

Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics

the accrediting agency for the
 Academy of Nutrition
and Dietetics

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www.eatright.org/acend

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March 8, 2012

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Pamela C. Towery, EdS, RD, LD
Assistant Professor
Arkansas State University-Jonesboro
College of Nursing & Health Professions
Box 910
State University, AR 72467

Dear Dr. Towery:

This letter is to advise you of the action taken by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) regarding the proposed Coordinated Program in Dietetics at Arkansas State University-Jonesboro. During its February 22-24, 2012 meeting, the ACEND board voted to grant Candidacy for Accreditation to the Program. The Program is granted Candidacy for Accreditation for an enrollment of 20-first and 20-second year students annually with a Clinical concentration at the baccalaureate level.

Students enrolled as of this date, and those in succeeding classes, will be eligible, upon satisfactory completion of the program, to become Active Members of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and to write the CDR Registration Examination for Dietitians.

The decision was based on a peer review of the self-study application, the site-visit report and the Program's response to the site-visit report. ACEND recognizes the Program's compliance with the 2008 Accreditation Standards and encourages you to continue your efforts in providing quality dietetics education.

Please note, the standards for ACEND-accredited programs were revised in February 2012, in order to align with the results from the 2010 practice audit conducted by the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) and requirements of the U.S. Department of Education. It is expected that you will make any modifications necessary to your program to come into compliance with the revised Standards on or before June 1, 2012, in order to assure that program graduates are prepared to sit for updated registration examinations implemented by CDR in 2012.

All programs are required to pay an annual accreditation fee. An invoice for the prorated \$1208.00 fee for 2012 is enclosed. Payment will be due postmarked no later than May 18, 2012.

A self-study report and site-visit for full accreditation will be scheduled after two classes have graduated and written the Registration Examination for Dietitians, but no later than **2016**. If fewer than two classes graduate during this four-year interval, a site-visit must occur by **December 31, 2016** since Candidacy for Accreditation cannot extend more than four years. Please notify ACEND staff in writing when the second class is enrolled to begin the site-visit scheduling process.

In the meantime, if major changes occur in the Program, you must submit the changes in writing to ACEND for review prior to implementation. Ordinarily, major program changes other than program director changes will not be accepted from or approved for programs with Candidacy for Accreditation status. ACEND maintains the right to require an interim report, self-study, and/or site-visit as a result of these changes. Guidelines for reporting major changes are on the ACEND Program Director Portal at www.eatright.org/ACEND under Program Director Portal.

Congratulations on the Coordinated Program in Dietetics' Candidacy for Accreditation status. The ACEND staff is available to answer any questions you may have regarding the accreditation process and the implementation of your Program. If you have any questions, please call 800-877-1600 ext. 5400.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Haubrick MS, RD, LD'.

Kevin D. Haubrick, MS, RD, LD
Chair
Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics

KDH/jj

Enclosures: Invoice and Site Visit Report

cc: Dr. G. Daniel Howard
Dr. Susan Hanrahan
Noreen B. Schvaneveldt, MS, RD, Lead Program Reviewer
Sharon K. Keys, MS, RD, Accompanying Program Reviewer
Judith H. Hall, MS, RD, LRD, Accompanying Program Reviewer

Program Directors Please Note: For tracking purposes, please email J. Johnson at jjohnson@eatright.org when you receive this letter.