

# Tennessee Specific Industry Certification (TSIC) for Dietetics and Nutrition

**Aligned Program of Study:** Dietetics and Nutrition

## Aligned Courses:

- Introduction to Human Studies (6137)
- Nutrition Across the Lifespan (6005)
- Nutrition Science and Diet Therapy (6007)

## Description

The Tennessee Specific Industry Certification (TSIC) for Dietetics and Nutrition aligns to the Dietetics and Nutrition program of study and tests content from course levels one, two, and three. The department and TSIC key partners approved exam content areas, learning outcomes, and questions for the 2017-18 academic year. The course content and certification exam are aligned to postsecondary standards and provide the opportunity to earn both industry credentialing and postsecondary credit. TSIC work group members representing Tennessee's postsecondary, secondary, and industry organizations developed learning outcomes and a certification exam. Students who meet or exceed the established passing score set for the exam earn credit that can be applied to participating public postsecondary institutions in Tennessee and will be awarded a TSIC certification from Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation. Students completing the required course levels in the aligned program of study are eligible to sit for the TSIC certification exam.

## Materials and Resources

[Elizabeth Rafferty](#), Human Services program manager, will provide training materials and resources.

## Training and Testing

The Human Services program manager will provide training once a year. The two-day professional development training will include information about the learning outcomes and exam questions, collaboration with other teachers, a practice exam with sample questions, and information about exam requirements and logistics. Training dates will be announced each year in the Human Services newsletter update.

Testing dates, information, and guidance will be provided during the two-day training.

## Procedures

1. Appoint one school-based staff member (not a teacher in the aligned career cluster) per participating school to act as testing coordinator for the current school year. The appointed staff member will be the point of contact for the department.
2. Ensure teacher(s) assigned to the aligned courses have the content knowledge and ability to guide their students to success in mastering the course learning outcomes. Teachers should

also be well-informed about how their students can benefit from industry certification and early postsecondary opportunities.

3. Ensure each TSIC teacher completes the required professional development training. The training will cover the alignment and expectation of secondary and postsecondary learning outcomes, as well as certification examination administration policies and procedures.
4. Administer the statewide TSIC certification exam:
  - a. Only students that have completed course levels one through three are eligible to sit for the exam. All students eligible to sit for the exam are required to take the certification exam at the end of the third level course in the program of study to determine subject mastery.
  - b. There is no cost to students, parents, schools, or districts for TSIC certification exam participation.
  - c. Students who are not enrolled in their third level of coursework in the aligned program of study are not permitted to take the certification exam.
  - d. Students may only take the TSIC certification exam **one** time for postsecondary credit. Scores from any subsequent attempts will not be eligible for postsecondary credit.
  - e. Schools will work with state and district technology staff to ensure smooth administration of the exam prior to the TSIC testing window to be announced.
5. Ensure certification exam procedures and guidelines are followed, and report any irregularities that occur during the certification exam to the appropriate testing official.
6. Ensure that all requested student information is correctly uploaded into the testing administration platform on or before the certification exam registration deadline for every student eligible to take the exam. The student information will be demographic in nature and will ensure that earned credits are transferred from the Early Postsecondary database to the appropriate postsecondary institution for credit award upon student matriculation. The handling of all data will, at all times, adhere to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
7. Disseminate promotional materials and other information about the TSIC to interested stakeholders, including but not limited to students, parents, educators, and community members.
8. Participate in surveys or other data collection efforts intended to help the department improve the TSIC structure.

<b>Exam</b>	Tennessee Specific Industry Certification (TSIC) for Dietetics and Nutrition
<b>Questions</b>	Question type - multiple choice Number of questions - 100 questions Length of Test - 2 hours Passing score - 70 percent or higher
<b>Price</b>	No Cost