

# HOD Fact Sheet

House of Delegates

Updated Spring 2013

## The Academy's House of Delegates - Delegates Working For Members - What's It All About?

**HOD Vision Statement:** The House of Delegates, as the voice of members, governs the profession and develops policy on major professional issues.

**To govern the profession of dietetics, the HOD engages in the following activities:**

- Monitors and evaluates trends affecting the profession,
- Monitors member issues and mega issues, and the resulting actions,
- Reviews, debates, and approves standards of practice and standards for professional performance for the DTR, RD or RDN,
- Establishes the size and structure of the House,
- Adopts and revises with the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) a code of ethics for dietetics practitioners, disciplinary procedures for unethical conduct, and reinstatement conditions,
- Provides recommendations on standards, qualifications, and other issues related to credentialing to the Commission on Dietetic Registration,
- Provides recommendations on accreditation and related issues to the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND),
- Provides direction for quality management in nutrition and dietetics practice,
- Identifies and develops position statements,
- Provides oversight to Academy Bylaws and,
- Assists with recruitment and retention efforts related to Academy membership, plus leadership development.

The HOD includes (total number of delegates = 105 as of June 1, 2013):

- *66 Affiliate Delegates* are elected by members of the 53 affiliate dietetic associations.
- *26 Dietetic Practice Group Delegates* are elected or appointed by DPG membership and represent the specific DPG from which they are elected/appointed.
- *7 At-Large Delegates:* one delegate representing ACEND (appointed by ACEND), one delegate representing CDR (appointed by CDR), one delegate representing NDEP (appointed by NDEP) one delegate representing student members (elected by the Student Advisory Committee), one delegate representing DTRs (elected nationally), one delegate representing retired members (elected by HOD), and one delegate representing members under 30 years of age (elected by HOD).
- *6 HOD Directors* comprise the House Leadership Team (HLT), including the Speaker, Speaker-elect, and immediate Past-Speaker, elected by the membership. They are members of the Academy Board of Directors (BOD).

### **Responsibilities of a delegate:**

- Interact with members to identify issues important to the membership
- Identify professional issues affecting dietetics practice and be knowledgeable about these issues
- Participate in the discussions of the House of Delegates to provide direction on member and professional issues
- Communicate member and professional issues to the HOD Leadership Team
- Contribute to trend identification and strategic planning
- Inform members about the Academy's activities, programs and services and HOD initiatives.

### **Academy members can expect delegates to:**

- Provide regular updates on HOD and Academy activities
- Request input on issues being discussed by HOD
- Request identification of trends and issues affecting the profession
- Identify potential members for leadership roles with the Academy
- Support the membership recruitment and retention efforts of Academy
- Assist accessing information from Academy
- Assist submitting issues or concerns about the profession or Academy.



### **Academy members can support the delegate by:**

- Reviewing electronic and/or written information about the Academy and HOD regularly
- Providing input to issues being discussed by HOD
- Identifying trends and issues affecting the profession
- Sharing knowledge of HOD and Academy activities with others.

### **Communication to and from your delegate-**

#### **The delegate**

- wants to hear from members
- shares key Academy and HOD information with members
- wants your ideas, concerns and issues
- needs to know the best method for communicating with members.

To find more information on Academy and the work of the HOD, visit the Academy Web site at [www.eatright.org/hod](http://www.eatright.org/hod)