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Republic of the Philippines Professional Regulation Commission Manila



PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF NUTRITION AND DIETETICS RESOLUTION NO. 07 Series of 2017

IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10862, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF NUTRITION AND DIETETICS IN THE PHILIPPINES, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1286, KNOWN AS THE "NUTRITION AND DIETETICS DECREE OF 1977", APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES

Pursuant to Section 11 (a), Article IV and Section 43, Article IX of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 10862, otherwise known as An Act Regulating the Practice of Nutrition and Dietetics in the Philippines, Repealing for the Purpose Presidential Decree No. 1286, known as the "Nutrition and Dietetics Decree of 1977", Appropriating Funds therefor and for other Related Purposes, also known as the "Nutrition and Dietetics Law of 2016", the Professional Regulatory Board of Nutrition and Dietetics, with the approval of the Professional Regulation Commission, hereby prescribes, issues and promulgates this Resolution to implement the provisions of R. A. No. 10862.

RULE I

TITLE, DECLARATION OF POLICY, OBJECTIVES, DEFINITION OF TERMS

Section 1. *Title.* – This Resolution shall be known and cited as the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of R. A. No.10862, entitled "An Act Regulating the Practice of Nutrition and Dietetics in the Philippines, Repealing for the Purpose Presidential Decree No. 1286, known as the 'Nutrition and Dietetics Decree of 1977', Appropriating Funds therefor and for other Related Purposes".

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. – The State recognizes the important role of Registered Nutritionist-Dietitians (RNDs) in nation-building and in human development through adequate nutrition. Towards this end, the State shall promote the sustained development of RNDs whose competence has been determined by honest and credible licensure examinations, and whose standards of professional service and practice are internationally recognized and considered world-class, brought about by regulatory measures, programs and activities that foster growth and advancement of the profession.

This IRR of R. A. No. 10862 shall be interpreted, construed and carried out in the light of the Declaration of Policy enshrined in Section 2, Article II of R. A. No. 10862.

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Section 3. Objectives. - R. A. No. 10862 and this IRR shall govern the:

- a) standardization and regulation of Nutrition and Dietetics education;
- b) examination, registration and licensure of RNDs;
- c) standardization, supervision, control and regulation of the practice of Nutrition and Dietetics;
- d) development of professional competence of RNDs through Continuing Professional Development (CPD); and
- e) integration of the Nutrition and Dietetics profession.

Section 4. Definition of Terms. – For purposes of this IRR, the following terms shall mean:

- a) Accredited Integrated Professional Organization (AIPO) refers to the one and only accredited integrated professional organization of Nutritionist-Dietitians recognized by the Board, subject to the approval of the Commission;
- b) Allied Medical and Health Sciences/ related/equivalent refers to physicians, nurses, social workers, midwives, pharmacists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, psychologists, dentists, etc.;
- c) Certificate of Registration (COR) refers to the document issued by the Commission entitling the holder thereof to practice as an RND after complying with all the requirements under the law;
- d) Comprehensive Nutrition and Dietetics Specialty Programs refer to those which are aimed at upgrading the level of skills and competence of RND specialists aligned with international nutrition and dietetic practices and guidelines in the areas of diabetes management, cardiovascular disease management, renal disease management, oncology, nutrition support, weight management, sports nutrition, obstetrics, paediatrics, and dental medicine, among others;
- e) Continuing Professional Development (CPD) refers to the inculcation of advanced knowledge, skills and ethical values in a post-licensure specialization or in an inter- or multi-disciplinary field of study for assimilation into professional practice, self-directed research and/or lifelong learning;
- f) Dietetics refers to the science and art of applying the principles of nutrition to the planning and preparation of foods, and the management of the diet in relation to both health and disease. It also refers to the promotive, preventive, therapeutic, and administrative aspects of

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the delivery of nutritional services in hospitals, food service institutions and other healthcare institutions/ facilities;

- **g)** Foreign Reciprocity refers to Section 7 (j) of R. A. No. 8981 and Section 15 (a), Article V and Section 31, Article VI of R. A. No. 10862;
- h) Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) refers to a nutritional diagnostic therapy, and counselling services for the purpose of disease management; services are furnished by a registered nutritionist-dietitian. It involves the assessment of the nutritional status of patients with a condition, illness, or injury that puts them at risk; this includes review and analysis of medical and diet history, laboratory values, and body measurements. Based on the nutritional assessment, modalities most appropriate to manage the condition or treat the illness or injury are chosen and include the following:
 - 1. Diet modification, counseling, and education leading to the development of a personal diet plan to achieve nutritional goals and desired health outcomes; and
 - 2. Specialized nutrition therapies including supplementation with medical foods for those unable to obtain adequate nutrients through food intake only; this may include enteral nutrition delivered via tube feeding into the gastrointestinal tract for those unable to ingest or digest food, and/or parenteral nutrition delivered via intravenous infusion for those unable to absorb nutrients. (Reference: *The American Dietetic Association*)

Primary physicians shall refer all cases of MNT as herein defined to RNDs unless the physician is at the same time an RND.

- Nutrition refers to the science of dealing with food, nutrient composition, eating habits, nutritional status, and health and diseases of individuals and populations. Nutrition also covers the social, economic, environmental, cultural, political, agricultural and psychological implications of food and eating;
- **j)** Nutrition Care Process (NCP) is a process of identifying, planning for, and meeting nutritional needs and which includes four (4) steps: assessment, diagnosis, intervention, monitoring and evaluation;
- k) Profession refers to the practice of the science and art or discipline of Nutrition and Dietetics combined;
- Professional Identification Card (PIC) refers to the document issued by Commission to an RND who has paid the prescribed fees corresponding to the three (3) year renewal period and who has complied with such other requirements, including the CPD;
- m) Registered Nutritionist-Dietitian (RND) refers to an individual who holds a valid Certificate of Registration (COR) and Professional Identification Card (PIC) issued by the Board and the Commission pursuant to R. A. No. 10862 and this IRR;
- n) Special/Temporary Permit refers to the provisional authority granted to a foreign Registered Dietitian-Nutritionist (RDN) to practice in the

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Philippines under the conditions set forth by R. A. No. 10862 and other applicable laws, rules and regulations; and

o) Table of Specifications (TOS) refers to the list of outcome-based competencies which the licensure examination measures and assesses.

RULE II

NUTRITION AND DIETETICS EDUCATION

Section 5. *Nutrition and Dietetics Education Program.* – The Nutrition and Dietetics Education Program shall provide sound general and professional foundation for the practice of Nutrition. The learning experiences shall adhere strictly to specific requirements embodied in the prescribed curriculum as promulgated by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). These shall guide the policies and standards for Nutrition and Dietetics education.

Section 6. *Qualifications of the Faculty.* – A member of the faculty in the college offering a program on Nutrition and Dietetics must:

- a) Be an RND in the Philippines with updated Professional Identification Card (PIC);
- b) Preferably have at least one (1) year of practice in the field of specialization;
- c) Be a member in good standing of the AIPO; and
- d) Preferably a holder of master's degree or currently pursuing a master's degree in Nutrition and Dietetics, or other allied medical and health sciences conferred by a college or a university duly recognized by CHED.

In addition to the aforementioned qualifications, the head of the program must have a master's degree in Nutrition and Dietetics and must have at least five (5) years of experience in Nutrition and Dietetics: *Provided*, that the Board may impose additional qualifications for the faculty that will further enhance the standards of the profession.

RULE III

PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF NUTRITION AND DIETETICS

Section 7. Creation and Composition of the Professional Regulatory Board of Nutrition and Dietetics. – There is hereby created a Professional Regulatory Board of Nutrition and Dietetics, hereinafter referred to as the Board, a collegial body under the administrative supervision and control of the Professional Regulation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, to be composed of a Chairperson and two

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(2) Members appointed by the President of the Philippines from a list of two (2) recommendees for each position chosen and submitted by the Commission from a list of three (3) nominees for every position endorsed by the AIPO.

Section 8. *Qualifications of Chairperson and Members of the Board.* – The Chairperson and Members shall, at the time of their appointments, possess all the following requirements:

- a) citizen and resident of the Philippines;
- b) at least thirty-five (35) years of age;
- c) of good moral character;
- d) not convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of an offense involving moral turpitude;
- e) RND, with valid COR and PIC;
- holder of masters/Ph.D degree in Nutrition and Dietetics or related field from an institution recognized by CHED;
- g) have at least five (5) years of continuous practice of the profession prior to their appointments;
- h) member in good standing of the AIPO;
- i) not a member of the faculty of any school, college or university where a course in Nutrition and Dietetics is offered at the time of appointment;
- j) not an owner, shareholder, manager, consultant, staff or in any way connected to a review school or center and
- k) not an officer, board member or trustee of the AIPO.

Provided, that any person who is appointed as Board Chairperson or Member shall automatically resign from any teaching position in any school, college university, and/or review program for the local Nutrition-Dietetics board examinations. They shall not have any pecuniary interest in, or administrative supervision over, any institution offering Nutrition and Dietetics programs, including review classes.

Section 9. *Term of Office.* – The Chairperson and Members of the Board shall hold office for a term of three (3) years from the date of appointment or until their successors shall have been qualified and appointed. They may be reappointed to the same office for another term of three (3) years immediately after the expiry of their term: *Provided*, that the holding of such position or office shall not be more than two (2) terms or more than six (6) years. Any vacancy in the position of the Chairperson shall be

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occupied in an acting capacity or as an officer-in-charge by the most senior Member of the Board until the Chairperson shall have been appointed by the Commission. The Chairperson and the Members shall duly take their oath of office.

Section 10. *Compensation, Allowances and other Benefits.* – The Chairperson and Members of the Board shall receive compensation, allowances and other benefits as provided for in the General Appropriations Act, subject to existing rules and regulations issued by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

Section 11. Powers, Functions, Duties and Responsibilities of the Board. – The Board shall exercise executive, administrative, rule-making, and quasi-judicial powers in carrying out the provisions of R. A. No. 10862. It shall be vested with the following specific powers, functions, duties and responsibilities:

Regulatory Functions:

- a) Issue and promulgate the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of R. A. No. 10862;
- b) Adopt and promulgate a Code of Ethics, Code of Good Governance, and Code of Technical Standards for the Practice of Nutrition and Dietetics;
- c) Adopt an official seal of the Board;
- d) Conduct regular consultation with members and other concerned organizations on enhancing the professional development of RNDs;
- e) Enter, together with the Commission, into a Memorandum of Agreement with the CHED in ensuring that all higher educational instructions and offerings of degree, course or program comply with the policies, standards, and requirements of the course prescribed by the CHED in the areas of curriculum, faculty, library, and facilities;

Licensure Functions:

- Prescribe and promulgate the Tables of Specifications (TOS) and syllabi for the subjects in the licensure examination, in consultation with the academe and the CHED;
- g) Prepare questions for the subjects in the licensure examinations, give and correct the examinations, and release their results;
- h) Evaluate and approve applications for licensure examination/s;
- i) Issue, suspend, revoke or reinstate the COR and Special/Temporary Permits for the practice of Nutrition and Dietetics;
- j) Administer oaths in the performance of its functions;

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- Monitor the conditions affecting the practice of Nutrition and Dietetics as may be deemed proper for the maintenance of professional, ethical and technical standards;
- Reissue or reinstate revoked or suspended COR and unexpired PIC: Provided, that the revoked COR shall only be reissued after the lapse of the period provided in R. A. No. 10862: Provided further, that the Board shall issue a Resolution thereon, subject to approval by the Commission, after the suspended RND has established fitness to practice anew Nutrition and Dietetics;

Administrative Functions;

- m) Hear and investigate cases of violations of R. A. No. 10862, this IRR, the Code of Ethics, the Code of Good Governance, the Code of Technical Standards for the practice of profession, and other policies; and for this purpose, issue summons, *subpoena ad testificandum* and *subpoena duces tecum* to secure the attendance of parties or witnesses or the production of documents in such hearings or investigations;
- n) Delegate the hearing or investigation of cases against alleged violators: Provided, that the hearing or investigation of cases wherein the issue or question involved strictly concerns the technical practice of Nutrition and Dietetics shall be presided over by at least one (1) Board Member assisted by a Legal or Hearing Officer of the Commission;
- endorse cases involving criminal violations of R. A. No. 10862 and other laws, its rules and regulations, and other policies to the Prosecution Office for investigation and, at the discretion of the Board, file a complaint with the same;
- p) Decide administrative cases against examinees or RNDs: *Provided*, that if found guilty, the Board shall cancel their examination papers and/or ban them from taking another licensure examination, or revoke or suspend their CORs: *Provided further*, that the effectivity of the penalty shall only commence from the date of surrender of the COR, together with the PIC: *Provided furthermore*, that the decision of the Board shall, unless appealed to the Commission, become final and executory after fifteen (15) days from receipt of notice of judgment or decision;
- q) Conduct, through the Legal or Hearing Officer, summary proceedings on minor violations of R. A. No. 10862, this IRR, any of the Codes aforementioned, the General Instructions to Examinees committed by examinees, and to render summary judgment thereon which shall, unless appealed to the Commission, become final and executory after fifteen (15) days from receipt of notice of judgment or decision;
- r) Prepare an annual report of accomplishment, programs, projects and activities of the Board during the year of submission to the Commission after the close of each calendar year and make appropriate recommendations on issues or problems affecting the profession to the Commission; and

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> s) Discharge other implied, incident, and necessary powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities for the effective implementation of the provisions of R. A. No. 10862 and its policies or measures, and the achievement of its objectives.

Section 12. Grounds for Removal or Suspension of Board Chairperson and **Members.** - The President of the Philippines may, upon the recommendation of the Commission and after due process, remove or suspend the Chairperson or any Member of the Board on any of the following grounds:

- a) Gross neglect, incompetence or dishonesty in the discharge of his/her duty;
- b) Violation of the Revised Penal Code or Republic Act No. 3019 or "The Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act"; and
- c) Manipulation or rigging of the results of the licensure examination for Nutritionist-Dietitians, disclosure of secret and confidential information on the examination questions prior to the conduct thereof or the tampering of grades.

The Commission, in the conduct of the investigation, shall be guided by Section 7(s) of R. A. No. 8981, the rules on administrative investigation, and the applicable provisions of the Rules of Court.

Section 13. *Records and Support Services.* – The Commission shall have administrative supervision over the Board. It shall keep all records of the Board including applications for examination, examination papers and results, minutes of deliberation, and administrative cases. It shall likewise designate the Secretary of the Board who shall be a staff member in the Commission and shall provide the other support services to the Board in order to implement the provisions of R. A. No. 10862.

RULE IV

EXAMINATION, REGISTRATION, CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE

Section 14. Passing of Licensure Examination Requirement. – Except as otherwise specifically allowed under R. A. No. 10862, applicants for registration for the practice of Nutrition and Dietetics shall be required to pass the Licensure Examination for Nutritionist-Dietitians as provided for in R. A. No. 10862.

It shall be held in such places and dates as the Commission may designate in the Resolution thereof on the Master Schedules for all licensure examinations in accordance with Section 7(d) of R. A. No. 8981.

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Section 15. *Qualifications of Applicants.* – An applicant for the Licensure Examination for Nutritionist-Dietitians shall satisfactorily prove that he/she is:

- a citizen of the Philippines or of any foreign country/state which has a policy or law on reciprocity for Filipinos relative to the practice of Nutrition and Dietetics in accordance with Section 31 of R. A. No. 10862;
- b) of good moral character;
- c) a holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Nutrition and Dietetics or its equivalent which is duly recognized or accredited by the CHED and conferred by a school/college/university, whether here or abroad, duly authorized by the government; and
- d) not convicted of an offense involving moral turpitude by a court of competent jurisdiction.

In support of the application, the following documentary requirements must be submitted:

- a) original and photocopy of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) issued Certificate of Live Birth;
- b) PSA-issued Marriage Certificate (in case of married females);
- c) National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) Clearance;
- d) certification of Good Moral Character issued by any of the following: barangay, church, school or employer;
- e) certified true copy of the Transcript of Records in Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics or its equivalent; and
- f) other requirements that the Board may deem necessary.

Section 16. *Foreign Reciprocity.* – No foreign RND/RDN shall be granted any of the rights and privileges under R. A. No. 10862 unless the country of which he/she is a subject or citizen grants the same or similar rights or privileges to Filipino RNDs.

A foreign citizen, whether he/she studied in the Philippines or not, who desires to take the Licensure Examination for Nutritionist-Dietitians through reciprocity shall initiate the establishment of reciprocity between his/her country or state and the Philippines by submitting a letter or any document signed by and under the official seal of the appropriate official of his/her country or state requesting the Chairperson of the Board to allow the foreign applicant to take the licensure examination; and that by express provision of the law of his/her country or state and the Philippines are signatories, Filipino citizens are allowed to take the Licensure Examination for Nutritionist-Dietitians and to

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register as such in said foreign country or state on terms of strict and absolute equality with its own citizens or subjects, including the unconditional recognition of prerequisite degrees issued by institutions of higher learning duly recognized or established by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, attaching/appending thereto an authenticated copy of said law, treaty, agreement or covenant officially translated in the English language, if applicable.

If the letter/document and the copy of the law or treaty, agreement or covenant submitted by the applicant is satisfactory to the Board, the foreign applicant shall be allowed to take the Licensure Examination for Nutritionist-Dietitians by requiring him/her to file an application to take the licensure examination and by submitting the following documents that shall accompany the application:

- a) original or certified true copy of any official document issued by the Bureau of Immigration (BI) allowing the applicant to enter and reside in the Philippines;
- b) copy of passport for examination and for photocopying of pertinent information about the applicant;
- c) original or certified true copy of the transcript of records or equivalent document of the course for licensure examination issued by an institution of higher learning, and which must be duly authorized or accredited by the country or state which issued such document, in case the applicant studied outside of the Philippines: *Provided*, that the documents must also be certified by CHED to be equivalent to the degree in Nutrition and Dietetics accredited/recognized in the Philippines; and
- d) Other documents which may be required to be submitted by the Board.

Section 17. Scope of Examination. – The Licensure Examination for Nutritionist-Dietitians shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a) Hospital Dietetics;
- d) Food Service; and
- c) Community Nutrition and Public Health Nutrition.

The Board, subject to approval by the Commission, may revise or exclude any of the subjects or add new ones thereto, including in their respective syllabi and TOS, as the need arises, to conform to technological changes brought about by continuing trends in the profession.

Section 18. *Rating in the Licensure Examination.* - To pass the Licensure Examination for Nutritionist-Dietitians, a candidate must obtain a general or weighted average rating of seventy-five percent (75%), with no rating below fifty percent (50%) in any subject: *Provided*, that an applicant who fails to obtain a passing average but who

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obtained at least seventy-five percent (75%) in each of at least one-half of the total subjects given in the examination, may be permitted to take within two (2) years from the date of his/her examination, another examination on the subjects in which he/she obtained a grade below seventy-five percent (75%). Should the examinee fail in the set of subjects repeated in the second (2nd) examination, he/she shall be required to take all the subjects in the next examination.

Section 19. Report of Rating. - The Board shall submit to the Commission the ratings obtained by the candidates not later than ten (10) days after the last day of the examination, unless it is extended for a valid cause.

Section 20. *Oath.* – All successful candidates in the licensure examination shall take their oath of profession before the Chairperson or any of the Members of the Board or any authorized officer of the Commission prior to entering the practice of Nutrition and Dietetics.

Section 21. Issuance of Certificate of Registration (COR) and Professional Identification Card (PIC). – A COR shall be issued to those who have passed the licensure examination, subject to compliance with the registration requirements and payment of fees, as prescribed by the Commission. It shall bear the signature of the Chairperson of the Commission and the Chairperson and Members of the Board, indicating that the person named therein is entitled to the practice of the profession with all the privileges appurtenant thereto. Until withdrawn, revoked, or suspended in accordance with R. A. No. 10862, the COR shall remain in full force and effect.

A PIC, bearing the registration number and date, its validity and expiry duly signed by the Commission Chairperson, shall likewise be issued to every registrant who has paid the prescribed fee. It shall be renewed every three (3) years upon payment of the prescribed fees therefor and compliance with the CPD requirement.

Section 22. *Grounds for Non-registration* – The Board shall not register any successful examinee who has been:

- Convicted by final judgment of an offense involving moral turpitude by a court of competent jurisdiction;
- And
- b) Adjudged guilty for violation of the General Instructions to Examinees by the Board; and
- c) Declared of unsound mind by a court of competent jurisdiction.

In refusing such registration, the Board shall give the applicant a written statement setting forth the reasons therefor and shall file a copy thereof in its records.

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Section 23. Practice Through Special/Temporary Permits. – Special/Temporary Permits may be issued by the Board, subject to the approval by the Commission and payment of fees which the latter shall prescribe, to foreign RNDs/RDNs whose services are either for free or for a fee in the following instances:

- a) If they are internationally well-known RNDs/RDNs or experts in any branch or specialty of Nutrition and Dietetics;
- b) If their services are urgently necessary for lack or inadequacy of available local specialists or experts for the promotion and advancement of the practice of Nutrition and Dietetics through transfer of technology;
- c) If their services are intended for indigent patients whether in a particular healthcare facility or while in humanitarian mission; and
- d) If they are employed as exchange professors in a branch or specialty of Nutrition and Dietetics in schools, colleges or universities offering the course of Nutrition and Dietetics.

The permit shall be valid for a period of not more than one (1) year, subject to renewal. It shall indicate, among others, the branch or specialty of nutrition and dietetics, and the specific place of practice such as clinic, hospital, center, school, college or university offering the course of nutrition and dietetics. The Board, subject to approval by the Commission, shall promulgate rules and regulations in the implementation of this particular section.

Section 24. *Revocation or Suspension of the Certificate of Registration and Cancellation of Special/Temporary Permit.* – The Board shall have the power, after due process, to revoke or suspend the COR or to cancel a Special/Temporary Permit upon any of the following grounds:

- a) Violation of any provision of R. A. No. 10862, this IRR, Code of Ethics, Code of Good Governance, standards for the practice of Nutrition and Dietetics, policy, and measures of the Board and/or the Commission;
- b) Conviction of an offense involving moral turpitude by a court of competent jurisdiction;
- c) Perpetration or use of fraud in obtaining his/her COR, PIC or Special/Temporary permit;
- d) Gross incompetence, negligence or ignorance resulting in death, injury or damage;
- e) Neglect or failure to pay the annual registration fees for five (5) consecutive years;
- f) Aiding or abetting the illegal practice of a non-registered and licensed person by allowing the use of his/her COR and/or PIC or Special/Temporary Permit;

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- g) Practicing the profession during his/her suspension from the practice thereof; and
- h) Drug or alcohol abuse impairing his/her ability to practice the profession or declared of unsound mind by a court of competent jurisdiction.

The Board shall periodically evaluate the aforementioned grounds, and revise or add new ones as the need arises, subject to approval by the Commission.

Any person may file charge/s against any registrant in accordance with the provision of this section. An affidavit-complaint shall be filed together with the affidavits of witnesses and other documentary evidence with the Board through the Legal and Investigation Office: *Provided*, that the Board may, *motu proprio*, recommend an investigation of any RND for violation of any of the abovementioned causes. The *motu proprio* action to recommend an investigation shall be embodied in a resolution to be signed by at least the majority of the Members of the Board. The rules on administrative investigation issued by the Commission shall govern the hearing or investigation, subject to applicable provisions of R. A. No. 10862, R. A. No. 8981, and suppletorily the Rules of Court.

Reissuance of Revoked Section 25. Certificate of Registration, Replacement of Lost or Damaged Certificate of Registration, Professional Identification Card or Special Temporary Permit. - The Board may, upon petition, reinstate or reissue a revoked COR after four (4) years from the effectivity of the period for revocation, which is the date of surrender of the said COR and/or the PIC if still valid, to the Board and/or the Commission. The Board may impose a shorter period of time to reinstate or reissue said certificate. In all cases, the Board shall not require the holder thereof to take another licensure examination unless the ground violated is the commission of fraud under Section 24 (c) hereof. The petitioner shall prove to the Board that he/she has valid reason/s to practice the profession and that he/she has undergone CPD Program. For the grant of the petition, the Board shall issue a Board Resolution, subject to the approval by the Commission.

A duplicate copy of lost COR, PIC or Special/Temporary Permit may be reissued in accordance with rules thereon and upon payment of the prescribed fee.

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Section 26. Non-payment of Annual Registration Fee. – The Board shall suspend an RND from the practice of his/her profession for nonpayment of the annual registration fees for five (5) consecutive years from its last or previous year of payment and for non-renewal of license every three (3) years. The resumption of his/her practice shall take place only upon payment of the delinquent fees plus surcharges and interest, and in accordance with the rules of the Commission. The five (5)-year suspension period may be interrupted upon written notice of the discontinuance of his/her practice and surrender of the COR to the Board and/or the Commission.

Section 27. Vested Rights. – All RNDs registered before the effectivity of R. A. No. 10862 shall automatically be registered thereunder, subject to the provisions

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therein set forth as to future requirements. CORs, PICs or Special/Temporary Permits held by such persons in good standing at such effectivity shall have the same force and effect as though they were issued under the provisions of R. A. No. 10862.

RULE V

PRACTICE OF NUTRITION AND DIETETICS

Section 28. Scope of Practice in Nutrition and Dietetics. - A person is deemed to be in the practice of Nutrition and Dietetics within the meaning and intent of R. A. No. 10862 when he/she, for a fee, salary or other reward or compensation, paid to the individual or through another person or even without such rewards or compensation, renders or offers to render professional services in Nutrition and Dietetics such as providing:

- a) Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) through the application of the Nutrition Care Process (NCP) for purposes of disease prevention, treatment and management;
- b) quality food/nutrition products, programs and services aimed at optimizing the health and well-being of clients;
- c) services that promote nutritional health and well-being of individuals, groups, communities and populations;
- d) quality standards, guidelines and policies that create and encourage an environment that supports nutrition and health;
- evidence-based food and nutrition researches across a variety of practice settings;
- education and training about food and nutrition in a variety of practice settings; and
- g) directions in the nutritional formulation of food products and development of nutrition labels and nutrition claims.

The Board, subject to the approval by the Commission, in consultation with the AIPO, may modify the scope of practice specified above as the need arises in order to keep the same aligned with local and international developments: *Provided*, that such modifications are consistent with the enumeration above.

Section 29. Required RNDs for Various Types of Healthcare Institutions and other Establishments. - The Department of Health (DOH) through the National Nutrition Council (NNC) and the AIPO, shall determine the appropriate number of RNDs for various types of healthcare institutions and other establishments that need their professional services.

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The necessary guidelines shall thereafter be issued for the proper implementation of this section.

Section 30. Roster of Nutritionist-Dietitians. - A roster of RNDs shall be prepared annually by the Commission. This roster shall contain the name and address of each RND, date of registration or issuance of COR and other dates, which, in the opinion of the Board, may appear pertinent. The roster shall be opened for public inspection, subject to the existing policies of the Commission, and copies thereof shall be on file in the records of the Commission. Other bureaus or government agencies and the public may be given a copy upon request.

Section 31. Lawful Practitioners of Nutrition and Dietetics. - The following persons shall be authorized to practice Nutrition and Dietetics:

- a) RNDs who are holders of valid CORs and PICs issued by the Board and the Commission pursuant to R. A. No. 10862; and
- b) Foreign RNDs/RDNs who are holders of valid Special/Temporary Permits issued by the Board and the Commission pursuant to R. A. No. 10862.

Section 32. Requirement for Inactive Nutritionist-Dietitians Returning to **Practice.** - Nutritionist-Dietitians who have not actively practiced the profession for five (5) consecutive years as assessed by the Board are required to attend a refresher course and CPD Program.

The Board shall issue the corresponding guidelines for this purpose.

Section 33. Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program. -All RNDs shall abide by the requirements, rules and regulations on Continuing Professional Development to be promulgated by the Board, subject to the approval by the Commission, in coordination with the AIPO or any duly accredited educational institutions.

Section 34. Code of Ethics, Code of Good Governance and Code of Technical Standards. – The Board, in consultation with the AIPO and other stakeholders, shall adopt and promulgate the Code of Ethics, Code of Good Governance and Code of Technical Standards that shall govern the standards of the Nutrition and Dietetics practice in the country.

Section 35. Identification of Numbers: Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification Card, Professional Tax Receipt (PTR), AIPO Membership and Official Receipt (O.R.). - The Nutritionist-Dietitian shall be required to indicate his/her COR number and date of its issuance, and the expiry of his/her current PIC, PTR number, AIPO membership number and O.R. number on the documents he/she signs, uses, or issues in connection with the practice of Nutrition and Dietetics.

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Section 36. Posting of Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification Card or Special Temporary Permit. - The COR and PIC of RNDs or Special/Temporary Permit in original or authentic/authenticated copies shall be posted in a conspicuous place or kept on file in his/her office.

Those previously registered in accordance with Presidential Decree No. 1286 shall retain their COR numbers.

Section 37. *Integration of the Nutrition and Dietetics Profession.* - The Nutrition and Dietetics profession shall be integrated into one (1) national professional organization of RNDs that is duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The Board, subject to approval of the Commission, shall accredit the organization as the one and only AIPO. All RNDs whose names appear in the registry book of RNDs shall ipso facto become members thereof and shall receive all the benefits and privileges appurtenant thereto, upon payment of AIPO membership fees and dues.

Membership in the AIPO shall not be a bar to membership in other Nutrition and Dietetics organizations.

RULE VI

NUTRITION AND DIETETICS HUMAN RESOURCE PRODUCTION, UTILIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Section 38. Studies for Nutrition and Dietetics Manpower Needs, Production, Utilization and Development. - The Board, in coordination with the AIPO and appropriate government or private agencies shall initiate, undertake and conduct studies on nutrition and dietetics human resource production, utilization and development.

Section 39. Comprehensive Nutrition and Dietetics Specialty Program. - The Board, in coordination with the AIPO, recognized specialty organizations and the DOH, is hereby mandated to formulate and develop a comprehensive nutrition and dietetics specialty program that would upgrade the level of skills and competence of nutritionistdietitian specialists in the country, such as, but not limited to, the areas of diabetes management, cardiovascular disease management, renal disease management, oncology, nutrition support, weight management, sports nutrition, behavioral health nutrition, pediatric nutrition, geriatric nutrition, dental nutrition, and such other areas as may be determined by the Board.

RULE VII.

PENAL PROVISIONS

Section 40. Penal Provision. - Any person who shall commit any of the following acts, shall, upon conviction, be imposed a fine of not less than three hundred thousand pesos (P300,000.00) and/or imprisonment of not less than six (6) months, at the discretion of the court:

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- a) Offering himself/herself as, or using the title "Nutritionist-Dietitian", or any word, letter, figure, or sign whatsoever, tending to convey the impression that he/she is a RND, or advertising or indicating in any manner that he/she is qualified to perform the work of a RND without holding a valid COR and a valid PIC as issued by the Board in accordance with R. A. No. 10862 and/or covered by reciprocity, unless exempt from registration;
- b) Practicing Nutrition and Dietetics without a valid COR, PIC and/or Special/ Temporary Permit;
- c) Attempting to use the seal, COR and/or PIC of an RND or Special/ Temporary Permit issued to foreign Nutritionist-Dietitian;
- Abetting the illegal practice of Nutrition and Dietetics by an unregistered or unauthorized person; and
- e) Impersonating an RND or a holder of a Special/Temporary Permit.

RULE VIII

FINAL PROVISIONS

Section 41. Enforcement - In carrying out the provisions of R. A. No. 10862 and this IRR, the Board shall be assisted by the Commission, the AIPO, duly constituted government agencies and authorities, and private organizations in the industry. A memorandum of agreement between agencies or organizations may be executed.

Section 42. *Appropriations* - The fund or budget for the implementation of R. A. No. 10862 and this IRR shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act of the Commission: *Provided*, that the amount incurred for its initial implementation shall be charged against the current year's appropriation of the Commission.

Section 43. *Transitory Provisions*. - The incumbent Board shall, in an interim capacity, continue to operate or function in carrying out the provisions of this R. A. No. 10862, without need of new appointments, until the first Board created under R. A. No. 10862 shall have been constituted or organized pursuant thereto.

Section 44. Separability Clause. - If any provision, section, or part of this IRR shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, invalidate or impair any other provisions, sections or parts hereof, but shall be merely confined to the provision, section, or part thereof that is directly involved in the issue upon which such judgment has been rendered.

Section 45. *Repealing Clause*. - Presidential Decree No. 1286 is hereby repealed. Laws, decrees, orders, letters of instruction, rules and regulations, or other issuances, and parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this IRR are likewise repealed or modified accordingly.

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Section 46. *Effectivity.* - This IRR shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in any major daily newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Let copies hereof be furnished the University of the Philippines Law Center, CHED, Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Civil Service Commission (CSC), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and other relevant offices/associations for information.

Promulgated in the City of Manila this 22nd day of September 2017.

Ving the B. E Chairperson

IMELDA ANGELES-AGDEPPA Member

RHODA JØY RAMOS-BUENVIAJE Member

ATTESTED:

Liti J. Ball

LOVELIKA T. BAUTISTA OIC, Secretary's Office of the Professional Regulatory Boards

APPROVED:

KP

TEOFILO S. PILANDO, JR. Chairman

nhund 8 sept 2017

ANGELINE T. CHUA CHIACO Commissioner

ANDA D REYES Commissioner

O-CH/O-COMMI/O-COMMI/PRB-ND/D-LGL/D-SRB TSP/ATCC/YDR/VBB/ERII/LTB

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