

2010 ADA Member Benefits Update

As the nation's leading experts on food and nutrition, a lot is expected of members of the American Dietetic Association (ADA), whether it's by clients, employers, or the public. In turn, as a member, you expect a lot of your association, and ADA delivers with an ever-expanding array of member benefits designed to help you develop your skills, advance your career, and achieve your professional goals (Figure). By becoming one of the more than 70,000 members of the nation's largest organization of food and nutrition practitioners, you give yourself access to a wide variety of benefits, including information resources, educational opportunities, public policy initiatives, practice-based research, networking connections, and promotional tools. In fact, ADA offers so many different benefits—with new and improved offerings every year—that some members may not be aware of the full spectrum of career-enhancing resources their membership dues allow them to enjoy.

ADA wants you to take full advantage of all the opportunities available to you, so this article provides a listing of some of the newer and most important resources ADA provides, accompanied by brief descriptions of their function. Please feel free to share this list with your colleagues, or direct it to someone you think may qualify for membership—we've made this article open access so nonmembers can see what they're missing!

INFORMATION RESOURCES

There is more and food and nutrition information available today than ever before, but sorting through all of it to find the latest insights can be overwhelming. Thankfully, you can count

on ADA to provide the knowledge you need to succeed in today's dynamic dietetics field. Registered dietitians (RDs) and dietetic technicians, registered (DTRs), can stay up to date with the latest information on the profession and keep their skills current with a variety of both print and electronic publications and online resources that are accessible whenever and however they need them.

www.eatright.org: Newly redesigned, ADA's Web site is faster, more user-friendly, offers a more powerful search function, and can be personalized to meet your needs. The new eatright.org features five sections specifically targeted to members, students, the public, the media, and other health professionals, making it easier for all visitors to access the content they want. Build your MyADA profile and get involved with quick links to blogs, forums, surveys, and online communities—and get connected by easily subscribing to and sharing e-newsletters, RSS feeds, podcasts, and videos. And as always, eatright.org keeps you informed with 24/7 access to scientific and professional resources, and links that are essential for any food and nutrition practitioner. The secure, member-only site can be accessed using your member ID and password, and provides a wealth of information and programs in a location that guards your privacy.

Knowledge Center: ADA understands that knowledge is power, which is why it created a dynamic resource center well suited to members' needs. The Knowledge Center gets you quick food and nutrition reference assistance. Information is available via phone at 800/877-1600, ext 4853 or 4784, or e-mail at knowledge@eatright.org.

Publications and Electronic Newsletters

Journal of the American Dietetic Association: ADA's flagship publication is the premier source for information on the practice and science of food, nutrition,

and dietetics. The monthly, peer-reviewed journal presents original articles prepared by scholars and practitioners and is the most widely read professional publication in the field. The *Journal* Web site, which can be easily accessed once you log into the member-only section of eatright.org, provides 24-hour research access and a searchable database of *Journal* articles back to 1993, as well as exclusive online-only material, including supplemental figures and tables and PowerPoint slides for selected articles.

ADA NewsBytes: This monthly e-newsletter from ADA's Board of Directors informs members of developments affecting food, nutrition, and health topics, as well as ADA's legislative and regulatory priorities.

ADA Times: This award-winning quarterly magazine keeps you informed of the latest trends and opportunities in the dietetics profession. It also provides information essential to growing in your career, including research briefs and industry trends, hot topics in nutrition, professional development resources, public policy issues, and Association news.

Daily News: Opt in to receive this key resource for keeping abreast of the top news stories concerning dietetics and the profession. Delivered to your e-mail inbox every weekday morning, ADA's *Daily News* is a quick review of the nation's leading food, nutrition, and health headlines, with links directly to the articles.

ADA New in Review: Formerly a section of the *Journal*, the new online exclusive ADA New in Review compiles abstracts and citations from nearly 200 different scientific and professional publications to convey fundamental knowledge in nutritional science that spans specialty practice. The monthly ADA New in Review e-mail alerts members to recent updates and provides an overview of each month's content, while the New in Review page at www.eatright.org/adanewinreview

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TOPICS OF PROFESSIONAL INTEREST

Information Resources	Publications & Electronic Newsletters	Career Resources	Practice Resources	Social Networking	Educational Opportunities	Policy Initiatives & Advocacy	Science & Quality	Networking	Promotion	Additional Member Benefits
eatright.org	<i>Journal of the American Dietetic Association</i>	ADACareerLink	Hot Topics	Communities of Interest (COIs)	Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo (FNCE)	<i>ADA Policy Initiatives and Advocacy Report</i>	Dietetics Practice-Based Research Network	Dietetic Practice Groups (DPGs)	National Nutrition Month Materials	Honors and Awards
Knowledge Center	<i>ADA NewsBytes</i>	<i>Compensation and Benefits Survey of the Dietetics Profession 2009</i>	Eat Right Messages	<i>RDs Weigh In</i> blog	Center for Professional Development	ADA Political Action Committee (ADAPAC)	Evidence Analysis Library	Member Interest Groups (MIGs)	Registered Dietitian Day	Credit Card Services
	<i>ADA Times</i>	Career Center at eatright.org	Evidence-Based Nutrition Practice Guidelines and Toolkits	Public Policy blog	Free Online Journal Continuing Professional Education (CPE)	<i>On the Pulse</i>	Nutrition Care Process and Model (NCP)	State Affiliate Dietetic Associations	Find a Registered Dietitian Online Referral Service	ADA Travel Store
	<i>Daily News</i>	Center for Career Opportunities (at FNCE)	Nutrition Care Manual (NCM)	DPG blogs	Leadership Institute	Public Policy Workshop (PPW)	Quality Management		Me, Inc, Online Branding Toolkit	Professional Liability & Other Insurance Products
	ADA New in Review	ADA Foundation Scholarships and Grants	MNT Practice Resources	Student blog			Nutrition Services Measures		Public Relations	ADA's Products & Services Catalog
			Position and Practice Papers				Scope of Dietetics Practice Framework			
							Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance			

Figure. ADA member benefits.

provides 24/7 access to both new material and archives.

Career Resources

ADACareerLink: ADA's online job service allows you to post résumés, target searches by specialty and geographic location, respond directly to job listings, and receive e-mail alerts about new positions. For a fee, you can also recruit professionals for your organization. Access this indispensable service under the Career Center in the Member section of eatright.org.

Compensation and Benefits Survey of the Dietetics Profession 2009: This comprehensive report details compensation for dozens of core RD and DTR jobs, broken down by region, education, experience, supervisory and budget responsibility, and several other factors. You can also use this informa-

tion to determine fair market value for your services by accessing the interactive salary calculation worksheet available at eatright.org, which is based on a statistical model developed with data from the survey. The worksheet offers a rough idea of what professionals with similar characteristics and in similar situations earn, on average, and provides a sense of the relative importance of each factor in predicting salaries. Members enjoy significantly reduced pricing for this downloadable report.

Center for Career Opportunities: The Center for Career Opportunities is a 1-day exhibit opportunity for Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo (FNCE) exhibitors and other employers to meet face-to-face with qualified nutrition professionals who are interested in employment opportunities. Attend-

ees are encouraged to bring their résumés in order to participate fully and get the most from the experience. Employers who have participated in the event have commented on the high caliber of potential recruits, and with attendees coming from across the country, you could find your next dietetics employee or employer at this event no matter where you are located.

ADA Foundation: The American Dietetic Association Foundation is the world's largest charitable organization devoted exclusively to nutrition and dietetics. As the philanthropic arm of the ADA, the Foundation focuses on food and nutrition research, scholarships, awards, and healthy weight for kids. As the largest provider of dietetic scholarships, an important and valuable member benefit,

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