good time to talk to the exempt persons and let them know that you are reporting to the Board that you are supervising them in the practice of dietetics under the applicable exemption.
5. Make sure that you **answer both question #1 and #2 in the Continuing Education section**. And be sure to **attach a certificate of completion** to your renewal application **for the required 1 cpeu in Jurisprudence (law) continuing education**. **Your application is incomplete without the required certificate, and could result in a delay in the issuance of your license ID card.**

If you have not yet completed the jurisprudence education – don't panic! Check the Board website for approved programs that are available including a new on-line module that is easy to access, and free of charge.

**Make sure that you do not choose an on-line Jurisprudence program that you have already done before.**

6. **Answer all of the legal section questions.** And don't forget to **sign and date the renewal application.**

## Expect Employers of Dietitians to Check for Licenses

The Dietetic Practice Act as established in Chapter 4759 of the Ohio Revised Code is a mandatory practice act, which requires dietitians who practice to be licensed.

In Ohio, dietitian licenses expire annually on June 30. Practicing dietetics without a valid license, unless otherwise exempted, is a violation of Ohio law. Dietitians who practice prior to issuance of a license, or those who practice on an expired license, are subject to sanctions by the Board as set forth in Section 4759.07 of the Ohio Revised Code. Practice without a valid license may also have implications for loss of insurance payments or reimbursement for services.

The Board recommends that all employers verify the license status of dietitians in their employ during July of each year, and that individual licensees verify that their renewal application has been processed by the Board if they have not received their FY 2009 license ID card by July 1. This can easily be accomplished at the Board's website: [www.dietetics.ohio.gov](http://www.dietetics.ohio.gov) by using the "License Verification" function.

### **Don't Panic... You still have time to complete Board Approved Jurisprudence Programs**

Ohio Board of Dietetics approved Jurisprudence programs are listed on the Board's website at [www.dietetics.ohio.gov](http://www.dietetics.ohio.gov) under the "Jurisprudence" tab. Several providers offer continuing education programs related to Jurisprudence that are Board approved, including some self-study programs published by the Board that you can complete via an on-line educational site called Quia.

To access the Board's on-line jurisprudence modules, go to the OBD website, jot down the Quia code listed for the particular program that you want to complete and print off the instructions for enrolling as a student at the Quia website. Then go to the Quia website, enroll as a student and do the module and associated quiz. Once you have completed and passed the quiz (scoring <70%) you can print off the score summary sheet to use as a certificate of completion. Beware...it does not look like a typical certificate. Sign and date the score summary sheet and attach a copy of it to your application when renewing your license. (Keep a copy for your personal records.)

## BOARD PROPOSES CHANGES TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

The Board is authorized by the General Assembly to develop and enact rules. Rules regarding the practice of dietetics are found in Chapter 4759 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). Rules are not laws, but can have a similar effect once enacted. They are written to better explain a process or regulatory requirement within the law and are Pursuant to Section 119.03 of the Ohio Revised code.

After a lot of hard work and upon consideration of the recommendations of the Workgroup on Standards of Practice/Standards of Professional Performance, the Board is proposing amendment of the 3 current rules related to the Standards of Practice and Supervision of Persons Claiming Exemption related to the utilization of Dietetic Technicians and Nutrition Assistants in order to provide consistency with the standards of the American Dietetic Association. Additionally, a new rule is proposed regarding the processes for background checks that are required for persons applying for their first license.

The Board welcomes public participation in the rules process. Licensees and the public are welcome to provide comment, recommend new rules or changes to existing or proposed rules, and provide verbal or written testimony at a public hearing that will be held at:

1:30 p.m., May 22, 2009  
31<sup>st</sup> Floor Board Room  
Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts  
77 S. High St., Columbus, OH 43215

To review the actual content of any of the proposed rules they are available

- (1) Contact the Board office
- (2) On the OBD website, [www.dietetics.ohio.gov](http://www.dietetics.ohio.gov)
- (3) On the Register of Ohio website, [www.registerofohio.state.oh.us](http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us)

A brief summary of the proposed rules follows:

### PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING RULES

4759-5-01 Supervision of Persons Claiming Exemption	Identifies that rule applies to dietetic technicians, dietetic technicians registered, and nutrition associates who work under the supervision of the dietitian. Identifies that the supervising dietitian is responsible and accountable for the nutrition care of patients, and shall not delegate the nutrition care process but may assign tasks within the process to competent exempt practitioners. Supervising dietitian must verify credentials, establish competency of exempt practitioners, and require their on-going dietetics related continuing education. Guidelines for assignments, referrals shall be provided by the dietitian to exempt practitioners, and performance criteria established. The supervising dietitian shall maintain written documentation of initial and on-going competency and professional development of the exempt practitioner, and shall provide supervision in a manner that protects the public.
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4759-6-01	Standards of Practice	Defines and describes the terms and steps in the standards of practice in nutrition care including: “nutrition care process”, “nutrition assessment”, “nutrition diagnosis”, “nutrition intervention”, “nutrition monitoring and evaluation” consistent with the American Dietetic Association definitions and processes..
4759-6-02	Standards of Professional Performance	Clarifies that licensees shall present accurate credentials, provide service based on clients needs and expectations, avoid discrimination and assure that adequate information is available to establish mutual goals with clients. Requires that dietitians provide quality practice by evaluating service, performing regular evaluation of services, and adhere to standards for the particular area of practice. Requires use of “evidence based” interventions and defines the term. Describes that a licensee assumes responsibility for practice and shall engage in lifelong learning, self assessment and evaluation of licensee and client needs. Requires professional development consistent with the requirements of the Commission on Dietetic Registration and encourages dietitian to make referrals when appropriate. Requires dietitian to remain free of conflict of interest and maintain honesty, integrity and trust, and to only endorse or promote products truthfully. Requires effective application of knowledge, and utilization of resources. Defines a “general program of weight control” and describes its required components. Requires other licensed professionals to be responsible for the supervision of unlicensed persons to whom they assign nutritional tasks. Requires dietitians to comply with all applicable laws and regulations, report violations as appropriate, apply substantiated research and maintain client confidentiality while maintaining professional conduct with honesty and fairness.

NEW RULES

4759-4-11	Criminal Records Check	Establishes the process for applicants to submit fingerprints through the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation for the purpose of criminal records check pursuant to 4759.061 of the Ohio Revised Code. Describes how the Board will process background check reports, how they will be reviewed and considered by the Board, retained in the office, and establishes that the report is a confidential record and shall be handled appropriately.
4759-6-03	Interpretation of Standards	Clarifies that standards are consistent with those of the American Dietetic Association