

UNLV Dietetic Internship Program- 2 Options

- 1) Dietetic Internship- Supervised Practice Program Only
- 2) Combined Master's Degree & Dietetic Internship Supervised Practice Program

To meet CDR's requirement for both a Master's degree and the Dietetic Internship supervised practice to become an RDN, a Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics (MS-DI) subplan within the existing M.S. Nutrition Sciences degree is offered through which the Master's degree and the Dietetic Internship supervised practice portion of the program are both completed within 2.5 years (30 months). Students complete graduate courses full time in the first year and a half, and the Dietetic Internship supervised practice in the last year.

Students wishing to pursue education at UNLV to be eligible to earn the RDN credential must:

- 1) Have a DPD Verification Statement and a Master's degree from a regionally accredited college or university. The college or university must be located in the U.S. or its territories and accredited in good standing by a U.S. institutional accrediting body for higher education recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDE). A master's degree in nutrition or a closely related field enhancing nutrition and dietetics practice will be most competitive. Transcripts and syllabi may be reviewed for course content and rigor. Students in this track will be enrolled in NUTR 796: Supervised Practice: Community Nutrition and Dietetics (2 credits), NUTR 797: Supervised Practice: Food Service Management (2 credits), NUTR 798: Supervised Practice: Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics (2 credits), and NUTR 794 Preparation for Nutrition & Dietetics Practice (1 credit). Additional coursework may be required, depending on coursework completed in current master's degree. The DI supervised practice is 1040 hours minimum or 26 weeks in length. Specialty concentrations, when offered, require an extra 120 hours of supervised practice. Students must complete the program within 150% of the expected timeframe, unless part-time arrangements are made prior to admission. NOTE: The number of students admitted will depend on the number of supervised practice sites available after students enrolled in the combined Master's Degree & Dietetic Internship Supervised Practice Program are placed at their practice sites (#2)

OR

- 2) Have a baccalaureate degree and DPD Verification Statement to apply for the Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics Subplan within the M.S. Nutrition Sciences degree. This program is a total of 34 credits and includes the 6 credits of required DI supervised practice experience. The program length is 2.5 years (30 months) in length. Students must complete the program within 150% of the expected timeframe, unless part-time arrangements are made prior to admission.

Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics Subplan- M.S. Nutrition Sciences Preselection Option for Application

The pre-select MS Nutrition Sciences-Dietetic Internship admission option (Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics subplan within the MS Nutrition Sciences degree) is offered to those who are enrolled in the UNLV Nutrition Sciences programs. These students have the opportunity to apply for early admission into the MS Nutrition Sciences-Dietetic Internship admission option (Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics subplan within the MS Nutrition Sciences degree) prior to the fall and spring computer matching processes. Students applying to the pre-select admission option will commit to attending the UNLV MS-DI program and bypass the computer matching selection process. **Up to** 17 of our maximum enrollments of 17 per match cycle (fall & spring) will be filled through the pre-select option, representing 100% of total students admitted to the program.

Students wishing to be considered for pre-selection must: 1) notify the Program Director of their intent with email notification to dietetic.internship@unlv.edu; 2) apply through [DICAS](#) (The Dietetics Inclusive Centralized Application Service) by the deadline posted there; and 3) separately apply to the [UNLV Graduate College](#) for admission to the M.S. Nutrition Sciences degree program, Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics subplan. Acceptance to the M.S. Nutrition Sciences program occurs after acceptance to the internship.

Students from DPD Programs Outside of UNLV: Applicants who are not UNLV DPD graduates who are applying to the combined MS-DI subplan will submit their application in [DICAS](#) to the UNLV DI by the deadline posted along with email notification to the Program Director at dietetic.internship@unlv.edu.

Details for these application processes are listed below:

Minimum Qualification Requirements to be Considered for Program Admission Include:

1. Declaration of Intent to Complete Degree or Verification Statement
 - A valid Declaration of Intent to Complete Degree or Verification Statement from an ACEND accredited DPD must be submitted with the applications.
 - A final DPD Verification Statement must be submitted to the Program Director before the applicant can begin the program and enroll in coursework.
2. A DPD GPA and overall GPA of 2.75 or greater out of 4.0, with a grade of C or higher in all DPD science and DPD professional courses.
3. An applicant who is a non-native English speaker must provide proof of English language proficiency by fulfilling the requirements displayed at the [UNLV English proficiency webpage](#).

DICAS Application

1. Submit a completed application packet via [DICAS](#) before the deadline posted.
2. You will need to write a personal statement (letter format, 1000 word maximum)
Questions to be addressed in the personal statement include:
 - Why are you interested in the UNLV MS-DI Program?
 - Why are you interested in this educational pathway?
 - Why do you want to enter the nutrition & dietetics profession?
 - Discuss experiences that have helped to prepare you for your career.
 - What are your short-term and long-term goals?
 - What are your strengths and weaknesses or areas needing improvement?
3. Official transcript(s) from all colleges and universities attended should be sent directly to [DICAS](#) and included in your completed packet before the deadline listed above.
4. Follow the recommendation instructions in [DICAS](#). Three recommendation letters are required, including one from the DPD Director issuing the Verification Statement; one from a professor in nutrition; and one from an employer or supervisor or a professor in a health-related field. The DPD letter of recommendation should include: The prospective student's ability to successfully complete the MS-DI Program; The prospective student's leadership abilities and potential.

When completing the application form, applicants must include the name and contact information (specifically an e-mail address) for each reference. This will trigger an e-mail message requesting completion of a reference form. The form will be completed on-line.

Completing and Submitting the Complete Program Application

1. Applications must be submitted through [DICAS](#) by the posted deadline. Go to the [DICAS Portal](#) for more information and to complete your application. Late applications, late supplemental application forms and late payments will not be accepted.
2. Complete the UNLV Graduate College application to the M.S. Nutrition Sciences, Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics subplan by the posted deadline. Applications available on the [UNLV Graduate College website](#).
 - Applicants must have a minimum overall undergraduate grade point average of 2.75 (A=4.0), or 3.00 (A=4.0) in the last two years. The Graduate Record Examination must be taken prior to applying. Successful applicants will generally have a 3.00 undergraduate grade point average and a combined score of 300 on verbal and quantitative sections of the GRE and higher than 3.5 on the analytical section

- Applicants must apply online through the Grad Rebel Gateway system. In addition to all documents required by the Graduate College, applicants must upload the following information into the Grad Rebel Gateway system:
 - A letter of intent that addresses: 1) Reason(s) for wishing to earn a M.S. in Nutrition Sciences; 2) motivation for attending this program at UNLV; 3) Summary of educational goals; 4) Summary of research activities and/or clinical interests; 5) Possible faculty mentors the applicant would be interested in working with.
 - Three letters of recommendation from persons familiar with the applicant's academic record and potential for graduate study.
 - An applicant who is a non-native English speaker must provide proof of English language proficiency by fulfilling the requirements displayed at the [UNLV english proficiency webpage](#).
 - A Declaration of Intent to Complete Degree or Verification Statement from an ACEND accredited program must be provided
 - All domestic and international applicants must review and follow the Graduate College Admission and Registration Requirements.
 - Students are accepted into a degree program as described in the Graduate Catalog. The faculty and corresponding sub-disciplines and sub-plans within the described programs are subject to change at any time.
3. Submit a \$60.00 application fee and supplemental application form directly to the program via email. Do not submit your supplemental form via DICAS. The \$60.00 application fee must be sent separately to UNLV or your application will not be eligible for review.

Complete the credit card authorization form found on the program's website and email it to dietetic.internship@unlv.edu.

Do not send forms via mail as they will not be accepted.

IF YOUR FORM OF PAYMENT IS DECLINED, YOUR APPLICATION WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED AND YOU WILL NOT BE NOTIFIED OF THE DECLINED PAYMENT. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE PROPER PAYMENT.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ON RECEIPT OF YOUR SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION AND PAYMENT, PLEASE EMAIL DIETETIC.INTRNSHIP@UNLV.EDU. PLEASE DO NOT CALL OR EMAIL THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR AS SHE DOES NOT PROCESS THIS.

Additional information

- Incomplete application packets will not be considered.
- GRE scores may be submitted but are not required.
- Interns must accept or deny their placement in the UNLV MS-DI DI in writing via email by the deadline given in the D&D Digital computer matching process.
- Failure to maintain academic requirements will compromise supervised practice placement.
- Interns will be subject to vaccination requirements, urine drug testing, and criminal background checks. Failure to provide proof of required vaccinations and pass these tests will result in immediate dismissal from the program.
- If an applicant is not pre-selected, they may apply to the program again through the usual [DICAS](#) and accompanying D&D computer matching process.

Please note that if you are accepted into the MS-DI during the pre-select process, you are NOT eligible to participate in the computer matching process during the same application cycle. The DI program director will provide the names of all pre-selected students to D&D Digital Systems, Inc. to ensure that accepted interns do not participate in the computer match.

Policy for Issuing an ACEND Verification Statement- Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics Subplan of the M.S. Nutrition Sciences Degree

Upon completion of the ACEND-accredited UNLV Dietetic Internship Program, graduates receive a Verification Statement of program completion which is required for eligibility to take the Commission on Dietetic Registration's (CDR) [dietetic registration exam](#). The exam must be passed to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) which also fulfills requirements in the [State of Nevada to become a Licensed Dietitian](#).

If the program completion requirements are met, the DI Director will issue the final Verification Statement and will follow the procedures established by CDR for submitting and verifying eligibility for the dietetic registration exam. Successful program completion includes:

- 1) Completing the minimum required supervised practice contact hours and earning at least a satisfactory rating on all competencies and student learning outcomes. The program length is 2.5 years in length. Students must complete the program within 150% of the expected timeframe, unless part-time arrangements are made prior to admission.
- 2) Completing an adequate learning portfolio, documenting meeting competency. Template is provided by the program.
- 3) Completion of the CDR demographic information.
- 4) Master's degree earned during this program (M.S. Nutrition Sciences).

**Policy for Issuing an ACEND Verification Statement- Dietetic Internship Program Only
(Students entering with an existing Master's degree)**

Upon completion of the ACEND-accredited UNLV Dietetic Internship Program, graduates receive a Verification Statement of program completion which is required for eligibility to take the Commission on Dietetic Registration's (CDR) [dietetic registration exam](#). The exam must be passed to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) which also fulfills requirements in the [State of Nevada to become a Licensed Dietitian](#).

If the program completion requirements are met, the DI Director will issue the final Verification Statement and will follow the procedures established by CDR for submitting and verifying eligibility for the dietetic registration exam. Successful program completion includes:

- 1) Completing the minimum required supervised practice contact hours and earning at least a satisfactory rating on all competencies and student learning outcomes. The DI supervised practice is 1040 hours minimum or 26 weeks in length. Specialty concentrations, when offered, require an extra 120 hours of supervised practice. Students must complete the program within 150% of the expected timeframe, unless part-time arrangements are made prior to admission.
- 2) Completing an adequate learning portfolio, documenting meeting competency. Template is provided by the program.
- 3) Completion of the CDR demographic information.
- 4) Master's degree earned and approved prior to UNLV program admission.