

STANDARD 8

CONFLICT OF INTEREST



Saskatchewan
College of Dietitians

Standard

Registered Dietitians will avoid real or perceived **conflicts of interest** in which professional integrity, professional independence or the provision of **professional services** could be compromised. Conflicts of interest which cannot be avoided must be disclosed and managed.

Indicators

To demonstrate this standard, Registered Dietitians will:

- a) Recognize any situations in which a conflict of interest could have an impact on their professional judgment.
- b) Avoid any conflict of interest in which professional services could be compromised.
- c) When a conflict of interest cannot be avoided, disclose to the appropriate authority (e.g., manager, team leader), manage the situation, and/or discontinue professional services.
- d) Document any conflict of interest, the efforts to manage it, and the outcome(s).
- e) Provide options for the provision of services and/or products when a conflict of interest exists.
- f) Refrain from accepting personal incentives (e.g., gifts, donations, funding, recruitment/referral fees) from service and/or product sponsors when the Registered Dietitian stands to profit personally and/or financially.
- g) Refrain from offering incentives to **clients** that places the Registered Dietitian's personal gain above their professional responsibilities.

Practice Outcome

Clients can expect Registered Dietitians to provide professional services that are in the client's best interests and to disclose and manage any conflicts of interest.

Related Standards

- Advertising
- Boundaries
- Client-Centred Services
- Professional Practice Obligations
- Record Keeping

Resources

Advertising Standards Canada. (2017). Canadian Code of Advertising Standards. Available at: <http://www.adstandards.com/en/Standards/canCodeOfAdStandards.aspx>

Partnership for Dietetic Education and Practice. (2020). The Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice (ICDEP). Available [here](#).

Saskatchewan Resources

Saskatchewan College of Dietitians Code of Ethics for Registered Dietitians. Available at: <http://www.saskdietitians.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Code-of-Ethics-SCD.pdf>

Saskatchewan College of Dietitians Jurisprudence Workbook.

Saskatchewan College of Dietitians Guideline for Self-Employed Registered Dietitians in Saskatchewan. Available at: <https://www.saskdietitians.org/SCD/standards-documents/>