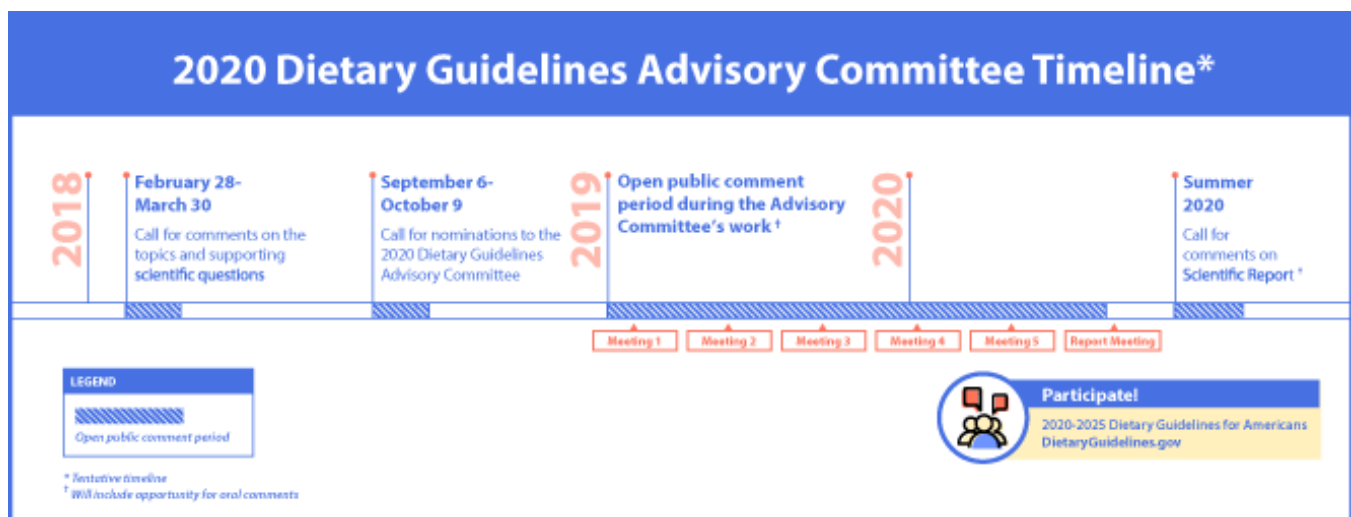


The 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans development process is under way

Public Participation Opportunities and the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee

The 2020 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee's role is to provide independent, science-based advice and recommendations to be considered by the U.S. Departments of Agriculture (USDA) and Health and Human Services (HHS) as the Departments develop the *2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans*.

USDA and HHS are committed to ensuring multiple opportunities for public participation before, throughout, and after the Committee's review of the evidence.



Before the Committee Is Established

- **Topics and scientific questions:** For the first time, USDA and HHS identified topics and scientific questions *prior to* establishing the 2020 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee. The Departments obtained public comment on the proposed topics and scientific questions to be examined by the Committee and then refined the topics and questions based on public and Federal agency comments received. The public comment period was open February 28-March 30, 2018 and resulted in over 12,000 comments.
- **Committee nominations:** The public was invited to nominate individuals for the Committee. Nominations were accepted September 6-October 6, 2018.

Visit [DietaryGuidelines.gov](https://www.dietaryguidelines.gov) to learn more.

2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans Development Process

Opportunities for Public Participation – continued

Throughout the Committee's Work

- ***Committee meetings:*** The Committee will meet approximately five times to discuss its review of the evidence, and will hold one final webinar meeting on its scientific report. All Committee meetings will be open to the public; two will include an opportunity for oral comments.
- ***Public comments accepted throughout:*** An ongoing period for public comments to be submitted to the Committee opened on March 12, 2019 and will remain open throughout the course of the Committee's operation into May 2020. During this time, the public is encouraged to submit written comments to the Committee on topics relevant to its work. This comment period will allow for public comments on every topic and question the Committee examines.

After the Committee Completes Its Work

- The Committee will conclude its work with a scientific report for USDA and HHS to consider as the Departments develop the *2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans*. After the report is submitted to the Secretaries of USDA and HHS in May 2020, USDA and HHS will post it for public comment on DietaryGuidelines.gov.
- USDA and HHS will host a meeting for the public to provide oral comments on the Committee's scientific report. USDA and HHS will consider public and agency comments as the Departments update the *Dietary Guidelines*.

We strongly encourage you to stay engaged and participate in the *Dietary Guidelines* development process. Announcements will be made at DietaryGuidelines.gov, via the *Federal Register*, and through our list serv. Use DietaryGuidelines.gov to sign up to receive announcements.

The *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* serves as the cornerstone of Federal nutrition programs and policies, providing food-based recommendations to help prevent diet-related chronic diseases and promote overall health. According to the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990, the *Dietary Guidelines* is mandated to reflect the preponderance of scientific evidence, and is published jointly by USDA and HHS every five years.

