

Co-signing Dietetic Students' Records

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Authority: *Health Professions Act*, section 16(2)(d); CDBC bylaws Schedule A, Code of Ethics, Principle 2.

Background:

The College is required to “*establish, monitor and enforce standards of practice to enhance the quality of practice and reduce incompetent, impaired or unethical practice amongst registrants.*”

In addition, Principle 2 of the CDBC Code of Ethics states “*A Registered Dietitian assumes responsibility and holds her/himself personally accountable for all actions taken in the delivery of dietetic services by: ... assuming responsibility for services provided by those under their supervision.*”

Dietetic students are not registrants of the CDBC. Registrants who agree to supervise dietetic students are therefore accountable to the client and responsible for the care the dietetic students provide. These supervisory actions enhance the dietetic student's practice and protect the public from harm.

Policy:

The supervising Registered Dietitian (RD) reviews the dietetic student's care and entry in the client's record (after client care is provided) and co-signs the entry with explanatory notes or corrective actions, as necessary. Co-signing is required whether or not client care is observed.

References:

- [CDBC Practice Guidelines - Co-signing Students' Records](#)
- [CDBC Code of Ethics - Principles and Guidelines](#)