Nutrition and Dietetics

The Dietetic Programs offers a baccalaureate degree in dietetics and post-baccalaureate certificate dietetic internship program.

Program Description

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<th>Program</th>
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<td>Dietetics, B.S. (<a href="http://coursecat.isu.edu/undergraduate/college-of-health-professions/nutrition-and-dietetics/bs-dietetics">http://coursecat.isu.edu/undergraduate/college-of-health-professions/nutrition-and-dietetics/bs-dietetics</a>)</td>
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Didactic Program in Dietetics

The mission of the Idaho State University Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) is to educate individuals through didactic and practical experiences in food and nutrition and to develop visionary and competent graduates who will be prepared for supervised practice leading to eligibility for the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) credentialing exam to become a registered dietitian nutritionist.

Prospective and current students should schedule an advising appointment with the program director or dietetic faculty member to ensure understanding of the requirements of the program, curriculum, supervised practice experience, and the credentialing exam to become a registered dietitian nutritionist.

Completion of the required course work and attainment of a Bachelor of Science degree in Dietetics makes one eligible to apply for admission into a Supervised Practice Program. The graduate must complete a Supervised Practice Program (e.g. Dietetic Internship) prior to becoming eligible to take the credentialing exam to become a registered dietitian nutritionist.

NOTE: Enrollment in the Idaho State University Didactic Program in Dietetics and/or fulfillment of specific requirements does NOT ensure admission into the ISU Dietetic Internship Program.

Program Goals and Outcome Measures

The following goals and outcome measures were identified in the 2017 Program Self Study and Site Visit for continued accreditation and were revised to meet the 2018 Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) standards. These goals and outcome measures reflect the mission of the Idaho State University DPD and are the basis for program evaluation and effectiveness.

Program Goal One: Prepare graduates to perform proficiently in a dietetic supervised practice program in preparation to be a competent entry-level dietitian nutritionist.

Outcome Measures

1. At least 80% percent of program students complete the program/degree requirements within 3 years (150% of program length).
2. At least 70% of program graduates apply for admission to a supervised practice program prior to or within 12 months of graduation.
3. At least 60% of program graduates are admitted to a supervised practice program within 12 months of graduation.

4. The program’s one-year pass rate (graduates who pass the registration exam within one year of first attempt) on the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists is at least 80%.
5. At least 70% of responding graduates will report an aggregate score of 4 or higher out of 5, indicating the strong preparation that the DPD program provided them for their supervised practice experience.
6. At least 70% of responding Supervised Practice Program Directors will rate satisfaction with program graduates as having strong preparation (aggregate score of 4 or higher out of 5) for supervised practice.

Program Goal Two: To provide experiential learning and leadership opportunities outside of the traditional classroom setting to enrich the DPD graduates’ education and preparation for professional practice.

Outcome Measures

1. 100% of graduates will have participated in learning activities in each of the three experiential settings: clinical (Medical Nutrition Therapy), community, and food service systems management.
2. At least 50% of graduates will have participated in student organizations, served in leadership roles, and/or been recognized with awards/nominations prior to graduation.
3. At least 50% of graduates will participate in professional organizations within 18 to 24 months following graduation.

The Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190, Chicago, IL 60606-6995, (800) 877-1600) http://www.eatrightpro.org/resources/acend.

Dietetic Internship (DI) Program

The mission of the Idaho State University Dietetic Internship is to prepare caring and competent entry-level registered dietitian nutritionists who collaborate with other health professionals through a supervised practice experience that exceeds the performance standards of the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics.

The DI Program provides for supervised experience in clinical, community, and administrative dietetics leading to a certificate of completion. Graduates of the Dietetic Internship Program will be eligible to take the credentialing exam to become a registered dietitian nutritionist.

The following goals and outcome measures were identified in the 2017 Program Self Study and Site Visit for continued accreditation and were revised to meet the 2018 Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) standards. These goals and outcome measures reflect the mission and philosophy of the Idaho State University Dietetic Internship and are the basis for program evaluation and effectiveness.

Program Goals and Outcome Measures

Program Goal One: Program graduates are professionally competent entry-level registered dietitian nutritionists through a comprehensive supervised practice experience.

Outcome measures:

1. At least 80% of program interns complete program within 13.5 months (150% of program length).
2. Of graduates who seek employment, 75% are employed in nutrition and dietetics or related fields within 12 months of graduation.

3. 90% of program graduates take the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists within 12 months of program completion.

4. The program’s one-year pass rate (graduates who pass the registration exam within one year of first attempt) on the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists is at least 80%.

5. 90% of working RDNs over a five-year period will be satisfied that the DI program adequately prepared them for effective, entry-level careers in dietetics.

Program Goal #2: Prepare program graduates to be caring registered dietitian nutritionists who promote collaboration within their practice setting.

Outcome Measures:

1. 50% of graduates over a five-year period will participate in professional organizations within the first year following graduation.

2. Of those employers who respond to the survey, 90% of employers will rate program graduates’ preparation for entry-level practice as satisfactory or higher.

3. 50% of employers over a five-year period will rate program graduates’ collaboration within their employment setting as satisfactory or higher.

Program Overview

Internship Components: Community dietetics, clinical dietetics, and food service management are all major areas of emphasis. Interns rotate through various sites, including: medical centers, university food services, long-term care facilities, local health departments, local school districts, a diabetes center, nephrology center, and out-patient clinics.

Number of Positions: There are eighteen (18) internship positions - Eight (8) interns in Meridian, eight (8) interns in Pocatello, and two (2) interns in Twin Falls.

Selection Process: Applicants are primarily ranked according to their grade point average (minimum 3.0), work experience, and references. Finalists will participate in a 15-20 minute interview.

Internship Length: The length of the internship is two academic semesters: Fall (August through mid-December) and Spring (mid-January through mid-May).

Weekly Time Requirement: Approximately 40 hours per week are spent in seminars and rotations. An additional 20 hours per week are usually required for preparation and completing assignments. Interns work in facilities Monday through Thursday and some Fridays. Remaining Fridays are spent in seminar. Travel time has not been included, but some rotations are 20-50 miles away.

Housing

Dietetic Internship students may choose to live in University housing or in a variety of off-campus sites. In Meridian and Twin Falls, no University housing is available.

Transportation

Each student should have his or her own car or, at least, access to one. Some rotation sites are up to one hundred miles away (e.g., Pocatello to Twin Falls).

Liability for safety in travel to and from assigned rotation sites will rest on the individual dietetic intern. In no way does the Dietetic Programs or Idaho State University assume liability for interns for safety in travel to and from assigned rotation sites.

The Dietetic Internship is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190, Chicago, IL 60606-6995, (800) 877-1600) http://www.eatrightpro.org/resources/acend.

NTD Faculty (http://coursecat.isu.edu/undergraduate/college-of-health-professions/nutrition-and-dietetics/faculty)

NTD Courses (http://coursecat.isu.edu/undergraduate/allcourses/ntd)