



Legislative Affairs

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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS DISCLAIMER

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Disclaimer: I am not a lawyer or a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). If you have legal or tax questions, I advise you to seek qualified legal or tax representation from a professional attorney or CPA in your state with experience in these issues.

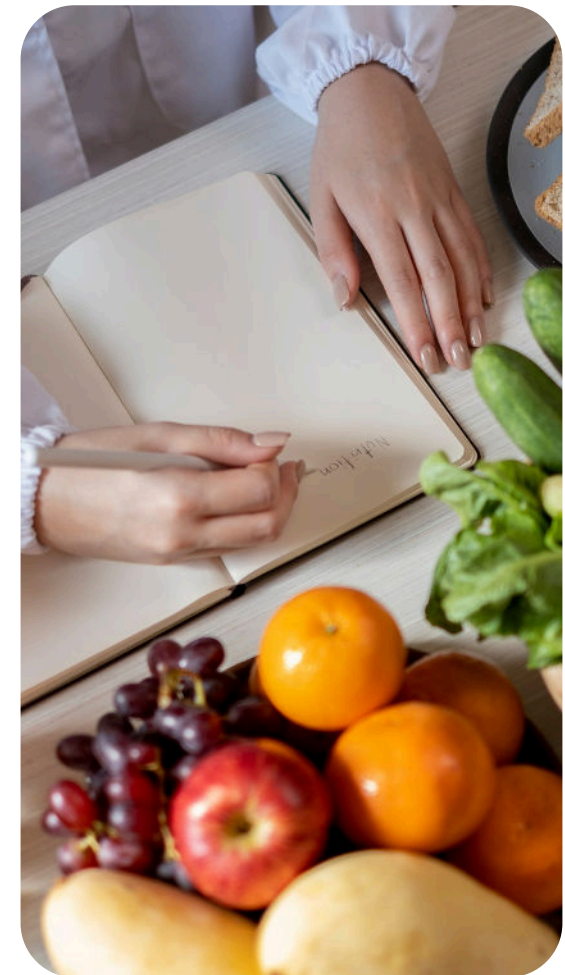
What We'll Cover and Why It Matters



- Understanding Scope of Practice (and why it protects you)
- What Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) really means
- Language Matters: Vocabulary of a Holistic Nutrition Professional
- Working with Distance Clients and staying compliant across state lines
- BCHN® Certification & professional distinction
- Legislative Affairs Interactive Map (how to use it)
- 2026 legislative session update
- Q&A and real-world scenarios

What is Scope of Practice

- Scope of Practice defines:
 - What you are trained and qualified to do
 - What activities are legally permitted
 - Where your professional boundaries begin and end
- In most states, scope is defined by statute or law, which means legislators, not practitioners, ultimately determine the guardrails
- Knowing your scope isn't limiting, it's protecting



Holistic Nutrition Professionals Scope of Practice

We do not diagnose, treat, heal, prescribe, manage, or cure any disease state in our clients.

Working outside our Scope of Practice is considered the practice of Medical Nutrition Therapy.



Medical Nutrition Therapy:



What Is Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT)?

The provision of nutrition care services for the diagnosis, treatment, or management of a disease or medical condition.



- MNT is nutrition care for the purpose of:
 - Diagnosing
 - Treating
 - Managing disease
- It is considered medical care performed by licensed providers
- Understanding MNT makes it much easier to understand what we can confidently do.



The Power of Language:

Stay In Your Lane

- Words we should use:
 - Recommend
 - Suggest
 - Support
 - Guide
 - Educate
 - Example: "Studies have shown..."
"Research supports..." "Is associated with..."

Words we do NOT use:

diagnose, treat, cure, prevent, prescribe, heal, manage, or mitigate.



The Power of Language: Stay In Your Lane

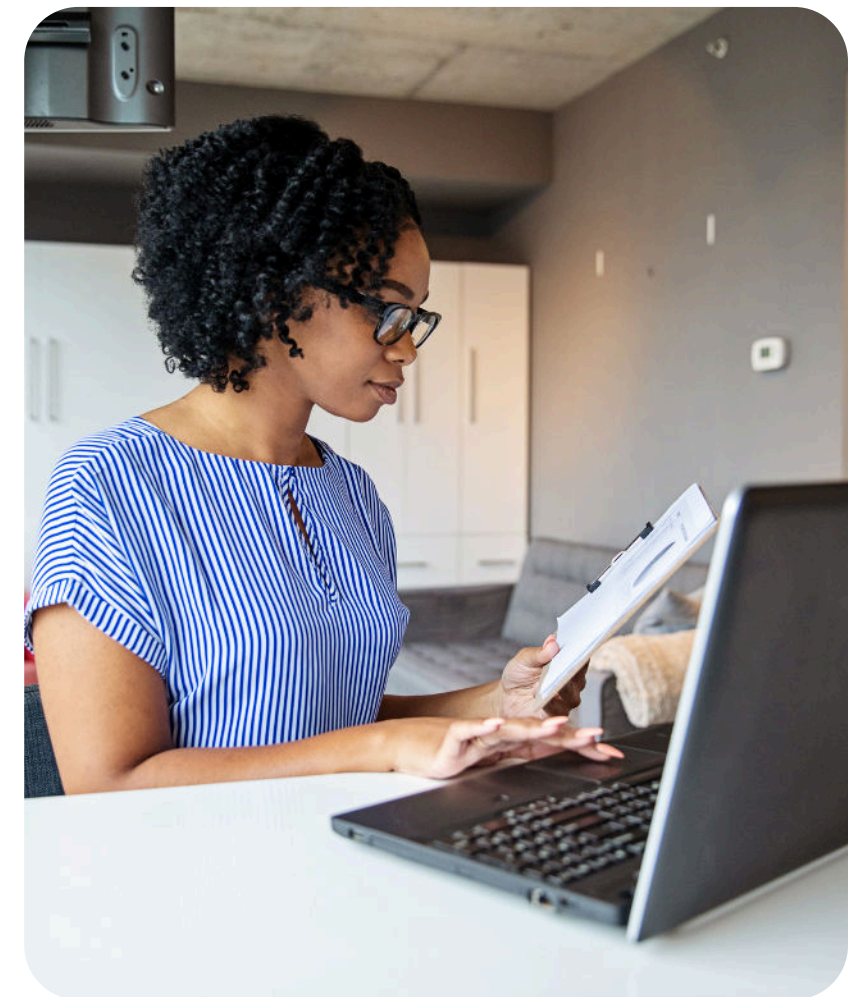
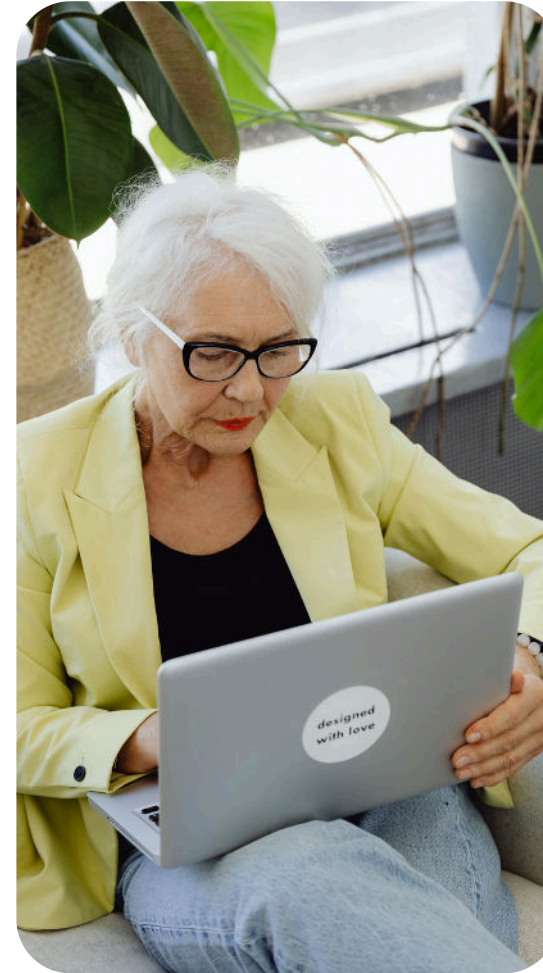
We can share powerful information; we must phrase it appropriately.

- Instead of “I treat...” try: “I support clients who are working on...”
- Instead of “This cures...” try: “Research suggests this may support...”
- Instead of “You should take...” try: “You may consider discussing this with your healthcare provider.”



Working With Clients Across State Lines

- Holistic Nutrition Professionals are not licensed providers in any state. That's not a limitation; it just means we practice differently
- Because we are not providing medical care or MNT, the NANP recommends using the term "Distance Client"
- Why Distance Client?
- Telehealth refers to the delivery of health care services used to:
 - Diagnose
 - Treat
 - Consult on medical conditions



Board Certified in Holistic Nutrition® (BCHN®)

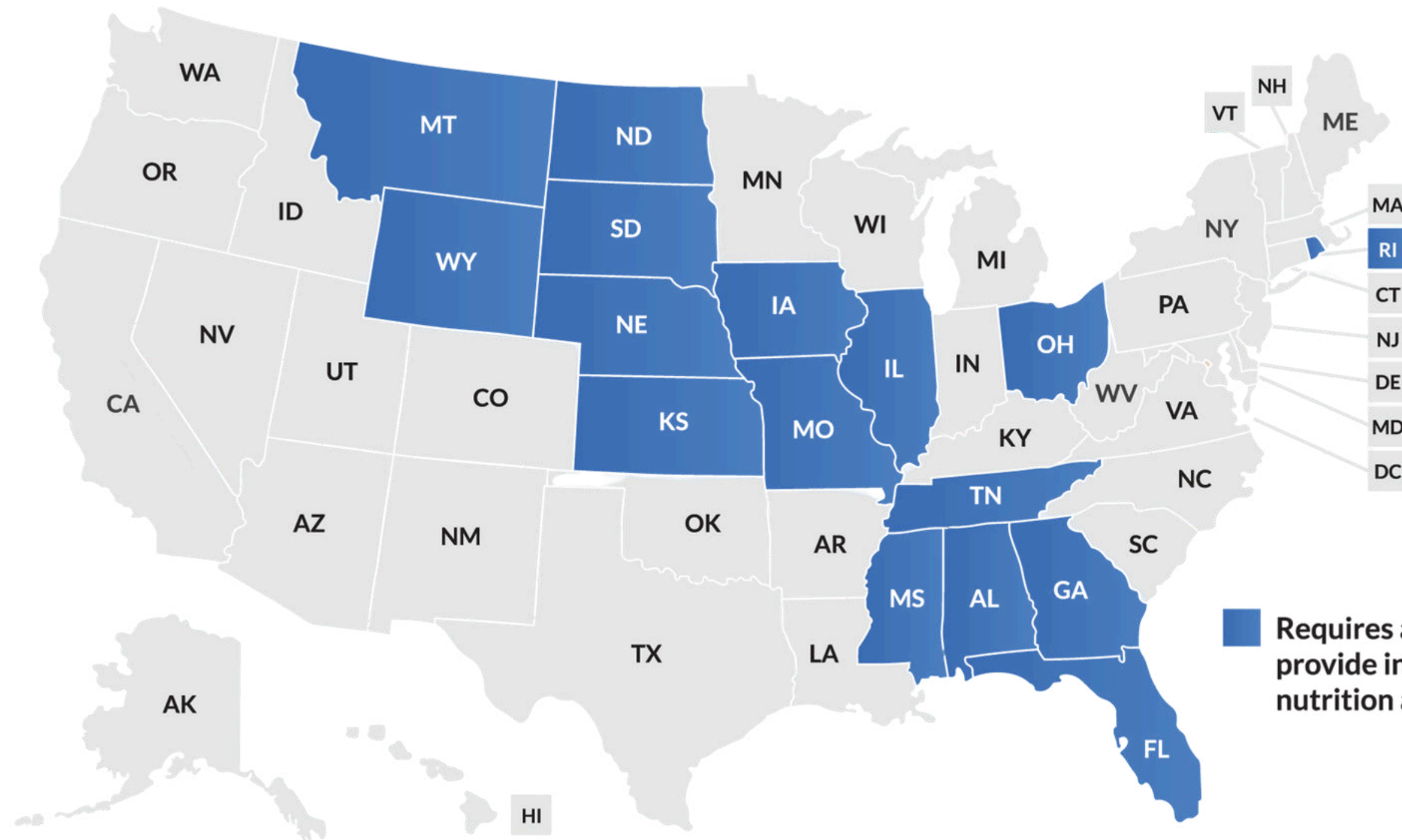
The Gold Standard in Holistic Nutrition Credentialing



The BCHN® credential represents the highest level of professional recognition in holistic nutrition, validating advanced education, clinical experience, and demonstrated competency.

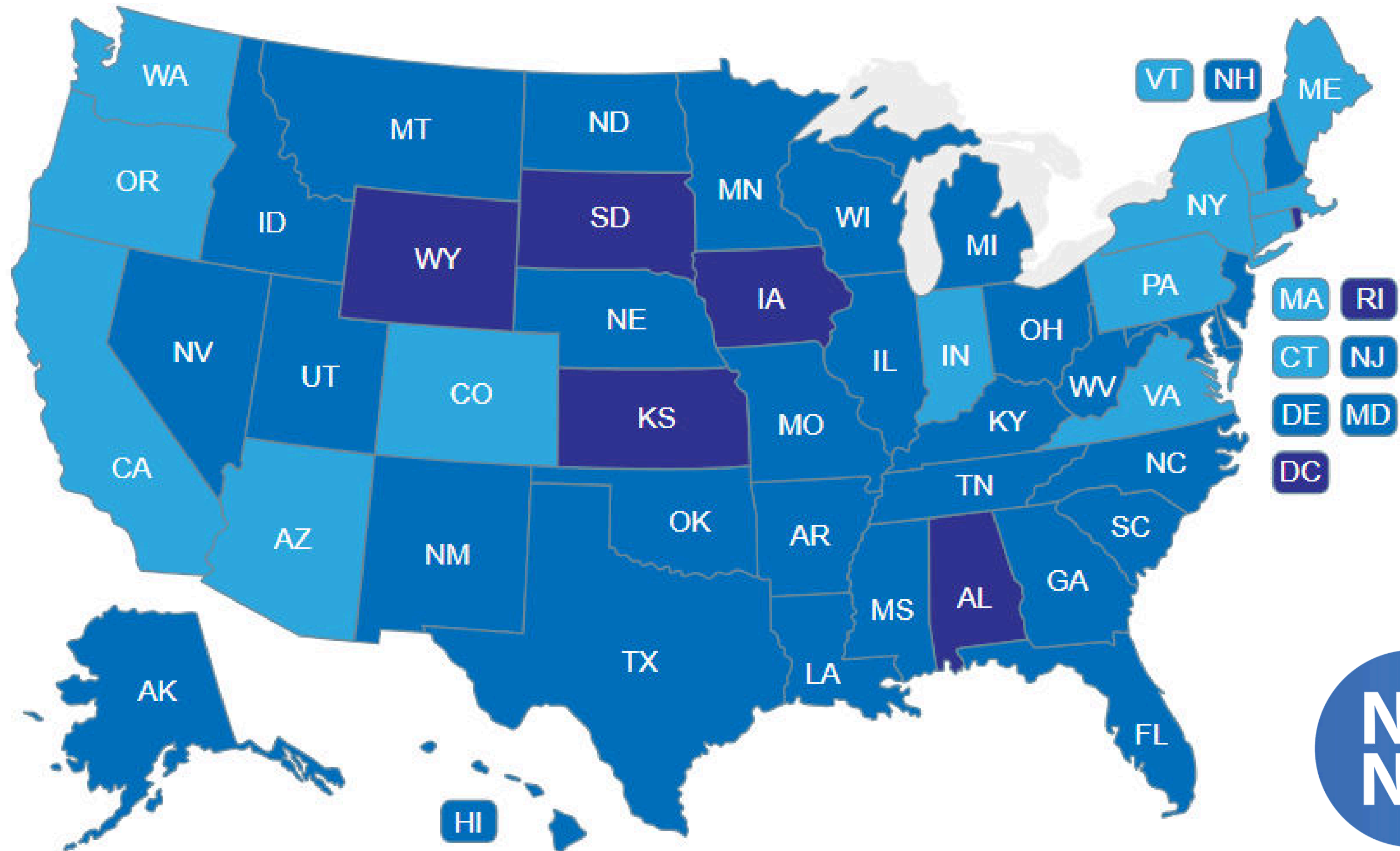
- Successful completion of a national board examination
- 500 documented contact hours in practice
- Ongoing professional excellence through 15 continuing education credits annually
- Formal credentialing process ensuring accountability and ethical practice

2019 Exclusive Scope of Practice States



Requires a license to provide individualized nutrition advice.

NANP Legislative Affairs Map



Legislative Affairs Update: 2026

- Georgia HB185 -**passed!**
- Tennessee HB2029 and SB2579- **passed!**
- Florida HB823 and SB1154- died
- West Virginia SB87 -died
- Ohio -in drafting



Clear Scope. Clear Language. Clear Direction.

- Every conversation we have...
- Every client we support...
- Every word we choose...
- Shapes how Holistic Nutrition Professionals are perceived. When we practice clearly and confidently, we strengthen and shape the future of our profession



A Community
for Holistic &
Functional
Practitioners

Since 1985



Questions?



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