Organizational Sign-on Letter: Requesting Extension of 2025 DGAC Nomination Period

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the Center for Science in the Public Interest are seeking organizational sign-ons to the letter pasted below to submit to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Department of Agriculture regarding 2025 DGAC nominations. The deadline to sign on is 12 PM EST on Friday, July 8. Please complete the form below.

Questions and requests for a pdf of the letter should be directed to ptuma@eatright.org and cochrancspinet.org.

Janet M. de Jesus, MS, RD
Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH)
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
1101 Wootton Parkway, Suite 420
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Request for Extension to Submit Nominations for Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee

Dear Ms. de Jesus:

The undersigned organizations represent professional associations, health organizations, advocacy groups, and other entities committed to promoting a better understanding of the importance of healthy eating, physical activity, and obesity control to the nation's health and health-care costs. We are invested in ensuring the 2025-2030 Dietary Guidelines for Americans are scientifically rigorous, transparently developed, and widely accepted and adopted by the general public, and we strongly support the work of the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services and Agriculture (collectively, the “agencies”) in promulgating them.

We respectfully request that the agencies extend the deadline for nominating individuals to serve on the 2025-2030 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee (DGAC). The request for nominations was issued on June 15, 2022 and was scheduled to remain open for a mere thirty days, with a deadline of July 15, 2022.

Consistent with the recommendations of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (the “National Academies”) for developing the Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGAs), the agencies initiated a new process for the 2020-2025 DGAs with an initial stage at which they determined the topics and scientific questions to be reviewed. This initial stage was specifically undertaken to ensure that the members of the DGAC
were selected to have the relevant expertise in the chosen subject matter. As the agencies note for this process, “The expertise required of Committee members is specific to the scientific topics prioritized by HHS and USDA and it is preferable if nominees have expertise in more than one of the topics.”

However, because the topics and scientific questions have yet to be finalized, it is impossible to ensure our nominees will have the requisite expertise specific to the topics and questions when finalized. We respectfully urge the agencies to extend the deadline for submitting nominations until the agencies finalize the proposed scientific questions and topics, but at minimum, extend the deadline fifteen or thirty days with assurance that the topics currently referenced in https://www.dietaryguidelines.gov/work-under-way/call-nominations will not change.

We thank you for your consideration of this request that will better enable the agencies to implement the recommendations of the National Academies and ensure selection of the most appropriate nominees with the necessary expertise to serve on the DGAC. Please contact Pepin Tuma at the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics on behalf of the undersigned at 202-775-8277 x6001 or by email at ptuma@eatright.org with any questions or requests for additional information.

Sincerely,
[Names of Organizations]
Do you have authorization to sign your organization on?

- Yes

Submit

Clear form