



THE MENU

Bulletin of the Texas Board of Examiners of Dietitians

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GOVERNOR APPOINTS NEW MEMBERS TO THE TSBED

Governor George W. Bush appointed three new members to the Texas State Board of Examiners of Dietitians in October 1999. After serving on the TSBED for five years, Ms. Lucille DiDomenico of Dallas and Ms. Margarette Harden of Lubbock are being replaced by Mr. Richard A. Roman of El Paso and Mr. Eugene E. Wisakowsky of Waxahachie, respectively. Ms. Helen O'Reilly is leaving the TSBED after twelve years of service and is being replaced by Mr. Ralph McGahagin. The board is extremely grateful for the years of hard work and dedication to the TSBED of the outgoing members.

TSBED PROUDLY WELCOMES

Mr. Ralph McGahagin ⚙ **Mr. Richard Roman** ⚙ **Mr. Eugene Wisakowsky**

Mr. Ralph McGahagin will be serving as a professional member. Mr. McGahagin directs the Nutrition Services Program and is the Contract Manager for the Food Services and Test Kitchen Operations of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (MHMR) at the Austin State Hospital campus. In addition to serving on the TSBED, Mr. McGahagin is a volunteer for the Meals on Wheels Program and the Surrogate Decision-Making Program for MHMR clients. After beginning his education at Rutgers University and receiving his Bachelor of Science Degree, Mr. McGahagin's dietetic education was completed at the University of Texas in 1991. Mr. McGahagin's

accomplishments and knowledge will be an asset to the TSBED.

Mr. Richard Roman will be serving as a public member. Mr. Roman is an attorney currently practicing in a private law firm that focuses on administrative (city, county, state, and federal) issues for small businesses and small business transactions, contracts, corporations, partnerships and provides general business counsel. In addition to serving on the TSBED, Mr. Roman has served on the U.S. Department of Energy's National Coal Advisory Council and the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization Intermodal Transportation Hub Task Force, and is a member of the State Bar of Texas Mentor-Protégé Program.

After receiving his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Anthropology from the University of Texas at San Antonio, Mr. Roman received his J.D. from Texas Southern-Thurgood Marshall School of Law in 1992. Mr. Roman brings to the TSBED valuable legal experience and talent.

Mr. Eugene Wisakowsky will also be serving as a professional member. Mr. Wisakowsky is a Registered Dietitian and is currently Vice President of Country Flavor, Inc., a Dallas-based food manufacturing operation. He received his undergraduate and graduate education at Texas A&M University. Mr. Wisakowsky's experience as a professional dietitian will be an asset to the TSBED.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CONCERNS?

Continuing Education (CE) hours must be offered or approved by the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) or its agents **OR** be offered by a regionally accredited college or university. If the hours are being offered or approved by CDR, continuing education approval may be requested prior or subsequent to the date of the activity. Only program providers/sponsors may request prior approval.

Subsequent Approval Activities

✓ Subsequent approved activities are individual or group educational activities for which program providers/sponsors have not opted to request continuing education hour approval on behalf of RDs prior to the date of the activity.

✓ Evaluation of continuing education activities on a subsequent approval basis is the responsibility of the Office of Dietetic Credentialing. Subsequent Approval Continuing Education Reporting forms can be obtained from the Office on Dietetic Credentialing.

Reporting Instructions for Subsequent Approval Activities According to the CDR

✓ Complete the Subsequent Approval Continuing Education Reporting Form by following the instructions provided on the form. Several activities can be reported on a single form. Indicate the number of continuing education hours requested.

✓ Submit the reporting form to the Office on Dietetic Credentialing postmarked within thirty days of the activity date. Submit requests for authoring publications postmarked within six months of the publication date. Submit requests for academic course work postmarked within five years of the course completion date.

✓ Provide title(s) of presentation(s) with program goals, learner educational objectives, and anticipated outcomes; speaker(s)/instructor(s) qualifications, and; timing outline, including time spent for registration, introductions, welcomes, and coffee and meal breaks.

Texas Follows ADA Guidelines

The Texas State Board of Examiners of Dietitians (TSBED) follows ADA guidelines for approving continuing education hours that have been offered or approved by the CDR or its agents. If the activity you attended was not approved prior to attending, you must submit the activity to the CDR within 30 days from the date of attendance in order to receive continuing education credit. If you do not submit the continuing education within that time, you may not receive credit for that particular activity.

If you are relying upon the program sponsor to obtain CDR approval, we suggest that you follow-up with CDR to verify that the activity was submitted and approved. In a number of instances, the licensee understood the activity he/she completed was being submitted for to CDR and later discovered it wasn't approved. If CDR will not allow subsequent approval for the activity, the TSBED cannot accept the activity for continuing education credit hours.

One exception to the CDR approval process is regionally accredited college or university hours, in which case the TSBED may review and approve these continuing education hours.

RENEWAL PROCESSING
*CONCERNED ABOUT THE LENGTHY
 RENEWAL PROCESSING TIME?*

The key to receiving a renewal before your certification expires is to renew as soon as possible after receiving your TDH renewal notice. Renewal reminders are mailed approximately sixty (60) days prior to the expiration date printed on your certificate. Because renewal applications require **four (4) to five (5) weeks to process**, allow this additional time **BEFORE** your expiration date to submit your carefully completed renewal application along with your renewal fee of \$45 and all required documentation.

Here are a few more hints to speed your renewal along the process:

→ Send all items together in the color-coded envelope enclosed with your renewal notice.

- Include a cashiers check or money order in the amount of \$45 payable to the Texas Department of Health. **DO NOT SENT CASH!**
- Include the payment coupon with the Lockbox address sent along with your renewal notice.
- Be sure to answer the "conviction" question.
- Complete and sign the renewal application form.
- Complete the Statement of Continuing Education Form. **DO NOT** write "see attached" or "see enclosures" on this form.
- Sign the Statement of Continuing Education Form.
- If selected for an audit, submit written documentation showing completion of six (6) hours of continuing education activities. Examples of documentation: official transcripts, certificates, diplomas, agendas, programs, or an affidavit from the presenter.
- If any of your continuing education activities received subsequent approval, attach a completed "Subsequent Approval Continuing Professional Education Reporting Form" approved by CDR.

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(NOTE: Please do not mail correspondence to
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**CONSUMER COMPLAINT
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P. O. Box 141369
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*Texas State Board of Examiners of Dietitians
on the World Wide Web!*

The Texas State Board of Examiners of Dietitians
has a home page on the World Wide Web.

Check us out at

<http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/hcqs/plc/diet.htm>

**Next Board Meeting
June 22-23, 2000
Embassy Suites
at the Arboretum
Austin, Texas**

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For comments concerning the content of *The Menu*, suggestions for articles in future issues, or information, write to the Texas State Board of Examiners of Dietitians, 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, Texas 78756-3183. Phone: 512/834-6601. Fax: to the attention of the TSBED at 512/834-6677. E-mail: dietitian@licc.tdh.state.tx.us.

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