

**The Time Is Now:
Advocacy, Public Policy, and the Profession**

MS-AND Annual Conference
March 21, 2019 Pearl, MS

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Objectives



1. Identify 2019 policy initiatives
2. Learn when/how to turn to the Academy's various resources
3. Utilize proven strategies for successfully working with members to support grassroots activities



Academy's Strategic Plan



**Collective best thinking
A compelling vision
Food and nutrition leaders on a
global scale**



www.eatrightPRO.org/StrategicPlan

Strategic Plan Focus Areas



- **Prevention and Well-being**
- **Health Care and Health Systems**
- **Food and Nutrition Safety and Security**

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2019 Policy Initiatives



Combined Federal and Expanded State Strategies

Increase access to quality nutrition services

- Expand MNT coverage and reimbursement
 - Prevention and treatment of chronic disease (malnutrition, obesity, CVD, earlier CKD)
 - Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance
- Protect and strengthen consumer protections in state licensure laws

Strengthen food and nutrition programs; optimize funding

Demonstrate the link between food and agriculture and the importance of a safe and robust food system

States as "laboratories of democracy"?

2019-2020



- **Academy Supported Bills – Reintroduction Expected**
 - Treat and Reduce Obesity Act
 - Expands MNT and would allow RDs to bill directly for obesity counseling
 - Preventing Diabetes in Medicare Act
 - Expands MNT coverage to prediabetes
 - Expanding Access to DSMT
 - Removes barriers to utilization as well as limits on same day MNT services
 - Preventive Health Savings Act
 - Allows for bills to be scored over a longer time frame to demonstrate cost savings
- **Healthcare**
 - Academy intends to work with House majority to introduce MNT specific legislation
- **Malnutrition**
 - Opportunities to support MQi will be sought

2019-2020

- Licensure Laws
- Older Americans Act
- Child Nutrition Reauthorization
- Food, Ag and Trade Policy
- 2020 Dietary Guidelines
- ERS and NIFA relocation
- GMO labeling
- Farm Bill Implementation
- Hemp and marijuana in food products

Academy's Strategic Plan

Food and Nutrition Safety and Security

Increase equitable access to and utilization of safe nutrition food and water

Advance sustainable nutrition and resilient food systems

Leverage innovations in the reduction of food waste and loss

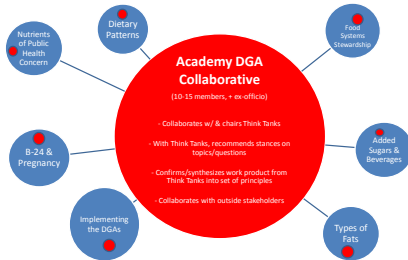
Champion legislation and regulations that increase food and nutrition security throughout the lifecycle



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Academy's DGA Process

- Engage!
- Collaborative
- Think Tanks
- Soliciting broad input
- Seeking experts
- Engage outside stakeholders



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Dietary Guidelines 2020 Timeline (Est.)

December 10, 2019	Release timeline of engagement plan and their role in a new DGA plan
January 2020	IFPC and Council on Research to Approve DGA Engagement Plan, opportunity to provide input on Collaborative and Think Tank membership
Late January 2020	Final Staff Training. Discuss plan, roles, brainstorm potential needs and individuals for Collaborative and Think Tank membership. DGA solicited for potential Think Tank members
February 23, 2020	DGA accepted for time not to exceed five years
March 2020	Collaborative Members appointed
March 28-29, 2019	DGAC to hold its first public meeting, comment period opened
Spring 2019	Integrated Collaborative meeting. DGA recommend and review members for Think Tanks
Spring 2019	DGA Engagement Kickoff
Spring 2019	Initial Think Tank members named, first Think Tank meetings held
Spring/Summer 2019	DGAC expected to hold its second public meeting. Early work announcement
Spring/Summer 2019	Think Tanks meet
Summer/Fall 2019	DGAC expected to hold its third public meeting
Fall 2019	Think Tanks hold final meetings, make recommendations to Collaborative
Fall/Winter 2019	DGA offer input on Collaborative's recommendations
Fall/Winter 2019	DGAC expected to hold its fourth public meeting
January 31, 2019	Collaborative issues report to IFPC, Council on Research, and IT team
Winter/Spring 2020	DGAC issues report to the Directorate of HHS and USDA, make available for public comment
Winter/Spring 2020	DGA offer input on DGA's Scientific Report and Academy comments as it
Winter/Spring 2020	Academy submits comments to the agencies
Winter 2020/2021	HHS and USDA jointly publish and release the 8th edition of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans

Public text is subject to DGA Plan, final final public meeting dates listed by the agencies USDA and HHS or the DGAC

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FY19 Advocacy

Quarter 2

- PPW -- Malnutrition
 - September – November 2018

Quarter 3

- Malnutrition (in District)
 - December 2018 – February 2019



Quarter 4

- State Advocacy
 - Access to obesity care, malnutrition, consumer protection
 - March – May 2019
 - Utilizing coalitions

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Malnutrition

- MQii
- Key Messages
 - Malnutrition treatment and prevention requires an interdisciplinary team approach. RDNs and NDTRs are a key component of the team.
 - Malnutrition is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality, especially among older adults.
 - Millions of patients are undiagnosed and untreated. RDNs can help diagnose malnutrition.
 - RDNs and NDTRs can help assess, document and treat malnutrition in a variety of practice settings.

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State Obesity Care Initiative



- State Advocacy Representative Program (STAR)
 - Is typically led by State Policy Representatives and Reimbursement Representatives
 - Any members can participate in local advocacy
- Interdisciplinary advocacy for increasing access to obesity care
- Coalition of obesity organizations
 - Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
 - American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery
 - Obesity Medicine Association
 - The Obesity Society

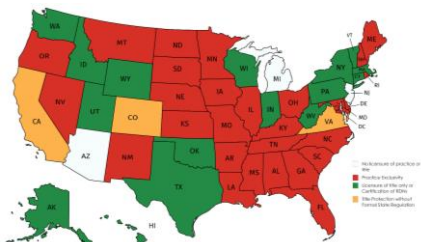


Consumer Protection Overview



- Significant state legislative activity
- New Professional Certification Coalition
- Licensure webinar series
- Focus on the Future → Compact consideration
- Without ignoring the present → Enhancing/streamlining Endorsement
- New and improved Academy resources

Dietetics Licensure/Certification



Consumer Protection Activity

eat right. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics



Key Developments: "Licensure 2.0"

eat right. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

New Issues, New Stakeholders

- National licensure strategy
- Telehealth
- Multi-state practice
- Consumers not sufficiently protected
- Standstill in many states
- Changes in political climates
- Changes among other providers
- First Amendment concerns; lawsuits



Key Developments: MPA

eat right. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

- Adapted consensus framework from new NC licensure law
- Limits practice of dietetics and nutrition to licensed individuals
- Strengthens and ensures non-RDN practitioners meet **high, objective standards** of qualification
- Allows potential differentiation between LDN and LN in hiring, regulatory specification in facilities
- Facilitates improved ease of practice across state lines
- Standardized, consensus language enhances likelihood of legislative approval of consistent language among states.

Key Developments: Providers



- Board for Certification of Nutrition Specialists
 - Education
 - Accreditation
 - Examination
- Academy's stance re qualifications to provide MNT
- Limited role for unlicensed providers: wellness; coaches

Common Pitfalls



- Failing to plan ahead, failing to follow through
- Poor or limited contact with legislators
- Underestimating the opposition
- Lack of member engagement
- Lack of communication with other stakeholders
- Lobbyist management/oversight
- Lack of engagement with PIA team



Advocating to Policymakers



- Respond to Action Alerts
- Attend events in DC and back home
 - PPW Hill visits
 - Academy Quarterly Advocacy Days
 - In-district events (e.g., town halls, forums)
 - Request ANDPAC funds to attend candidate events
- Become a trusted resource through in-person and online communication
 - e.g., follow up after Hill visit, email staff with new report on your program or alert them to new health-related data
- Use social media effectively



ANDPAC Makes it Count



ANDPAC Contributions Open The Door & Help Build Relationships

Academy member contributions to ANDPAC support candidates for federal congressional office who align with the Academy's mission, vision, and public policy priorities.



Make a Donation

<https://eatrightPRO.org/ANDPAC/donate>

For more information: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/advocacy/political-action-committee/>

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Connect with PIA Staff



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Questions?

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