

The dietetics programs provide students with the competencies, knowledge and skills required of the dietetics professional for practice roles of today and the future. The program provides adequate freedom for the student to work both independently and in teams in order to build self-reliance, self-confidence and team building skills. The program helps students to develop critical thinking skills and problem solving ability in clinical and community nutrition and food service management.

The Dietetics & Nutrition Management concentration is appropriate for students who would like to become practicing nutritionists or dietitians. The Dietetics & Nutrition Management offers 3 options:

1. Accredited Dietetics Program
2. Gerontology Nutrition
3. Childhood Nutrition

It is important to emphasize that there are 3 steps to becoming a registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) including:

- completion of the ACEND accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD)
- successfully obtaining and completing an accredited supervised work experience (internship)
- taking and passing the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) credentialing examination.

The DPD is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (120 S. Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606-6995; phone: 800-877-1600, ext. 5400. Email: ACEND@eatright.org. <http://www.eatrightpro.org/ACEND>

Admission to the Dietetics and Nutrition Management concentration is open to all entering freshmen and transfer students. In the third year of the program students must qualify for the DPD by achieving minimum requirements. These are:

- Minimum GPA of 3.0 in the first 60 credits of instruction
- Achievement of a grade of "B" or better in all basic science and FSHN classes in first two years of the major.

It is particularly important to achieve and maintain a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.2 or better and obtain volunteer experience to be competitive to obtain accredited supervised practice (dietetic internship) experiences.

Upcoming changes to RD requirements:

Starting in January 2024, all candidates for the national registration examination for registered dietitians (RD) will be required to have a master's degree (MS). Students selecting the Dietetics major and wanting to become registered dietitians must give serious consideration to this timeline. In order to be eligible to take the registration examination for dietitians with a bachelor's degree, students entering the major must complete their degree by spring 2022 and

successfully obtain and complete an accredited 1200 hour supervised practice program on or before November of 2023.

Students who complete the Dietetic degree and/or internship after these deadlines will continue to be eligible to take the national registration examination for the Registered Nutrition and Dietetic Technician (NDTR). The NDTR works alongside the registered dietitian to provide nutrition care to patients in the community, hospital, school and long term care settings.

Also note, all of the options for a bachelor's degree within Nutrition and Food Science are excellent preparation for the MS/RD track.

DPD Program Mission:

The mission of the DPD program is to prepare dietetics students to be successful in obtaining accredited supervised practice programs leading to eligibility for the CDR credentialing exam to become a registered dietitian nutritionist.

Goal 1. The program will prepare graduates who possess critical thinking skills and are able to succeed in accredited supervised practice programs.

Objective 1: At least 80% of program students will complete the degree within 3 years (150% of program length).

Objective 2: 80% of program graduates will apply for admission to a supervised practice program prior to or within 12 months of graduation.

Objective 3: 60% of program graduates will be admitted to a supervised practice program within 12 months of graduation.

Objective 4: 90% of internship directors will judge DPD program graduates to be well prepared for supervised practice as measured by scores of Strongly Agree or Agree on preparedness and ability to think critically as evaluated on a yearly survey.

Goal 2. The program will prepare graduates for successful entry level practice where they provide evidence based nutrition care and contribute to the health of the nation.

Objective 1: The program's one year pass rate (graduates who pass the examination within one year of the first attempt) on the CDR credentialing examination for registered dietitian nutritionists will be at least 80%.

Objective 2: 90% or more of graduates and internship directors will judge the intern to be adequately prepared to provide evidence-based care and apply the nutrition care process based upon a yearly survey of internship directors.

Objective 3: 90% or more of graduates completing supervised practice programs will be employed in healthcare related professions as measured by a yearly survey of graduates.

ACEND Accredited DPD program outcomes are available upon request.

Option in Gerontology Nutrition:

This option contains all but one of the courses for the interdisciplinary gerontology minor including an undergraduate interdisciplinary [Gerontology Minor](#). This option prepares students for careers working in gerontology. In the near future, those working in gerontology will require specific training such as completion of a certification, major or minor in gerontology. Students who complete this option are also eligible for credentialing by the Association of Nutrition and Foodservice Managers.

Option in Childhood Nutrition:

This option provides additional coursework in childhood and adolescent development and an undergraduate internship in the school nutrition program. This option prepares students for careers in school nutrition management. Students who complete this option are eligible for credentialing by the Association of Nutrition and Foodservice Managers.

Program Completion Requirements:

A.B.S. degree will be awarded upon completion of the program.

Program curriculum is available by clicking on this link: <http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/colleges/health-human-sciences/food-science-human-nutrition/nutrition-food-science-major-dietetics-management-concentration-accredited-didactic-program-option/>

Policies and Procedures of the DPD program are available on the website by clicking on the link: DPD Policies and Procedures.