

Registered Dietitian Roles and Responsibilities

Guideline: The Registered Dietitian will provide routine, scheduled consultations to monitor compliance with state and federal regulations and plan nutritional care for residents.

Procedure:

1. The activities of the Registered Dietitian may include, but are not limited to:
 - Assessing and monitoring the nutritional needs of residents according to established schedules and referral protocols. The Registered Dietitian will keep the physician and appropriate facility staff informed of the nutritional status of residents.
 - The Registered Dietitian may assist in developing the facility menu, is available to make changes to the facility menu to meet the needs and preferences of the facilities residents, and will approve the menu to assure that the menu meets the nutritional needs of residents in accordance with the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences.
 - Developing regular and therapeutic diets or providing oversight for the menu system utilized in the facility.
 - Participate as needed or requested in MDS process, the interdisciplinary plan of care, and in documentation of nutritional care in the medical record.
 - Participation in developing and implementing an individualized plan of care to meet the nutritional needs of each resident.
 - Provide nutrition education for residents and families as needed and requested.
 - Observation and assessment of the dining service program. Assist in development, training and implementation of dining program changes.
 - Completion of monthly kitchen sanitation and safety inspections.
 - Provide oversight and monitoring of food preparation, service and storage.
 - Provide input and monitoring as requesting related to the Dining Service budget.
 - Develop and implement continuing education programs for dining services and other facility staff. The Registered Dietitian will be available to provide an all facility in-service on an annual basis. Additional in-servicing can be done by the Registered Dietitian quarterly or monthly based on the needs of the facility.
 - Serve as preceptor for the Dietary Manager Certification program.
 - Assist the Dining Service Department in maintaining compliance with all state and federal regulations.
 - Assisting in establishing and maintaining clear lines of communication between departments.
2. The Registered Dietitian will make available the opportunity and coordinate exit meetings with the Administrator, Dining Services Manager, and Director of Nursing to review findings and plan corrective actions. All participants will sign the Dietary Consultation Report. The Dietary Consultation report will be filed at the facility with the original provided to the Administrator. Copies of the report will be provided to designated staff.
3. The Registered Dietitian will collaborate with Dining Services Manager and Administrator to develop a plan of work for consulting time. The Administrator shall approve all additional consulting hours beyond the budgeted number of consulting hours per month.
4. The Registered Dietitian will provide the facility with updated documentation of credentials according to state regulations.