

DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA GREENSBORO (UNCG) GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27402-6170

Master of Science-Dietetic Internship Concentration (MS/DI) Program Information Sheet

Program Mission

The mission of the Dietetic Internship program is to prepare competent entry-level registered dietitian nutritionists for positions in clinical, foodservice, and community nutrition to improve health and enhance quality of life of individuals, families and communities. Through a supervised practice curriculum, the program is structured to provide diverse learning opportunities that enable program graduates to further develop and apply their knowledge and skills in order to provide quality nutrition care in diverse practice settings. The learning environment emphasizes the importance of self-reflection, oral and written communication, problem solving, teamwork, life-long learning, service and professional engagement.

Program Goals & Objectives

Goal #1:

The program will prepare competent entry level Registered Dietitian Nutritionists who obtain employment in nutrition and dietetics or related fields.

Objectives for Goal #1:

"At least 80% of interns complete program requirements within 31.5 months for MS/DI and 13.5 months for PBC/DI (150% of planned program length)".

"Of graduates who seek employment, at least 80% are employed in nutrition and dietetics or related fields within 12 months of graduation".

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

"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%".

At least 75% of responding employers (identified by program graduates) report that program graduates' preparation for entry-level practice as meeting or exceeding the rating of "competent".

Goal #2:

The program will prepare graduates who demonstrate a commitment to service and professional engagement.

Objectives for Goal #2:

At least 30% of responding program graduates report participation in one or more service and/or professional engagement activities by three years post-graduation.

At least 50% of responding program graduates report that they serve as a preceptor in an ACEND accredited supervised practice program by three years post-graduation.

 $Program\ outcomes\ data\ are\ available\ upon\ request.$

Application Deadline: The DI program at UNCG participates in DICAS centralized application and Early Decision processes. Applicants from outside UNCG will use the application system through DICAS. (Note that there is no longer a "Match" process.) The UNCG DICAS 2025 application portal (for Fall 2026 admission) will open annually on Oct. 1st and close on Jan. 15th. Highly qualified applicants will be invited to a virtual interview on Feb. 14, 2026. Following the timeline required by ACEND, offers of admission will be extended to candidates by Mar 1st and candidates will be required to accept or decline their offer by Mar 15th. Prospective internal Early Decision applicants will be provided information the application process in early Fall.

Program Admission Requirements (Minimum selection criteria):

A Bachelor's Degree from a college or university recognized by the US Department of Education (USDE) with completion of a Didactic Program in Dietetics is required by ACEND*. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, and 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in nutrition, foods, food science, foodservice management, chemistry, biochemistry, biology, physiology, and microbiology courses are strongly preferred. Meet requirements of The UNCG Graduate School for unconditional admission to the program: GPA\geq 3.0. Varied work experiences and exposures in dietetics and/or foodservice are preferred. Applicants will be evaluated based upon their academic performance, dietetics-related work/volunteer experiences, letters of reference, statement of professional goals, and quality of their professional resume. The GRE is not required. The selection process is competitive and not all applicants who meet the minimum requirements may be selected. Upon completion of program requirements, the intern will be awarded a Master of Science in Nutrition degree and issued an official Dietetic Internship Verification Statement.

Prior Learning: Admitted interns will have the option to apply for credit for prior learning.

Start Date: First Tuesday of Fall semester according to the University Calendar.

<u>Length of DI Program:</u> Approximately 21 months (4 semesters) including a minimum of 1000 supervised practice clock hours (10 weeks for supervised preparation followed by ~20 weeks of supervised practice experience in the clinical work setting).

Number of MS/DI Students: Total class size (Cohort years 1+2) is planned to be 24 interns for DI years 2025-27.

<u>Work Responsibilities:</u> The work week during the supervised practice experience is a <u>minimum of 40 hours.</u> Interns are encouraged to utilize evenings and weekends to study or complete assignments and projects.

<u>Site Placement:</u> Site affiliations are located throughout North Carolina and interns will interview with several site directors and preceptors in early Fall to obtain placements for the supervised practice experience. Acceptance into the DI program does not guarantee placement for supervised field experiences at sites in the Greensboro/Winston-Salem metropolitan area. The program director cannot guarantee that each intern will receive a placement of their preference. Interns who are dissatisfied with placement can re-interview or withdraw from the DI program. Note that the program locates all supervised practice sites and preceptors. Interns are not required to locate their own sites or preceptors.

Criminal Background Check and Urine Drug Screen: Required and the program covers this cost.

<u>Holidays</u>: While on campus for the 10 weeks of supervised preparation courses in the Fall, the DI program follows the University Calendar. Holidays are: Labor Day (1) day; Fall Break (2) days. After placement in the supervised practice program, interns will follow the schedule established for them by the respective site (i.e., the University Calendar <u>no longer applies</u>).

<u>Health Insurance</u>: Each intern must provide proof of adequate health insurance. Interns may elect to participate in the UNCG sponsored group insurance policy, if available, or be insured with their parents/spouse. UNCG, The Department of Nutrition, and/or the Dietetic Internship Program and its agents are not liable for interns' injury or illness while in a facility for supervised practice.

Professional Liability Insurance: Required and the program covers this cost (minimum of \$1/\$3 million).

Immunizations/Vaccines/Lab Verification of Immunity: Interns are responsible for all associated immunization costs.

<u>Travel</u>: Because the practice sites where interns are placed are located throughout North Carolina and public transportation is very limited, each intern must provide their own transportation and assume liability for travel to and from supervised practice sites. Transportation costs vary depending on the location of the intern's home and their supervised practice sites. Each intern must provide proof of auto liability insurance, as applicable. UNCG, The Department of Nutrition, and/or the Dietetic Internship Program and its agents are not liable for interns'safety in travel to and from rotation sites.

Housing: Interns are responsible for their own living arrangements and costs.

<u>Uniforms:</u> Dress code is according to field placement site policy, including lab coat, non-skid closed-toe shoes, and name badge.

<u>Compensation:</u> Typically, there is no compensation provided to Dietetic Interns. In the event that a rotation site provides compensation such as a stipend, room/board and/or a meal allowance, interns will be notified prior to site placement of site specific compensation practices that have been disclosed by the site to the DI program director.

<u>Financial Aid</u>: This is a graduate degree program and interns are eligible for financial aid. Students must complete the FAFSA. Contact the Financial Aid Office to learn more about the types of financial aid that are available.

Tuition & Fees:

DI application fee \$65.00
*Estimated graduate tuition and fees for ENTIRE MS/DI Program (4 semesters / 38 student credit hours) including Tuition

*Estimated graduate tuition and fees for ENTIRE MS/DI Program (4 semesters / 38 student credit hours) including Tuition Differential of \$200 per student credit hour for Year Two practicum courses (for 18 credit hours only):

NC in-state tuition/fees (based on academic year 2025-26) *\$19,596.36 Out-of-state tuition/fees (based on academic year 2025-26) *\$50,230.36

*Applicants should verify UNCG tuition and fees costs with the UNCG Cashier's Office.

Professional Liability Insurance (required)

Personal Health Insurance

Auto Liability Insurance

Auto Liability Insurance

Housing (estimated monthly cost)

Transportation and parking

Uniforms/non-skid shoes

\$8 - cost is covered by program

\$8 - cost is covered

Lab coat, apron, chef's hat cost is covered by program
Textbooks ~\$450.00

AND Nutrition Care Manual and ASPEN Core Curriculum (required) cost is covered by program

Technology Requirements - Laptop with camera, microphone, and internet to access meetings from on- and off-campus locations

on- and off-campus locations ~\$1000 Intern membership in AND (must become a member/maintain membership for program completion) \$58.00

Vaccinations (TB and Hepatitis B)/physical exam/drug testing ~ \$75.00

Specified state meeting or national conference (Some funding may be available to attend FNCE.)

Up to \$1500.00

Criminal Background Check (required)

\$20 - cost is covered by program

\$60 - cost is covered by program

Urine drug screening (required) \$60 - cost is covered by program RD Exam Review Course/Materials (recommended) ~\$750 - cost is covered by program

The Dietetic Internship Program at UNCG is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition & Dietetics (ACEND) of The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. ACEND is recognized by the United States Department of Education. This recognition affirms that ACEND meets the national standards and is a reliable authority on the quality of nutrition and dietetics education programs. The address and phone number of ACEND are: 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606-6995, 312-899-0040 (ext. 5400).

MS/DI Program Completion Requirements (38 graduate student credit hours):

Note: Interns must achieve a grade of B or better in all MS and supervised preparation courses to begin the supervised practice experience at the Dietetic Internship supervised practice sites (see Spring 2026).

Year One Fall 2025:

| NTR 609A | Seminar in Nutrition | 1 |
|---------------|------------------------------------|---|
| NTR 676 | Nutrition and Physical Performance | 3 |
| HEA 604 | Statistics | 3 |
| Choose 1 or 2 | courses from list* | 3 |

Credit Hours: 10

Spring 2026:

| NTR 609B | Seminar in Nutrition | 2 |
|---------------|----------------------|---|
| Choose 2 or 3 | courses from list* | 5 |
| Elective** | | 3 |

^{**}Students may choose an elective from NTR or related area courses including but not limited to public health, gerontology, human development, social work, business management. Advisory committee approval required.

| | | Credit Hours: 10 |
|------|--|------------------|
| *Any | 600-level NTR course including but not limited to: | |
| 601 | Independent Study | 2-6 |
| 607 | Nutrition Education | 3 |
| 623 | Current Trends | 3 |
| 625 | Gene Expression and Protein Metabolism | 2 |
| 626 | Energy, Carbohydrate and Lipid Metabolism | 2 |
| 627 | Antioxidants and Bioactive Food Components | 2 |
| 628 | Vitamins and Minerals | 2 |
| 673 | Nutrition Research Methodology | 3 |
| | | |

Year Two

Fall 2026:

| NTR 602 Supervised Preparation for Professional and Community Engagement | 3 |
|--|---|
| NTR 624 Supervised Preparation for Culinary Medicine | 3 |
| NTR 693 Supervised Preparation for Practicum in Clinical Dietetics | 3 |

Credit Hours: 9

Spring 2027:

| NTR 606A Practicum in Clinical Dietetics | 3 |
|--|---|
| NTR 606B Practicum in Clinical Dietetics | 3 |
| NTR 606C Practicum in Clinical Dietetics | 3 |

Credit Hours: 9

Total Credit Hours: 38

Capstone Experience

NTR 606B Practicum in Clinical Dietetics course includes a Clinical Case Study project, which serves as the capstone experience for the M.S. in Nutrition, Dietetic Internship Concentration.

Completion Requirements for Awarding a Verification Statement

Upon completion of all requirements of the M.S. Nutrition, Dietetic Internship Concentration program and graduation clearance from the Graduate School (and following receipt of final transcript), each intern will be awarded a Master of Science in Nutrition degree, issued an official Dietetic Internship Verification Statement by the Dietetic Internship Program Director, and will earn eligibility to sit for the national credentialing examination for Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN).