

ISSUE

33

Winter &
Spring
2020



North Carolina Board of Dietetics/Nutrition

Deadlines

Renewal Open:

January 1 – March 31

Late Renewal (Additional
Late fee):

April 1 – May 31

License Lapse:

June 1

All License Needs:

Licensee Gateway:

gateway.ncbdn.org



Contact:

NCBDN

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2. **[ID Cards & Receipts](#)**

Covid-19 Crisis: Renewal, Ethics, & Telehealth

Like you, the North Carolina Board of Dietetics/Nutrition is monitoring the outbreak of COVID-19 and its impact. The Board is committed to maintaining normal operations during these times. Although the office is not open to the public, as of March 24, 2020, the Board remains in full operation. Should you have concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office through the contact information provided on our [website](#).

Renewal: Late Fee Waived

Although the on-time renewal period is now closed, licensees whose licenses expired on March 31, 2020 and have not renewed, may still complete the renewal process. **Understanding that we all have been impacted in different ways due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Board has decided to waive the additional \$75.00 late fee for anyone who renews between April 1st and May 31st 2020.** Licensees who do not renew before May 31, 2020 will be Lapsed, but through May 31st licensees may login to the Gateway, and renew at any time.

If you have forgotten the login credentials you set up last year, you may use the “Forgot Username” or “Forgot Password” buttons on the login page. Note: the reset instructions will be sent to the email address we have on file. If you no longer have access to your email on file with the Board, please email this office at: info@ncbdn.org with an update to your records before proceeding.

If you do not plan to renew your North Carolina license you must still Relinquish your license. Please note, if you have retired, and allowed your license to expire or lapse, you may notify [our office](#) that you have retired, and we will assist you with properly classifying your license. You may relinquish your license online, by logging in, clicking on your “Expired” license, and under the Options area, choosing and completing the Relinquish process.

Ethical Reminder

As we consider these unprecedented times, the many unknowns, and the many vulnerable populations this pandemic is impacting, as licensed health professionals, trusted by the public, we think it is important to remind you of some of the duties you are bound to uphold. The Code of Ethics for Professional Practice and Conduct is found in [21 NCAC 17. 0114](#).



Here, you will find ethical principles and obligations of you to self, your clients, society, and the profession. Some of the most pertinent principles you must uphold through these uncertain times are the following:

- The licensee shall provide professional services with objectivity and with respect for the unique needs and values of individuals as determined through the nutritional assessment.
- The licensee shall conduct all practices of dietetics/nutrition with honesty and integrity.
- The licensee shall present substantiated information and interpret controversial information without personal bias, recognizing that legitimate differences of opinion exist.
- The licensee shall practice dietetics/nutrition based on scientific principles and current information.
- The licensee shall assume responsibility and accountability for personal competence in practice.
- The licensee shall inform the public of his/her services by using factual information and shall not advertise in a false or misleading manner.
- The licensee shall not exercise undue influence on a client, including the promotion or the sale of services or products. The licensee shall be alert to any conflicts of interest and shall provide full disclosure when a real or potential conflict of interest arises.
- The licensee shall give sufficient information based on the client's ability to process information such that the client can make his or her own informed decisions. The licensee shall not guarantee that nutrition care services will cause any certain outcome or particular result for the client.

Given licensure exists to protect the public, as you navigate how you, as a licensed nutrition professional, will play a part in navigating this pandemic, these principles should be interwoven in all professional actions taken.

Telehealth

Additionally, if you are choosing to practice telehealth nutrition during this time, the NC Dietetics/Nutrition Practice Act provides the following:

§ 90-365.5. Telepractice

Telepractice as defined in G.S. 90-352 is not prohibited under this Article so long as (i) it is appropriate for the individual receiving the services and (ii) the level of care provided meets the required level of care for that individual. An individual providing services regulated by this Article via telepractice shall comply with, and shall be subject to, all licensing and disciplinary provisions of the Article.

It is also important to note that licensure is just one of many factors that one must consider when choosing to provide telehealth services. Such other factors include, but are not limited to, consideration of reimbursement, ensuring one is utilizing HIPPA compliant technology, and whether one's professional liability insurance covers telehealth. Many resources are available for practitioners providing services via telehealth. We encourage you, especially if you have not provided telehealth services prior to this pandemic, to take the time to educate yourself keeping in mind, as a licensee, you assume responsibility and accountability for personal competence in practice.

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics has posted some additional guidance on telehealth and licensure during the Covid-19 Pandemic, which all licensees may find helpful. You may find this information here: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/news-center/member-updates/coronavirus-updates/licensure-guidance-for-rdns-during-covid-19-pandemic>

ID Cards & Receipts

As noted in the NCBDN's renewal correspondence, the Board no longer issues plastic ID cards. Thus, please be reminded that your new ID card is available within your Gateway account to save as a PDF or print. After logging into the [Gateway](#), click on your **active** license. On the following page, under "Options," you will see a button to "Print ID Card." Your receipts, dating back through 2010, are also available by clicking the **blue** "View Receipts" button, which is found above the "Options" area.