

The purpose of the RYDY program is to recognize the competence and activities of younger dietitians in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and to encourage their continued participation in association affairs. This group will be an additional resource from which the leadership of the association will develop both at the district, state, and national levels.

**Criteria for Selection** (Affiliates may develop more detailed criteria to meet their needs.)

1. Member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
2. Age limit as of May 1 deadline, 35 years or younger.
3. Active participation in the national, state, or district association.
4. Is a Registered Dietitian or Registered Dietitian Nutritionist.
5. Not previously selected as an RYDY.
6. Demonstrated concern for the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the population.
7. Demonstrated leadership, e.g., in legislation, research, education, management, etc., either in the Association or employment.

**Selection Procedure**

1. The complete responsibility for the selection of the recipient rests with the affiliate association. The affiliate award chair, affiliate president, or person designated by the state should coordinate the process. Another state officer or person may be designated to coordinate award information/applications for the state if needed.
2. The maximum number of RYDY per affiliate, per year, is based on the number of districts. An affiliate may choose one RYDY from each district, but may not have more than one in a district.