An Informational Guide to the NDTR Exam

What is the DTR Exam?
The Nutrition and Dietetics’ Technician, Registered (NDTR) Exam is a test that assesses your knowledge of Food Science and Food Service, Nutrition Science and Care for both individuals and groups, and Management of Food and Nutrition Services.

How do I qualify for the DTR Exam?

- Complete a 4-year Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) program resulting in a bachelor’s degree in nutrition.
- Email your DPD Director (Dr. Christaldi) requesting your intent to take the NDTR Exam, including your full legal name as it appears on your driver’s license or passport.
- Dr. Christaldi will supply and email paperwork and instructions for you to complete.
  - If you do not write your name EXACTLY as it appears on your driver’s license you WILL NOT be permitted to take the exam upon arrival to the test site.
  - Once all paperwork is received, student names will be submitted to the CDR on the 15th of each month. Check your email 3 days after the 15th for an email from the CDR.
    - Check your spam folder

How and what should I study to prepare?

- Test Specifications
  - Nutrition Science and Care for Individuals and Groups 44%
    - Principles of Basic and Normal Nutrition
    - Screening and Assessment
    - Planning and Intervention
    - Monitoring and Evaluation
  - Food Science and Food Service 24%
    - Menu Development
    - Procurement and Supply Management
    - Food Production, Distribution, and Service
    - Sanitation, Safety, Facility and Equipment
  - Management of Food and Nutrition Services 32%
    - Human Resources
    - Finance and Materials
    - Marketing Products and Services
    - Management Principles and Functions
    - Quality Processes and Research
    - Procurement and Supply Management

• How to study
  o Study materials are available for purchase through the CDR and EatRight websites
    ▪ https://www.cdrnet.org/form-of-interest-to-propective-RDs-and-DTRs
    ▪ http://www.eatrightstore.org/products/books-publications/study-guides
  o Others include:
    ▪ DTR Study Buddy - http://www.dtrstudybuddy.com/
    ▪ Visual Veggies - https://visualveggies.com/
    ▪ https://www.amazon.com/Dietetic-Technician-Registered-Secrets-Study/dp/1609716612

What do the scores mean?
• In order to pass the DTR Exam, you must score at least a 25 on a scale of 1 to 50.

Frequently Asked Questions:
• How many questions will be on the Exam?
  The multiple-choice examination will be variable length. Each examinee will be given, and must receive, a minimum of one hundred and ten (110) questions; eighty (80) scored questions and thirty (30) pretest questions in order for the examination to be scored. The maximum number of questions possible is one hundred and thirty (130); one hundred scored questions and thirty (30) un-scored questions.

• How much is the examination application fee?
  The examination application fee is $120 for dietetic technicians.

• How much time will examinees have to complete the examination?
  Examination testing appointments are three (3) hours; two and one-half (2 ½ ) hours to take the examination, twenty (20) minutes to complete introductory tutorial, and ten (10) minutes to complete the post examination survey.

For more information about the NDTR Exam, please see the Exam FAQ page on the CDR’s website: