

## **Career Starter Dues Program**

The Career Starter Dues Program offers reduced dues rates for members in their first five years of eligibility for the Active membership category. This program was designed to support recent graduates and new professionals who are still getting established in the profession.

### **How does it work?**

The reduced dues offered through this program are based on either your RDN or NDTR exam eligibility date year on file with Commission on Dietetics Registration (CDR), or in lieu of that, your graduation date year. The dues rates are tiered, gradually increasing every year until you are five years removed from your exam eligibility or graduation year, at which point you would advance to paying the full Active rate.



### **How do I enroll?**

- If you have an eligibility date on file with the CDR to sit for either the RDN or NDTR exam, and that date is within the last five years, you will automatically qualify for the program. Current members are automatically enrolled. If you are not currently a member, you will automatically be enrolled when joining online.
- If you became eligible as an NDTR, but have pursued your RDN credential, contact us to be placed back into the program.
- If you qualify for Active membership but are not pursuing a CDR credential, your Career Starter Dues rate must be processed manually by the Academy Membership Team based on the graduation date year provided in your verification documents when you apply. Once you are enrolled in the program you will not need to reapply.

### **What if I just became eligible but already renewed as a Student? You have two choices:**

- You may maintain your Student membership for the current year and renew as an Active First Year member next year. This change will be automatic, and the Academy will prompt you to renew at the correct rate.
- You may call the Academy's Member Service Center (800/877-1600, ext. 5000) and upgrade your membership to Active by paying the difference between the Student rate you have already paid and the Active First Year rate you are moving to. This will allow you to take full advantage of all the membership benefits the Academy offers.

### **Will Career Starter Dues affect my benefits?**

No. You will be considered an Active category member and will receive access to all the Academy's membership benefits and privileges. The only difference is you will see a different membership package displayed when joining or renewing, for example Active First Year, or Active Fourth Year, etc.

Please contact the Academy's Membership Team at [membership@eatright.org](mailto:membership@eatright.org) for more information or to see if you qualify.