Dietary personnel. The nursing home must have sufficient support personnel capable of carrying out the functions of dietary services and must:

1. Employ a qualified dietitian either full-time, part-time or on a consultant basis who must:
   a. Approve regular and therapeutic menus which meet the dietary allowances of the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences;
   b. Prepare dated menus for general and modified diets at least three weeks in advance;
   c. Provide services which include:
      i. Nutrition assessment;
      ii. Liaison with medical and nursing staff, and administrator;
      iii. Inservice training; and
      iv. Guidance to the director of food service, and food service staff.
2. If a qualified dietitian is not employed full-time as the food service manager the nursing home must employ a food service manager to serve as the director of food service.
3. The food service manager means:
   a. An individual who is a qualified dietitian; or
   b. An individual:
      i. Who has completed a dietetic technician or dietetic assistant training program, correspondence or classroom, approved by the American Dietetic Association/Dietary Manager Association; and
      ii. Receives regularly scheduled consultation from a qualified dietitian.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.51 and 74.42 RCW and 42 C.F.R. 489.52. WSR 08-20-062, § 388-97-1160, filed 9/24/08, effective 11/1/08.]