The following dates and notes are merely a proposed timeline based on our previous experience with the 12th edition. Now that the Iowa Academy is the publisher, we have a little more flexibility with these plans and yet, still need to plan ahead to make sure we are within our goal of publishing in early 2021.

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| Date | Notes |
| March & April 2019 | Budget planning for reimbursement of editor, miscellaneous expenses |
| May 2019 | Call to membership for editor applications |
| June 2019 | Identify editor for 13th edition; signs contract |
| July 2019 | Editor along with publications committee sends out survey to membership on changes to SDM. |
| August 2019 | Editor determines the ‘Table of Contents’ (changes in terminology and diets to be included) and offers call to membership for contributors, inquires of previous contributors if they wish to continue. |
| October 2019 | Contributors sign contracts and begin literature reviews. Commence revision of chapters. |
| January 2020 | Contributors have completed a literature review. |
| February 2020 | Editor will have been checking with contributors each month to assess progress. |
| April 2020 | First draft is due from contributors. Except Chapter 1 and General Diet until DGA’s are updated. |
| August 2020 | All contributions have been submitted; editor continues the multitude of organizational components and reviews involved in editing this manual. |
| January 2021 | ? Release of 2021 Dietary Guidelines (the 12th edition manual waited until the DG’s were released in January 2016 to be published). Chapter 1 and the General diet are written to conform to new DGA’s. Next edition will also include guidance for 0-2 years so may need changes in infant and children section. Any contributor that references the DGA’s in their section is contacted to determine if there are any changes to be made. |
| March 2021 | Editor does final review and sends manual manuscript; Word document to printer. |
| April – May 2021 | Editor proofs manuscript from printer before printing. Editor does index manually from final proof. This took about 3 months last time. |
| May – June 2021 | Manual is available for purchase. |