

HOD Fact Sheet

House of Delegates

Spring 2010

The ADA House of Delegates - Delegates Working For Members - What's It All About?

HOD Vision Statement: The House of Delegates, as the voice of members, governs the profession and develops policy on major professional issues.

To govern the profession of dietetics, the HOD engages in the following activities:

- Monitors and evaluates trends affecting the profession,
- Monitors member issues and mega issues, and the resulting actions,
- Approves standards of education and standards of practice,
- Reviews, debates, and approves professional standards,
- Establishes the size and structure of the House,
- Adopts and revises with the Commission on Dietetic Registration a code of ethics for dietetics practitioners, disciplinary procedures for unethical conduct, and reinstatement conditions,
- Makes recommendations on standards, qualifications, and other issues related to credentialing to the Commission on Dietetic Registration,
- Makes recommendations on accreditation, approval and related issues to the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education,
- Provides direction for quality management in dietetics practice,
- Identifies and develops position statements,
- Provides oversight to ADA Bylaws and,
- Assists with recruitment and retention efforts related to ADA membership, plus leadership development.

The HOD includes (total number of delegates = 103 as of June 1, 2010):

- *66 Affiliate Delegates* are elected by members of the 53 affiliate dietetic associations.
- *9 Professional Issues Delegates* are elected by the general ADA membership and represent the broad areas of practice (education, research, clinical, community, consultation & business practice and management) and are linked with the dietetics practice groups (DPGs) that have yet to implement a DPG Delegate.
- *12 Dietetic Practice Group Delegates* are elected or appointed by DPG membership and represent the specific DPG from which they are elected/appointed (note: by June 2012 all 28 DPGs will have a DPG Delegate).
- *10 At-Large Delegates:*
 - ✓ One delegate representing *CADE* (appointed by CADE)
 - ✓ One delegate representing *CDR* (appointed by CDR)
 - ✓ One delegate representing *student members* (elected by the Student Council Advisory Committee)
 - ✓ Two delegates representing *DTRs* (elected nationally)
 - ✓ One delegate representing *retired members* (elected by HOD)
 - ✓ One delegate representing *members under 30 years of age* (elected by HOD)
 - ✓ Three delegates representing the *broad membership* (elected by the HOD).

- *6 HOD Directors* comprise the House Leadership Team (HLT), including the Speaker, Speaker-elect, and immediate Past-Speaker, elected by the membership. They are members of the ADA Board of Directors (BOD).

Responsibilities of a delegate:

- Interact with members to identify issues important to the membership
- Identify professional issues affecting dietetics practice and be knowledgeable about these issues
- Participate in the discussions of the House of Delegates to provide direction on member and professional issues
- Communicate member and professional issues to the HOD Leadership Team
- Contribute to trend identification and strategic planning
- Inform members about the Association activities, programs and services and HOD initiatives.

ADA members can expect delegates to:

- Provide regular updates on HOD and ADA activities
- Request input on issues being discussed by HOD
- Request identification of trends and issues affecting the profession
- Identify potential members for leadership roles with the Association
- Support the membership recruitment and retention efforts of ADA
- Assist accessing information from ADA
- Assist submitting issues or concerns about the profession or Association.



ADA members can support the delegate by:

- Reviewing electronic and/or written information about ADA and HOD regularly
- Providing input to issues being discussed by HOD
- Identifying trends and issues affecting the profession
- Sharing knowledge of HOD and ADA activities with others.

Communication to and from your delegate-

The delegate

- wants to hear from members
- shares key Association and HOD information with members
- wants your ideas, concerns and issues
- needs to know the best method for communicating with members.

To find more information on ADA and the work of the HOD, visit the ADA Web site at www.eatright.org/hod