

# CERTIFICATE IN DIETETICS

The Dietetic Internship Program at SF State is part of the Graduate Certificate in Dietetics. Only students who have completed or are near completion of a Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) are eligible to apply for this internship and certificate program. A DPD is typically an undergraduate degree in dietetics, although there are other tracks. For more information about DPD and Dietetic Internship programs, go to the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (A.N.D.) website at <https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/students-and-advancing-education/information-for-students> (<https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/students-and-advancing-education/information-for-students/>).

The program provides the knowledge and practice requirements necessary to be eligible to take the Registered Dietitian (R.D.) examination. Interns will be placed in rotations in hospitals, long-term care/skilled nursing facilities, community nutrition, and other health organizations in the Greater San Francisco Bay Area for practical experiences. In addition to the internship portion of the program, interns will be required to take graduate-level academic courses in nutrition that will cover the lifespan. The Dietetic Internship Program at SF State is a full-time, 11-month program, from mid-July through early June the following year.

Before being considered for acceptance, the student must first be eligible in accordance with requirements set forth by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (A.N.D.), as well as university requirements per the Graduate Division located at <https://grad.sfsu.edu/> and <https://grad.sfsu.edu/content/grad-forms> (<https://grad.sfsu.edu/content/grad-forms/>).

## Admission to Program

- Completion of a baccalaureate degree and completion of an approved Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) are required prior to admission into the program.
- Refer to the Dietetic Internship Program website for further information about the program and application procedures: <https://fina.sfsu.edu/dietetic-internship-certificate-dietetics> (<https://fina.sfsu.edu/dietetic-internship-certificate-dietetics/>).
- Applicants must participate in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (A.N.D.) D&D computer matching process and the Dietetic Internship Centralized Application Process (DICAS). Applicants must meet the posted deadlines and pay the required fees for both of these to apply to our program.
- A separate application fee to SF State must also be submitted online.
- A committee composed of dietetics faculty and other members will review the applications based on established criteria.
- Applicants will be notified by D&D Digital if they were matched to our program and, if matched, must accept the match within the published time frame to be guaranteed their spot. Any classes that still must be completed for the baccalaureate degree or completion of the DPD must be completed with a minimum of a "C" grade prior to starting the program.
- Matched applicants must then apply to the University via CalStateApply. They will enroll as matriculated post-baccalaureate students in the unclassified status through the College of Professional & Global Education (CPaGE).

- Admission to the certificate program does not guarantee admittance into the M.A. program.
- International Students are not eligible for this program.

## Criteria for Selection

- Applicants must meet all deadlines for submitting applications to D&D Digital, DICAS as well as to the program.
- All DPD courses are to be completed with a grade of C or better. A minimum overall GPA of 2.7 and a DPD GPA of 3.0 is required. DPD GPA, as well as overall GPA and Science GPA, will be evaluated. Admitted applicants generally have much higher GPAs than the minimum requirement.
- Work and volunteer experience, personal statement, letters of recommendation, and resume will be evaluated. Only applicants being considered for admission will receive a request for a phone interview.
- Preference may be given to SF State DPD graduates whose qualifications are competitive with other applicants.
- Admission to the program is competitive and a strong DPD GPA and work/volunteer experience in the field of dietetics are important criteria when applications are being reviewed.

SF State is committed to policies of equal opportunity and nondiscrimination on the basis of race, national origin, gender or age.

## Program Description

Each cohort class consists of 14 interns. Interns are required to take academic dietetic internship preparation coursework in the summer, which will start in July. From mid-August to early June the following year, interns will take classes on campus one day a week, and be in an internship supervised practice rotations four days a week. No part-time enrollment is allowed.

Supervised practice experiences are completed under the direction of a dietitian or food service manager, or another qualified professional in a facility or program serving children, adults, and/or older adults, or the general population in a healthcare or community, non-profit, or business setting. The internship is based on specific experiences, competencies, and required hours set forth by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (A.N.D.). A total of 1,200 practice hours is required in the internship to meet these requirements. Summer R3, Fall, and Spring semester enrollment are required.

### Rotations will generally include the following:

- 16-18 weeks in an acute care clinical hospital
- 5-8 weeks in a long-term care/skilled nursing facility, outpatient, or another clinical setting
- 5-6 weeks in a foodservice systems management rotation
- 3-7 weeks in a community nutrition or public health organization
- 3 weeks in an elective

The array of clinical, community, and foodservice rotations will allow the intern to have a variety of experiences in dietetics, with a concentration in medical nutrition therapy. Interns will typically be given two weeks off during December/January, and one week off for Spring Break but this time off is not guaranteed and is subject to rotation requirements. Since this is an intensive program, interns should not expect to hold outside jobs or have other significant time commitments while enrolled in the program.

## Dietetics, Certificate – 24 units

Code	Title	Units
NUTR 751	Seminar in Nutritional Assessment Across the Lifespan	3
NUTR 755	Seminar in Human Nutrition and Metabolism	3
NUTR 758	Seminar in Foodservice and Nutrition Program Management	3
NUTR 785	Seminar in Medical Nutrition Therapy	3
NUTR 881	Internship in Dietetics	6

(Note: NUTR 881 is taken both spring and fall for a total of 12 Units)