

**Minnesota Board of Dietetics and Nutrition Practice
Biennial Report
July 1, 1998 to June 30, 2000**

I. General Information

A. Board Mission and Major Functions

BDNP Mission

The mission of the Board of Dietetics and Nutrition Practice is to promote the public's interest in quality care and effective services for their dietetic and nutrition care by ensuring that licensed dietitians and nutritionists are qualified to provide their professional services.

BDNP Functions

Setting and administering educational and examination standards for initial and continuing licensure

- Setting licensure requirements through the rules process
- Reviewing eligibility requirements for participation in the national standardized examination for licensure
- Reviewing continuing education programs submitted by sponsors or individuals to determine if they meet requirements
- Reviewing individual applicant/licensee documentation of completion of requirements for initial and continuing licensure

Responding to inquiries, complaints and reports from the public and other health care regulators regarding licensure and conduct of applicants, licensees and unlicensed practitioners

- Accepting complaints and reports from the public and health care providers and regulators
- Deciding whether a complaint or inquiry is jurisdictional and if so whether and what type of action to pursue to resolve the matter
- Referring inquiries and complaints to other investigative, regulatory or assisting agencies
- Responding to complainants and agency reports by informing the complainants/agencies of action taken to resolve their complaints while observing provisions of the data practices act regarding the legal status of data obtained during the course of an investigation and disciplinary proceeding

Pursuing educational or disciplinary action with licensees as deemed necessary based upon results of investigations conducted in response to complaints/reports.

- Setting standards of conduct and a basis for disciplinary action through the rules process
- Seeking information directly from the licensee and securing investigation and fact finding information from other agencies in response to complaints or inquiries

- Holding conferences with licensees to identify their role and responsibility in a matter under investigation
- Providing applicants and licensees education to improve practice and prevent recurrence of problems
- Obtaining voluntary agreement to disciplinary action or pursuing disciplinary action through a due process, contested case hearing and potential court action

Providing information and education about licensure requirements and procedures and standards of practice to the public and other interested audiences.

- Providing information to the community concerning requirements for dietitian/nutritionist licensure and information about licensees
- Providing information about licensure requirements to prospective applicants for licensure
- Providing the public information about where they can find answers to concerns related to dietetic and nutrition care services including information about whether persons are licensed with the board and whether they have had disciplinary action taken against their licenses

B. Major activities during the biennium

The following major activities were accomplished by the board during the biennium:

- Implemented board rules to establish a process for annual license renewal and cancellation of licensure for those individuals not responding to notices given by the board for annual renewal.
- Amended board rule to lower the annual license renewal fee and set a standard for the late penalty charged to renewal applications received after the deadline date.
- Implementation of a new national disciplinary data-base with the federal Health Integrity Protection Data Bank.

C. Emerging issues regarding regulation of nursing home administrators

The close relationship of complementary and alternative care with dietetic and nutrition care services and the board's limited authority associated to possible violations by unlicensed individuals.

II. Board's Members, Staff, and Budget

A. Board composition

Statute requires the board to have 7 members. The names of persons holding the seats as of June 30, 2000 are as indicated below.

The following are appointed by the Governor for staggered four year terms:

2 members who are licensed dietitians—Laurie Arndt, Duluth, Marita Haberman, Pine City

2 members who are licensed nutritionists—Dorothy Ceterski, Red Lake, Linda Dieleman, Plymouth

3 public members—JoAnne Ahartz, Maplewood, Randall Brown, St. Paul, Yvonne Hundshamer, St. Paul

B. Employees

The board has two part-time positions. They are a half-time executive director, a quarter time clerical assistant.

C. Receipts and disbursements and major fees assessed by the board

Item	FY 1999	FY 2000
Receipts	\$116,195	\$111,815
Disbursements	\$ 67,699	\$ 75,150

Fee	Amount
Application	\$100 - 175
Original License	\$150
Annual Renewal	\$75

III. Licensing and Registration

A. Persons licensed as of June 30, 2000

FY	Nutritionist	Dietitian
1999	78	914
2000	78	917

B. New licenses issued during biennium

FY	Nutritionist	Dietitian
1999	1	79
2000	0	57

IV. Complaints

A. Complaints Received

(Note: BDNP regulates two like occupations—Dietitian and Nutritionist.)

Item	FY 1999	FY 2000
1. Complaints Received	6	1
2. Complaints Per 1,000 Regulated Persons	.01	.00
3. Complaints By Type of Complaint		
A. Incompetent		
B. Harmful or dangerous practice	2	1
C. Falsifying application material		

D. Dietary Supplement Sales		
E. Unlicensed Practice	2	
F. Non-jurisdictional	2	

B. Open Complaints on June 30

Item	FY 1999	FY 2000
1. Complaints Open		0
2. Open Less Than 3 Months		
3. Open 3 to 6 Months		
4. Open 6 to 12 Months		
5. Open More Than 1 Year (explain)		

C. Closed Complaints on June 30

Item	FY 1999	FY 2000
1. Number Closed	6	1
2. Disposition by Type		
A. Revocation		
B. Voluntary Surrender		
C. Suspension		
D. Restricted, Limited, Or Conditional License		
E. Civil Penalties		
F. Reprimand		
G. Agreement for Corrective Action		
H. Referral to HPSP		
I. Dismissal or closure	6	1
3. Cases Closed That Were Open For More Than One Year (explain)		

V. Trend Data as of June 30

Year	A. Dietitians Licensed	B. Nutritionists Licensed	C. Complaints	C. Complaints Per 1,000 Licensees	D. Open Cases
2000	917	78	1		0
1999	914	78	6		0
1998	875	78	2		0
1997	862	78	1		0
1996	510	31	1		0

Note: BDNP issued the first licenses February 1996.