

## **FAQ: Can I work as a dietitian when I am a Dietitian Candidate?**

Yes, you can work as a dietitian while you hold a Dietitian Candidate license but you are required to participate in a mentorship or supervision program.

### **What does working under mentorship mean?**

As a Dietitian Candidate, you must have a CDPEI-approved mentorship agreement in place. The mentor provides guidance, support, advice, and feedback to help you grow in your job. Mentors must be a Registered Dietitian who is a fully registered member of CDPEI and has experience in the same practice area as you do.

If you are working as a RD Candidate, you must send CDPEI: (1) Your workplace (2) Your manager's contact info (3) Your mentor's name and contact info

### **What does working under supervision mean?**

If you are unsuccessful in your first attempt at the CDRE, you can continue working, but you are now required to work under supervision rather than mentorship. Supervision is more structured and involves closer oversight than mentorship. The Registered Dietitian who provides supervision to the Candidate are expected to:

- provide sufficient guidance and direction to enable the person to perform competently.
- be readily available to the Candidate by phone, email, or in person.
- be in or have experience in a similar area of practice as the Candidate. If the Candidate is working in more than one practice area, then more than one supervising Registered Dietitian will be required.
- meet with the Candidate monthly to review their workload and ensure that standards of care for assessment, education, follow-up, and documentation are being met.
- Direct supervision is highly encouraged once per month and can be completed more often if indicated.
- Submit Dietitian Candidate Supervision Documentation Form every four weeks to CDPEI Registrar documenting clients reviewed by supervising RD(s).

### **Does having a mentor or supervisor change my title?**

No. Whether you are under mentorship or supervision, your title remains the same.

**Permitted titles:** *Registered Dietitian Candidate or R.D. Candidate*