



LOUISIANA BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN DIETETICS AND NUTRITION

LBEDN Mission Statement:

Our mission is to assure the consumer of qualified licensed professionals. In pursuing our goal, we provide a process by which consumers may file complaints against our licensees or persons practicing dietetics/nutrition without a license.

LBEDN NEWS

January 2020

Licensing Updates

Many licensees claimed Inactive status during the past renewal period. It is a great option for any licensee who is retired, but is not ready to allow his or her license to lapse. Any licensee who has not worked in dietetics/nutrition in the past fiscal year is eligible to claim Inactive status at the time of renewal. In order for licensees to return to Active status, a request must be made in writing and the associated fees paid, or they may renew as Active during the next renewal period.

Renewal totals for April 15, 2019 through August 31, 2019	
Active Renewals (April 15 - June 30)	1127
Inactive Renewals (April 15 - June 30)	50
Delinquent Active Renewals (July 1 - August 31)	147
Delinquent Inactive Renewals (July 1 - August 31)	19
TOTAL RENEWALS	1343

BOARD OPERATIONS

LBEDN continues to grow! We are continuing to see impressive numbers of new, reinstated, and upgraded licensees each fiscal year.

	07/01/2015 through 06/30/2016	07/01/2016 through 06/30/2017	07/01/2017 through 06/30/2018	07/01/2018 through 06/30/2019
New LDNs	72	55	77	86
Reinstated LDNs	12	19	9	11
Provisional LDNs	22	29	22	30
Upgraded Licenses	10	19	15	26
FISCAL YEAR TOTAL	116	122	123	153

Helpful tip

Did you know that renewals begin on April 15th each year?

You may avoid paying a delinquent renewal fee by submitting your online renewal early. Fully licensed LDNs must upload a PDF copy of their CDR card as proof of meeting the continuing education requirements.



Meet the Board

Martina Musmeci Salles, MPH, RDN, LDN, FAND

Board Chairperson

Monica Pierson-McDaniels, MS, RDN, LDN

Board Vice Chairperson

Stephenie Marshall, MS, RDN, LDN, CCHC

Secretary/Treasurer

Jennifer Jackson, EdD, RD, LDN

Board Liaison

April Cintron, MS, RD, LDN

Board Member

Meghan Kavanaugh, APRN, FNP-C, RD, LDN, CDE, BC-ADM

Board Member, Nurses Association

Susan F. Julius, M.D.

Medical Advisor

Vacant

Public Member

Please join us in welcoming our newest Board Members



Monica Pierson-McDaniels, MS, RDN, LDN

Monica Pierson-McDaniels graduated from Southern University and A&M College with an undergraduate degree in nutrition. Upon completion of college, she entered the work force seeking more practical experience. After working for about 1 ½ years, Monica completed her dietetic internship at North Oaks Health System. Monica also earned her Masters of Science in Clinical Nutrition in 2006 from Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science.

Monica has worked in a variety of dietetic/nutrition settings, including hospital, public health, university, and geriatrics. Monica has been a member of the National WIC Association since 2007. She has received several awards, including Special Recognition for 20 years of Service by the Southern University Dietetic Internship in 2014.

Jennifer Jackson, EdD, RD, LDN

Dr. Jennifer Jackson is President and CEO of the nutrition consulting business she founded in 2014. Her clients include the Louisiana Department of Corrections, Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice, several parish correctional centers and juvenile detention homes, along with LARC – a program for people with developmental disabilities, and WIC – a nutrition program for low income women, infants, and children.

Dr. Jackson received a Bachelor of Science degree in Dietetics from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, a Master of Science degree in Foods and Nutrition from Marywood University in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and a Doctor of Education degree in Educational Leadership from University of Phoenix.



Dr. Jackson is assisting future dietitians by serving as guest lecturer at LSU, and proctor for dietetic interns at McNeese University, Tulane University, North Oaks Health System, and Nicholls University.

Susan F. Julius, M.D.



Susan Julius, MD, ABAM, ABFM, AAMRO is a clinician, speaker, and teacher. She is board certified in Family and Addiction Medicine as well as Physical Therapy, and holds a special degree in urine drug testing analysis. Dr. Julius studied Physical Therapy at Cleveland State University and attended Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland, Ohio. She trained for two years in General Surgery at Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans, Louisiana, and completed a Family Practice residency at Ochsner Foundation Hospital in Jefferson, Louisiana.

Dr. Julius incorporated her background in these areas, along with her understanding of the biology of addiction, and her personal journey in recovery to treat patients and families with this disease for over ten years. She worked at Choices of Louisiana, a Methadone clinic in La Place, Louisiana, and was Medical Director for the City of New Orleans Homeless Clinic and Townsend Clinic in Lake Charles and Baton Rouge. Currently, she is the Medical Director at Townsend Recovery Center in New Orleans.

Dr. Julius has been an expert consultant and keynote speaker for American Addiction Centers, and was featured on NBC News, Fox News, Baton Rouge Business Report, and New Orleans Happy Hour Podcast. She worked with the New Orleans Re-entry Program, is active in AA, and served on the Local Action Committee for International Doctors in Alcoholics Anonymous. She is a member of the American Society of Addiction Medicine, American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Medical Association, and the American Association of Medical Review Officers.

*The Board is grateful to the many professionals who give of their time and talent to serve on the Board.
The Board is always looking for new faces to join us in our mission to protect the public!*

BOARD UPDATES

COMPLAINTS

The Board accepts complaints against licensed and unlicensed individuals. Anyone may file a complaint, but must do so on the board's website, www.lbedn.org, or by mailing in a complaint form, along with supporting documentation.

Why does the Board accept complaints?

The Board has been charged with the mission to protect the consumers of Louisiana. The Board licenses individuals to ensure that they are qualified to provide dietetic/nutrition services to the consumer. While the Board vets individuals through the application process to ensure they meet initial requirements, the Board is still responsible to govern the practice of those licensees to ensure skilled and competent practice.

In what instances should dietitians/nutritionists file a complaint?

In Louisiana, the Practice Act not only offers protection on the scope of practice for dietitians and nutritionists, but also title protection. First and foremost, complaints should be filed if you have concerns about a Licensed Dietitian/Nutritionist, since the Board exists to regulate dietitians and nutritionists. Secondly, if someone is offering services in the scope of practice of a Licensed Dietitian/Nutritionist, but is not licensed, they may be reported to the Board. Additionally, if you see someone who is calling themselves a "Nutritionist" or "Dietitian", but they do not hold a license, they should also be reported to the Board. Of course, best practice would be to speak with the individual to let them know that there is a licensure law in place in Louisiana, before filing a complaint.

Many times people truly don't know that they are violating the law.

Will the individual be notified who filed the complaint?

In most cases, the Board sends a letter to the individual being complained of, notifying them that a complaint has been filed. The individual is not notified of who filed the complaint unless and until the matter would go to hearing or during discovery by attorneys.

ENTRY-LEVEL DEGREE CHANGES

As many of you are aware, the entry-level degree requirement for dietetics/nutrition will be increasing to the minimum of a graduate degree at the national level as of January 1, 2024. According to CDR, a graduate degree includes a master's degree, practice doctorate, and doctoral degree (e.g., Ph.D., Ed.D., and D.Sc.). The need to elevate entry-level education to a graduate level is consistent with the knowledge, skills, and research base required in the field of nutrition and dietetics, and is necessary to protect the public, remain competitive, and increase recognition and respect.

While the Louisiana Board of Examiners in Dietetics and Nutrition (LBEDN) has not yet made revisions to the state licensure requirements, the Board does have plans to do so. LBEDN is making plans to work with the Louisiana Academy in Nutrition and Dietetics (LAND) to ensure that Louisiana maintains the highest standards in keeping with the national changes.

Contact Us

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BOARD PRESENTATIONS:

Is your group interested in having a Board member present information regarding licensure law, board activities or related topics? The Board is interested in addressing your needs. We especially welcome the opportunity to speak with student groups, interns, and district associations. To request a presentation, please call or email Tracy at the Board office. We ask that you make your request three months in advance if possible. We want to meet with you to share about our law and rules, and to answer your questions.

This process makes that possible!