

Emerging Dietetic Leader Award (EDL)

Applications are due February 28, 2027

The Emerging Dietetics Leader Award recognizes the competence and activities of members, regardless of their age, who are at the beginning of their dietetics careers. Members who receive this honor support the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the public through demonstrating leadership in legislation, research, education, management and other areas related to the profession.

Requirements

1. Active Washington State Academy member.
2. 5–10 years of initial practice experience (full-time equivalent).
3. Minimum 5 years of active association participation (national, state, or district).
4. Has not received this award in Washington State or another state affiliate.
5. Credentialed RD or DTR with proven leadership in managing projects, staff, or programs.
6. Leadership history within the Academy, professional associations, community, or workplace.

Application

Submit all materials on time. Incomplete and/or late applications will not be scored.

- Complete Online Application: <https://forms.gle/KMVy1BMLHny3CSLQA>
 - Includes uploaded CV/Resume and Letter of Recommendation (please start document title with the candidate's last name)

Applications are scored across four distinct sections:

Category	Points	Response Prompt
Section 1: Elected & Appointed Academy Positions (Max 10 Points)	10	This section evaluates the depth, duration, and organizational level of the candidate's official leadership roles within the Academy (National, State Affiliate, District) and outside of the Academy.
Section 2: Academy Leadership Accomplishments (Max 10 Points)	10	In 200 words or less, provide a narrative description of board leadership accomplishments, either highlight 1-2 key accomplishments or summarize cumulative accomplishments.
Section 3: Career-Related Volunteer Activity (Max 15 Points)	15	In 200 words or less, provide a description of professional impact outside formal roles (e.g., precepting, advocacy, clinics).
Section 4: Emerging Leader Potential (Max 15 Points)	15	In 200 words or less provide a holistic review of personal narrative, references, and career trajectory.

Section 1: Elected and Appointed Positions (Max 10 Points)

This section evaluates the depth, duration, and organizational level of the candidate's official leadership roles (National, State Affiliate, District).

Please select the number of years that you have served in each position.

- National Level - Elected/Appointed
- State Affiliate - Elected/Appointed
- District Level - Elected/Appointed

Please list the specific positions and actual years (not the total number) that you served in the position.

Section 2: Academy Leadership Accomplishments (Max 10 Points)

This section evaluates your volunteer contributions specifically within the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, state affiliates, or district dietetic associations. Your score is determined by the depth, frequency, and breadth of your involvement:

- **9–10 Points (Excellent):** Awarded for exceptional impact. Your volunteer work spans multiple categories and shows clear evidence of driving structural change, policy advancement, or widespread community engagement within the association.
- **6–8 Points (Strong):** Awarded to active volunteers in multiple categories. You demonstrate consistency and reliable engagement in local or state affiliate events.
- **3–5 Points (Moderate):** Awarded for limited or generalized volunteer activity. This tier typically reflects short summaries or involvement confined to only one primary category.

3. Career-Related Volunteer Activity (Max 15 Points)

This section evaluates professional volunteerism, mentorship, and leadership occurring completely outside of Academy roles (e.g., workplace advocacy, corporate initiatives, regional clinical outreach, community clinics, or intern precepting).

- **13–15 Points (Excellent):** Contributions go well above standard job descriptions. The candidate demonstrates high-frequency precepting, manages large-scale regional initiatives, or creates programs addressing public needs (e.g., food insecurity, continuing education funding).
- **9–12 Points (Strong):** The candidate participates in routine mentorship or precepting. They make regular contributions to clinical, educational, or corporate advancement outside their daily job duties.
- **5–8 Points (Moderate):** The candidate provides standard professional contributions, such as occasional precepting or single-event volunteering.
- **0–4 Points (Minimal):** Career-related volunteer only meets standard, day-to-day employment requirements with no true extra-mile impact.

4. Emerging Leader Potential (Max 15 Points)

This section evaluates the candidate's self-reflection, vision, and long-term potential to advance the profession, as demonstrated through their personal statement and summary of cumulative work. Your score is determined by the clarity of the narrative and the evidence of future leadership trajectory:.

- **13–15 Points (Excellent):** Exceptional, cohesive demonstration of leadership. The candidate clearly articulates how past achievements translate into future strategic vision, showing high potential for driving structural change, public policy advancement, or systemic professional growth.
- **9–12 Points (Strong):** Clearly demonstrates solid project and program management skills. The candidate provides a strong, reliable example of leadership ability with an articulated plan to continue contributing to the profession.
- **5–8 Points (Moderate):** Provides standard professional summaries. The description is generalized, focusing mostly on daily job requirements rather than extra-mile impact or future leadership potential.
- **0–4 Points (Minimal):** The narrative is missing, or incomplete.