

Dietetic Internship

Why it's for you

If you are interested in working as a professional in the growing field of dietetics, then this internship program can help get you there. With a greater emphasis on disease prevention, increased public interest in nutrition especially in light of the obesity epidemic, and a rapidly aging population, dietetics is a growing field that needs educated and well-prepared practitioners. Dietitians today work in a wide range of areas, including health care, business and industry, public health, education, research, and private practice.

The Registered Dietitians in the greater Capital Region of New York State and Sage Graduate School have joined forces to create the Sage Graduate School Dietetic Internship (SGS DI) program, which qualifies you to take the certification examination for Registered Dietitian (RD) designation.

Through study and practice, you will:

- Be prepared for an entry-level position in dietetics.
- Demonstrate the ability to think critically, analytically, and progressively when seeking solutions to practice-related issues.
- Possess the aptitude to participate as a health care team member.
- Be ready to interpret legislation and participate in the public policy process.
- Demonstrate competence in current technology in the practice of dietetics.
- Apply research for specific applications in dietetics, such as quality management and outcomes management.
- Exhibit effective oral and written communication skills.
- Apply the concept of lifelong learning as a personal and professional obligation for dietetics practice.

Success and Leadership

Our pass rate for the 2007 class first time test takers of the Registered Dietitian Examination is 93%. The above goals are guiding principals for this successful DI program which is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE) of the American Dietetic Association. Graduates of the SGS DI become dietetics leaders in a variety of positions, such as Clinical Nutrition Managers, School Lunch Directors, Public Health Nutritionists, and Corporate Dietitians/Nutritionists.

Faculty and Preceptors

You'll learn from and work with faculty and preceptors who are experts *and* practitioners in the field of dietetics in the area of concentration you choose. At Sage, you will study alongside professors who practice what they teach.

Admission

Students must meet Dietetic Internship requirements and, if appropriate, the requirements for matriculation into Sage Graduate School. Requirements are:

- A baccalaureate degree.
- Completion of an accredited American Dietetic Association (ADA) didactic program in dietetics (DPD) with a verification statement form signed by the DPD director.
- Overall GPA of 2.75, GPA in Nutrition related courses of 3.0.
- Recency of education: Additional coursework in dietetics or a related area is required to update a degree which was completed four or more years prior to applying to the Dietetic Internship. A minimum of three courses, equivalent to the following Russell Sage College nutrition science courses NTR 404, NTR 415, and NTR 417, are required for degrees completed four or more years prior to completing this application.
- Additional factors considered for admission are recommendation letters, relevant work and/or volunteer experience, extracurricular activities and demonstrated leadership, and letter of application. Applicants are considered on the basis of qualifications, without regard to race, color, creed, sex, or national origin.

NOTE: Nutrition degrees meeting ADA's Plan IV didactic requirements are no longer valid and require a more extensive recency of education.

Application Process

Application materials may be downloaded from the Dietetic Internship web site:
www.sage.edu/academics/schoolofnursingandhealthsciences/nutrition/programs/dieteticinternship.php



Application postmark and D & D Digital computer match online submission deadline for the Dietetic Internship 2009-2010 class is on February 17, 2009.

You will be notified of your acceptance status and Dietetic Internship appointment on April 20, 2009 via computer matching from D&D Digital, Inc.

The application package must include:

- DI application form, 3 copies.
- Three letters of recommendation, 3 copies of each.
- Official copies of ALL college transcripts.
- Verification Statement or Declaration of Intent with original signature from DPD Director.
- A letter of application, 3 copies.
- An interview with the DI director, either in person or via telephone, may be required.
- Sage Graduate School *Application for Admission* form ONLY if applying to a MS degree program in addition to the DI.
- \$40 application fee (fee is waived for current RSC students and graduates of The Sage Colleges).

Program Format

The internship is designed to begin in late August, with the supervised practice experience completed the following June. The academic calendar is followed with additional time and activities built in to meet accreditation requirements.

In addition to completing five graduate courses, you will work with registered dietitians in settings ranging from traditional hospitals, to long-term care facilities, outpatient ambulatory care centers, food management programs, and public health as well as gain exposure to research. The experience component includes two weeks of orientation, 13 weeks for clinical nutrition and medical nutrition therapy, 13 weeks for food service and management strategies, and seven weeks for community nutrition and public health. In all, you will log more than 1,100 hours of field experience. Field trips and attendance at the New York State Dietetic Association Annual Meeting are also included.

Course requirements

		Credits
NTR 530	Practicum in Clinical Nutrition	3
NTR 531	Practicum in Food Service Systems Management	3
NTR 532	Practicum in Community Nutrition I	3
NTR 548	Contemporary Topics in Dietetics	3
NTR 549	Nutrition & Disease Management for Pediatrics	3
Total Credit Hours Required:		15

The Professional Connection

Sage Graduate School offers distinctive advanced degree programs that address a spectrum of human concerns and reflect a sensitivity and responsiveness to the local community and the broader society. At Sage Graduate School, the emphasis is on applying research and theory to practical, professional situations. Sage's diverse and talented faculty are practitioners themselves, and are committed to helping students acquire professional skills and connections to manage and change workplaces of tomorrow.

Students have the option of applying the graduate courses to a master's degree in applied nutrition, community health education, and health services administration. The option of completing a master's degree would require the student to coordinate the remainder of his/her program with a specific graduate program advisor. Completion of the degree may be done either full-time or part-time. Also, the MS degree courses may be started before the DI, taken in conjunction with the DI or completed after the DI.

Unique Option

The Sage Graduate School Dietetic Internship allows a portion of the internship to be waived with prior learning experiences being applied toward the supervised practical experience hours. The process offers a creative and flexible advancement opportunity for non-traditional students and those with extensive dietetics practice experience in the areas of community nutrition and/or food service and management to complete the program in a modified format. The waiver enables interns to complete the program in less than the standard 10-month/1100+ hour program format. Applicants must complete the Practicum Course Waiver Application, which may be downloaded from the web site, and submit it with the portfolio(s) and dietetic internship application. Candidates considering this waiver option are required to consult the DI Director prior to submitting a portfolio and application.

Information Sessions

All prospective interns are strongly encouraged to attend an Information Session prior to completing the Dietetic Internship Application packet, which is due February 17, 2009 for the Fall 2009 class. Information Sessions are held during the summer and fall, day and evenings as well as January 2009 during the Winter Break.

Applicants unable to attend an Information Session may call or email the DI Director (see below) for further details and questions related to the SGS DI.

For specific dates of Information Sessions, please visit the Nutrition Science Department home page: www.sage.edu/academics/schoolofnursingandhealthsciences/nutrition/index.php > DI Sessions. Dates may be added or changed periodically, please confirm your attendance with the DI Director as noted on the web site.

For more information contact:

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