

CDM, CFPP Apprentice Career Assessment Tool

Assess Your Skills, Motivations and Goals

A rewarding career is one that is satisfying and motivates you to want to succeed day after day, and a career that makes it easy to get up and go to work each day! It drives you to help your team succeed, serve your clients, and contribute to the success of the place where you work.

As you consider a career in foodservice management as a Certified Dietary Manager, Certified Food Protection Professional (CDM, CFPP), consider your current competencies, motivations, and aspirations. What do you really want to do? What will be rewarding and fulfilling? How can you meet that goal?

Not sure? Think about your life experiences so far. As you look at where you've been and where you want to be, consider the following questions:

What are your favorite hobbies and interests?

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____

What do you like best about the culinary field?

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____

What three culinary skills are you most proud of?

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____

What motivates you?

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____



**Begin Your Journey
Toward a Fulfilling Career as
a CDM, CFPP Apprentice**



Did you list any areas above that you feel would make you a successful foodservice manager?

These may include interpersonal skills such as:

- Producing a great meal
- Making others feel comfortable
- Motivating and training others
- Leading teams
- Solving problems
- Organizing elements of a task
- Listening and communicating
- Working hard to achieve goals

Did you indicate you have an interest in growing your culinary skills, managing budgets and inventory, learning how to meet deadlines, and practicing creative thinking? Does your list also include an interest in health, nutrition, and food?

By now, you probably have an idea whether there is a match!

If you are ready for a career as a CDM, CFPP — begin your journey to earn the nationally recognized CDM, CFPP credential!

Explore the Possibilities

Want to learn more about what a CDM, CFPP does? More than just initials after your name, this nationally-recognized credential demonstrates your competence in these specialized areas:

- Nutrition
- Foodservice
- Personnel & Communications
- Sanitation & Safety
- Business Operations

This achievement can lead to new and exciting career opportunities. Talk with friends and others who work in dietary management or related fields. You can find these professionals in hospitals, long-term care facilities, corrections, and schools to name a few.

How can you make a connection?

- Ask to visit a CDM, CFPP at work or “shadow” them for a day to see a CDM, CFPP in action
- Watch how they manage a team, ensure safe and sanitary practices, serve their customers, etc.
- Ask them what you might expect to experience in a day, what is most challenging, and what is most fulfilling about their role
- Ask what skills and talents they feel make them successful

Are You Ready to Take the Journey to Become a CDM, CFPP?

If you decided that a career as a dietary manager is for you, follow these steps to get started:

Step 1: Enroll in an ANFP-Approved Training Program

To locate an ANFP-Approved Training Program, visit the ANFP website [here](#). You can find in-person and distance online training programs. Select the one that meets your educational and personal needs.

Step 2: Seek employment in the foodservice department of a long-term care or acute care facility

CDM, CFPPs who meet the competencies to work as managers, work in non-commercial (not-for-profit) settings. Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) and Registered Diet Technicians (NDTRs) also work in these settings. These non-commercial settings (hospitals, long-term care facilities, prisons, schools, etc.) care for large populations of people who may have special dietary needs. Both CDM, CFPPs and RDNs or NDTRs will serve as mentors for you as you complete your competencies in your training program at your place of employment.

Step 3: Notify your ANFP Approved Program Director that you want to be an ANFP apprentice

Your program director will contact your employment supervisor to determine next steps to enroll you in the program.

Step 4: Complete your ANFP-Approved Training Program requirements

You will complete 120 hours of classroom learning with your chosen school and 150 hours of supervised field experience in your place of employment. All competencies will be taught and observed for successful completion. Once these requirements are met, you will successfully graduate with a certificate in Dietary Management from an ANFP-Approved school.

Step 5: You are now eligible to take the CDM, CFPP Credentialing Exam

Learn about the CDM, CFPP Credentialing Exam via the candidate handbook available [here](#).

Step 6: Activate Your Credential

If you are an ANFP member and pass the exam, your credentials are automatically activated and you can use the CDM, CFPP after your name right away. If you are NOT an ANFP member, you have up to one year to activate your credential online with CBDM after you pass the exam. BUT WHY WAIT? Don't you want to use your new credentials right away?

Step 7: Become an ANFP member!

Join nearly 14,000 professionals dedicated to providing optimum nutritional care through foodservice management and unlock exclusive member benefits! Learn more [here](#).



ANFP® Association of
Nutrition & Foodservice
Professionals

Your Professional Network

Most CDM, CFPPs Choose
to Join ANFP!

Keep the Journey Going - Maintain your CDM, CFPP Credential

Earning your CDM, CFPP credential is a great way to launch your career and continue your professional journey.

Here's how you maintain your credential:

- Pay the annual certification fee
- Complete and self-report the required 45 continuing education hours every three years
 - Nine hours must pertain to Sanitation & Safety
 - One hour must pertain to Professional Ethics

By completing the above requirements, you demonstrate your commitment to the profession and dedication to continuing competence. Throughout your career, you will discover new trends in the industry, new challenges, and new techniques for getting the job done well. Continuing education keeps you informed and ahead of the curve!

Earning the CDM, CFPP Credential makes you a peer with **elite** nutrition and foodservice professionals. Achieving this certification is a proven way to advance your career and demonstrate your commitment to excellence and quality in dietary management. **Being a CDM, CFPP defines you as a highly qualified and valued professional in your field.**

