Section 10 [nursing facilities].

(1) Staffing. The facility shall employ a qualified dietician either full time, part time, or on a consultant basis.

(a) If a qualified dietician is not employed full time, the facility shall designate a person to serve as the director of food service.

(b) Qualified dietician means a person who has earned at least a baccalaureate degree from a college or university which is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities, or an accrediting agency recognized by the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities or a successor to the powers of both; and

1. Successfully completed minimum academic requirements established by the Commission on Dietetic Registration, an affiliate of the National Commission for Health Certifying Agencies; or

2. Successfully completed one (1) of the accredited experience options established by the Commission on Dietetic Registration, which includes but is not limited to, completion of an accredited coordinated undergraduate program, an accredited dietetic internship, and approved three (3) preplanned work experience, or a master’s degree in nutrition or a related area with six (6) months of full-time or equivalent qualifying experience.

(2) Sufficient staff. The facility shall employ sufficient support personnel competent to carry out the functions of the dietary service.