

**HEALTH REGULATION AND LICENSING ADMINISTRATION  
&  
HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARDS**

BOARD OF DIETETICS & NUTRITION  
AUTHORITY FOR GUIDANCE

SEPTEMBER 2019  
DATE OF POLICY

19-001  
POLICY NO.

**POLICY STATEMENT**

**GUIDANCE DOCUMENT REGARDING THE REQUIREMENT FOR  
PUBLIC HEALTH CONTINUING EDUCATION  
FOR LICENSED DIETITIANS**

This policy statement is being issued by the District of Columbia Board of Dietetics & Nutrition (Board) to advise licensed dietitians with regard to the requirement for public health continuing education.

On May 3, 2019, the Department of Health (DC Health) published the final rulemaking requiring that, for licensure renewal, reinstatement, or reactivation, a licensed dietitian must complete 10% of his/her required continuing education in public health priority subjects as determined and published by the Director of DC Health every five (5) years or as deemed appropriate. The rulemaking may be found at *66 DCR 5656*.

Since the current licensure term is set to expire on November 1, 2019 and since the public health priority subjects have not yet been determined and published, the Board has resolved at its recent meeting on September 10, 2019 that this regulatory requirement shall be suspended until the next licensure term and until the public health priority subjects have been published. Accordingly, licensees renewing their license on or before December 31, 2019 are not required to complete 10% of their continuing education in public health priorities as required under 17 DCMR § 4406.4(b). However, the requirement for LGBTQ continuing education under 17 DCMR § 4406.6(a) is not suspended and is fully effective.

Applicants for reinstatement or reactivation of a license who apply for such reinstatement or reactivation after the public health priority subjects have been determined and published will be required to comply with the requirement of 17 DCMR § 4406.5 or 4406.6 as applicable.

It is important to note that licensed nutritionists are not subject to the public health priority continuing education requirement for the time being since the relevant rulemaking is still subject to public comment process. However, they are subject to the LGBTQ continuing education under 17 DCMR § 4506.4, which is currently effective.

Please contact Mr. David Walker, Health Licensing Specialist for the Board, at (202) 7271611 with any questions.