

Standard 12. Privacy/Confidentiality

Standard

Registered Dietitians uphold and protect **clients'** rights to privacy and confidentiality of information collected during the delivery of **professional services** by complying with applicable legislative and regulatory requirements.

Indicators

To demonstrate this standard, Registered Dietitians will:

- a) Ensure client **consent** is obtained prior to collecting or disclosing personal, organizational, and/or business information, unless **duty to report** obligations is required.
- b) Access and collect only the client information that is essential to carry out the delivery of safe, competent, ethical services.
- c) Use physical, technical, and administrative safeguards (e.g., locked filing cabinets, passwords) to protect paper-based, audio, video, electronic or other client information.
- d) Avoid conversations about clients and/or professional services provided that can be overheard and/or breach privacy and confidentiality.

Practice Outcome

Clients can expect Registered Dietitians to keep their information private and secure.

Related Standards

- Client-Centred Services
- Consent
- Professional Practice Obligations
- Record Keeping

Resources

- College of Dietitians of Ontario. (2017). *Unpacking Consent: Professional & Regulatory Obligations for Dietetic Practice*. Available at: <https://www.collegeofdietitians.org/Resources/Document-Type/E-Learning-Modules/Consent-Learning-Modules.aspx>
- Government of Canada. (2015). *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA) website*. Available at: <https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/privacy-topics/privacy-laws-in-canada/the-personal-information-protection-and-electronic-documents-act-pipeda/>
- Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice v.3 Available at: <https://www.saskdietitians.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Integrated-Competencies-For-Dietetic-Education-And-Practice-ICDEPV-3-August-4-2020.pdf>

Saskatchewan Resources

- Government of Saskatchewan. (2016). *The Health Information Protection Act*. Available at: <http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/freelaw/documents/english/Statutes/Statutes/H0-021.pdf>
- Saskatchewan College of Dietitians. (2005). *Code of Ethics*. Available at: <https://www.saskdietitians.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/SCD-Code-of-Ethics-2005.pdf>
- Saskatchewan College of Dietitians (2018). *Guideline on Consent*. Available at: <https://www.saskdietitians.org/scd-standards-for-safe-competent-ethical-conduct/>
- Saskatchewan College of Dietitians (2018). *Guideline on Documentation*. Available at: <https://www.saskdietitians.org/scd-standards-for-safe-competent-ethical-conduct/>