

# Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics

the accrediting agency for the  
 Academy of Nutrition  
and Dietetics

**ACEND® Board of Directors  
2022-2023**

November 4, 2022

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Dawn E. Clifford, PhD, RD  
Director, Graduate Program  
Northern Arizona University  
1100 S. Beaver Street  
PO Box 15095  
Flagstaff, Arizona 86011

Dear Dr. Clifford:

This letter is to advise you of the action of the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND®) Board regarding the Graduate Program at Northern Arizona University. During its recent meeting, the ACEND Board made an accreditation decision based on your program's self-study report, site visit and program response. See the attached Accreditation Action Report for the status of this decision.

Programs are required to notify ACEND of any substantive changes to the program that have the potential for affecting the accreditation status of the program. Guidelines for requesting substantive changes are posted on the ACEND website: [Substantive Program Change Guidelines](#)

ACEND values your commitment to students and the quality and continued improvement of dietetics education as demonstrated during the accreditation process. If you have any questions, please contact Elise Cowie at 800-877-1600 ext. 4770 or [ecowie@eatright.org](mailto:ecowie@eatright.org).

Sincerely,



James Swain, PhD, RD, LD, FAND, Chair  
Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics

JS/jj

Attachment: Accreditation Action Report

cc: Jose Luis Cruz Rivera, , President and CEO  
Roger Bounds, PhD, Interim Dean, College of Health and Human Services  
Dierdra Bycura, EdD, ACSM-EP, cPT, Interim Chair, Department of Health Sciences  
Kathy Schupp, MA, RD, LD, Lead Program Reviewer  
Kimberly A. Gottesman, DCN, RD, LD, CNSC, Accompanying Program Reviewer  
Elise Cowie, MEd, RD, LD, FAND, ACEND Senior Manager

## ACCREDITATION ACTION REPORT

**Program Name and Type:** Northern Arizona University Graduate Program

### Accreditation Action:

Grant full accreditation for a seven-year term ending **June 30, 2030**.

**Decision Date: October 24, 2022**

### Rationale:

The decision was based on a peer review of the self-study report, site visit report and program response to the site visit report demonstrating that the program is in compliance as a demonstration program under the ACEND Future Education Model Graduate Degree Accreditation Standards.

### Program Accreditation Details:

To access complete information about your program's accreditation status, sign into the [ACEND Portal](#).

**Next Site Visit:** The next accreditation site visit will be scheduled in January – June 2029. ACEND staff will notify the Program approximately one year in advance of the site visit inviting the program to apply for continued accreditation under the Accreditation Standards in effect at that time.

**Next Review by the ACEND Board:** 2030

**Degree Level:** Accreditation is granted for a graduate degree program

**Enrollment:** Accreditation is granted for a maximum enrollment of 12 first-year graduate and 12 second-year graduate students.

### Areas to Address:

The ACEND Board requests that the program provide an Interim Report to monitor continued compliance with the following standards:

#### **Standard 5: Competency Assessment and Curriculum Improvement, Required Element 5.1**

While the program provided a revised Competency Assessment Table, it still indicates that CRDN 1.1 is met through an epidemiology assignment in HS 612. Although the assignment appears to include the term paper and is noted on the syllabus, CRDN 1.1 is not listed under the header "Accreditation Council on Education for Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) Accreditation Competencies" on that same syllabus. The program must provide the revised syllabus for HS 612: Public Health Epidemiology that includes all of the competencies indicated on the Competency Assessment Table for that course. In addition, if the program wishes to include the Performance Indicators (PIs) on the syllabi, which is not an ACEND requirement, the program must differentiate between the CRDNs and the PIs that are indicated on this syllabus as the PIs are only listed with a prefix of "ACEND FG" and may be confusing for students.

### Interim Report Required:

Yes: Due Date: December 15, 2022 Refer to the attached instructions for submitting the report. (The program will be charged a \$200.00 late fee if the report is submitted after the due date.)

### Instructions for Submitting an ACEND Report in DocuWare

When you are ready to submit your report, here are steps for accessing the ACEND Program Report submission form:

- 1) Click on this link: [ACEND Program Report submission form](#)
- 2) Use the following information to fill out the online form:

<b>Program ID</b>	86145694
<b>Document Type</b>	Interim Report
<b>Program Name</b>	Northern Arizona University
<b>Program Type</b>	Graduate Program
<b>Program City</b>	Flagstaff
<b>Program State</b>	Arizona

- 3) Upload your report using the upload box at the bottom of the page
- 4) Click "Submit". Once your submission is approved, you will receive an email from ACEND staff acknowledging the receipt of your report.