GUIDE

WHO CAN BE A REFEREE?

When you apply to become a UKVRN-registrant, you will be asked to provide AfN with two references to support your application. Use the following guide to ensure you are choosing the most appropriate referees and to make your application process as streamlined as possible.

For Portfolio (ANutr/RNutr) entries you will need to provide the details of:

2 Referees

1+ Professional reference

This referee will need to have known you, professionally, for at least 1 year.
They must be able to talk about your nutrition practice from a position of knowledge. Ideally, they will be an RNutr.
For ANutr Portfolio applicants, this will often be an academic reference e.g., a university tutor. For RNutr applicants this is often a line manager or colleague.

› Character reference

If you do not have a second professional reference, you can provide details of a character reference as your second referee. This referee will need to be able to freely comment on your character, e.g. commenting on your professionalism.

WHO CAN'T BE A REFEREE?

Relatives or close friends
Someone living at your address
Someone you line manage or employ
A personal clients who come to you for nutrition advice

This is because your referees must be able to freely and unbiasedly talk about your nutrition practice and professionalism.

EEBN applicants

Please note that the professional referee for those applying through the EEBN route must be an RNutr from the specialism you are applying for, and both referees must have known you for at least 36 months.

I'M A FREELANCER - WHAT DO I DO?

Remember that this is not an employment reference and therefore your referee does not need to be an employer. Your reference is instead someone who can speak about your nutrition practice from a position of knowledge, so it could for example be another nutritionist from your professional network, a volunteer coordinator or a project collaborator.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

If using using an employer email address for a referee, do first check if their company policy allows them to give suitable reference. As they will need to personally be able to freely comment on you and your practice.

If company policy does not allow them to provide a reference, they may be willing to provide you one via their personal email.

Please remember to provide us with the email addresses your referees would prefer the reference requests to be sent to.

Association for Nutrition
Regulating Professionals – Raising Standards – Improving Health