

Advanced APD (AdvAPD) Policy

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This policy outlines the management and application process of the AdvAPD credential.

BACKGROUND

The Dietitian and Nutritionist Regulatory Council (DNRC) is the regulatory authority responsible for the governance of the Advanced Accredited Practising Dietitian (AdvAPD) credential, which provides formal recognition of APDs who are currently practising at an advanced level across any area of dietetic practice

An AdvAPD is a proactive leader who integrates high-level nutrition and dietetic skills to generate new knowledge to influence the health of the community. AdvAPDs are leaders who continue to grow personally and professionally while demonstrating a range of high level skills in their professional work. AdvAPDs demonstrate an ability to appreciate the wider context of dietetics as well as skills in business, planning, supervision, resource management and industrial relations issues. They advocate for the profession of nutrition and dietetics across a breadth of environments and can **innovate, inspire, impact** and **influence** to solve practice problems to change practice and show evidence of them.

ELIGIBILITY FOR AdvAPD STATUS

Essential criteria

To be eligible, it is essential that applicants must:

- Currently have full APD status
- Complete a portfolio of evidence (see template) demonstrating competence
- Provide a current CV – which will form part of the evidence
- Have obtained two professional referees (one from a Full APD, ideally an AdvAPD, who works at a higher level), that can comment on how the candidate has worked at the higher level

Desirable criteria

It is strongly recommended that applicants:

- Have been working as a dietitian for a minimum of 5 years
- Have an AdvAPD as a mentor through the process of AdvAPD application

ACHIEVING AdvAPD STATUS

The professional recognition program uses an evidence-based competency assessment process, with applicants required to demonstrate that they meet established criteria in the form of the competency standards. The AdvAPD competency standards consist of an overall domain which consists of four competency standards innovation, inspiration, impact and influence. The seven performance criteria must demonstrate an overarching theme of leadership, and be underpinned by seven performance criteria.(see Table 1). To be successful in your application, the examples must demonstrate your overarching leadership , the performance criteria are a guide for how you can do this. For information on the application process, and how to demonstrate that you meet the competency standards see the [AdvAPD application guide](#).

Table 1 AdvAPD Competency Standards

Demonstrates Leadership				
AdvAPD Competency Standards	Develops innovative methods and approaches	Inspires and motivates others	Demonstrates impact on health and nutrition outcomes and/or services	Exerts significant influence
	Performance Criteria for Advanced Practice <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advances the profession of nutrition and dietetics 2. Engages in personal and professional development of self and of others 3. Effectively implements change 4. Evaluates and disseminates practice and evaluation, research or quality improvement outcomes widely 5. Engages in quality learning and teaching, training/supervision 6. Recognised as an expert resource and advocate 7. Manages complex problems effectively in ways that enhance outcomes while navigating service requirements and stakeholder relationships 			
National Competency Standards for Dietitians	Applies critical thinking and integrates evidence into practice	Practises professionally	Positively influences the health of individuals, groups and/or populations to achieve nutrition outcomes	Collaborates with clients and stakeholders

APPLICATION PROCESS

AdvAPD applications can be submitted at any time and will be assessed by a DNRC assessor or delegate.

Applicants are required to submit:

- A completed [AdvAPD application form](#) that includes at least two examples of how the applicant demonstrates AdvAPD level leadership as described by the competency standards
- Accompanying evidence to support the examples provided in the AdvAPD application
- A current CV
- Two completed professional referee reports (at least one an APD, preferably an Advanced APD or Fellow of DA)

Applicants can submit their application via email to credentialing@dietitiansaustralia.org.au

It is preferable for applications to be submitted as a bookmarked pdf or word document with a table of contents that allows ease of navigation by the assessors.

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Assessment

A desktop assessment will occur by Regulatory Services portfolio to ensure eligibility and completeness.

AdvAPD applications will be assessed by a DNRC assessor or delegate. Assessors are required to declare any conflict of interests with applicants prior to conducting an assessment.

Applications will be assessed against the assessment rubric (appendix 1) and returned to the Regulatory Services Portfolio.

Outcome

Where an application has been assessed as **meeting** the global criteria for AdvAPD status, a recommendation will be made to the DNRC for endorsement.

Where an application has been assessed as **not meeting** the global criteria for AdvAPD status, the applicant will be provided with the outcome and feedback on their application.

Appeals Process

The following section provides information on the appeals process for AdvAPD application outcomes.

An applicant may lodge an appeal for the following reasons:

1. If they believe that the process outlined in this policy
2. If they believe there is a conflict of interest that has not been declared

All appeals must be in writing and clearly state the grounds for appeal and should include supporting information where applicable.

Appeals must be submitted to credentialing@dietitiansaustralia.org.au within 15 business days of receiving the AdvAPD application outcome.

The General Manager Regulatory Services or delegate will review the appeal application.

Applicants are notified in writing of the outcome of an appeal within 15 business days of receiving the appeal.

- If the appeal is not upheld, the notification will include reasons for rejecting the appeal.

- If the appeal is upheld, the notification will include information on next steps – these will be dependent on the grounds for appeal.

Appendix 1:

AdvAPD Application Assessment Rubric

Assessor Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Applicant Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Date assessment completed: Click or tap to enter a date.

1. Does the applicant demonstrate innovative methods and approaches?	
Performance criteria that may be used to demonstrate evidence of innovation. <i>It is not a requirement for the applicant to address all these performance criteria to evidence innovation, rather, all the performance criteria should be addressed across the whole application to demonstrate advanced level leadership.</i>	1. Advances the profession of nutrition and dietetics
	3. Effectively implements change
	4. Evaluates and disseminates new information
	7. Manages complex problems effectively in ways that enhance outcomes while navigating service requirements and stakeholder relationships
Overall judgement (Met/Not Met)	Choose an item.
Assessor comments:	

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2. Does the applicant demonstrate outcomes which inspires and motivates others in a local context?	
<p>Performance criteria that may be used to demonstrate evidence of inspiration.</p> <p><i>It is not a requirement for the applicant to address all these performance criteria to evidence inspiration, rather, all the performance criteria should be addressed across the whole application to demonstrate advanced level leadership.</i></p>	1. Advances the profession of nutrition and dietetics
	2. Engages in personal and professional development of self and of others
	5. Engages in quality learning and teaching, training/supervision
	6. Recognised as an expert resource and advocate
	7. Manages complex problems effectively in ways that enhance outcomes while navigating service requirements and stakeholder relationships
Overall judgement (Met/Not Met)	Choose an item.
Assessor comments:	

3. Does the applicant demonstrate impacts on health and nutrition outcomes and/or services in a local context?	
<p>Performance criteria that may be used to demonstrate evidence of broad impacts.</p> <p><i>It is not a requirement for the applicant to address all these performance criteria to evidence broad impacts, rather, all the performance criteria should be addressed across the whole application to demonstrate advanced level leadership.</i></p>	1. Advances the profession of nutrition and dietetics
	3. Effectively implements change
	4. Evaluates and disseminates practice and evaluation, research or quality improvement outcomes widely

	6. Recognised as an expert resource and advocate
	7. Manages complex problems effectively in ways that enhance outcomes while navigating service requirements and stakeholder relationships
Overall judgement (Met/Not Met)	Choose an item.
Assessor comments:	

4. Does the applicant demonstrate emerging leadership by exerting significant influence in a local context?	
Performance criteria that may be used to demonstrate evidence of influence. <i>It is not a requirement for the applicant to address all these performance criteria to evidence influence, rather, all the performance criteria should be addressed across the whole application to demonstrate advanced level leadership.</i>	1. Advances the profession of nutrition and dietetics
	3. Effectively implements change
	4. Evaluates and disseminates practice and evaluation, research or quality improvement outcomes widely
	6. Recognised as an expert resource and advocate
	7. Manages complex problems effectively in ways that enhance outcomes while navigating service requirements and stakeholder relationships
Overall judgement (Met/Not Met)	Choose an item.
Assessor comments:	

Global judgement: Does the application demonstrate, sustained leadership in a local context?

(use the above four judgements in making this decision)

Yes – application provides sufficient evidence to demonstrate practice at an AdvAPD level

No – application does not provide enough evidence to demonstrate practice at an AdvAPD level