Requirements and Process to Become an RDN

In order to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) students must:

- Complete an ACEND*-accredited Didactic Program in Nutrition and Dietetics (DPND).
- Apply for, become accepted into, and complete an ACEND-accredited Dietetic Internship (DI). The UNLV Dietetic Internship meets this step in the process.
- Pass the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) National Registration Examination for Dietitians. The eligibility requirements for this exam and exam content are set by CDR. Additional information can be found here.
- NOTE: Effective January 1, 2024, students must hold a Master Degree in order to sit for the National Registration Examination for Dietitians. UNLV offers a M.S. in Nutrition Sciences degree, requiring application for admission after earning the B.S. degree.
- NOTE: Once the RDN credential is earned, one may apply for their Dietetics license in Nevada. No additional courses or credentials are required to be eligible for the license to practice. Information about this process can be found here.

*The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) is the accrediting agency for education programs preparing students for careers as registered dietitian nutritionists or nutrition and dietetics technicians, registered.

ACEND® can be contacted by:
- Email: ACEND@eatright.org
- Phone: 800-877-1600, ext. 5400
- Mail: 120 South Riverside Plaza Suite 2190, Chicago, IL 60606-6995

ACEND® serves to protect students and the public by assuring the quality and continued improvement of nutrition and dietetics education programs. ACEND® is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a Title IV gatekeeper. This recognition affirms that ACEND® meets national standards and is a reliable authority on the quality of nutrition and dietetics education programs.

USDE can be contacted by:
- Phone: 1-800-USA-LEARN (1-800-872-5327)
- Mail: U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20202