TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE
DIETETIC INTERNSHIP/MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM
PROSPECTIVE STUDENT BROCHURE

PHILOSOPHY

Dietitians need diverse skills to provide nutritional care in a complex and rapidly changing managed health care environment. The Texas A&M University-Kingsville Dietetic Internship in Human Sciences Program (TAMUK DI) is based on the philosophy that entry-level professionals have had opportunities to develop skills to meet the needs of diverse clients in a variety of settings. Special emphasis is placed on meeting the needs of the South Texas population composed primarily of Hispanics with varying socio-economic status and literacy skills. This internship allows student interns from all over the country to obtain the practical experience working with a diverse population in South Texas.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Texas A&M University-Kingsville DI is to develop well-rounded leaders and critical thinkers who can provide nutrition education and medical nutrition therapy to solve nutrition related health problems in an ethnically and culturally diverse community. Interns who successfully complete the program are eligible to apply to take the Commission on Dietetic Registration’s (CDR) exam to become Registered Dietitians (RD).

DESCRIPTION OF TAMUK DI

The Department of Human Sciences offers Dietetic Internship with graduate level coursework. Students who have a Bachelor degree and verification statement from the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) can apply to the TAMUK DI.

Interns are required to take a minimum of six hours of graduate work in Human Sciences (HSCI 5352 and HSCI 5353) in Summer Session II starting the first week of July before beginning their Internship rotation in August. HSCI 5352 and HSCI 5353 can only be taken at TAMUK. No graduate course substitution will be allowed as HSCI 5352 and HSCI 5353 are part of TAMUK Dietetic Internship Program. The TAMUK DI provides 18 graduate credit hours that can be applied toward the 36 graduate credit hours required to complete the Master of Science in Human Sciences. Applicants with a master’s degree can be accepted into the internship; however, the eighteen hours of graduate coursework is required and no substitutions are allowed.

HSCI 5352 and HSCI 5353 are taught on the Kingsville campus Summer II (first week of July). Each course earns three graduate credit hours. Interns must achieve a grade of “C” or higher in HSCI 5352 and HSCI 5353 in order to begin HSCI 5650. Interns not achieving a minimum of “C” should withdraw from HSCI 5650 and would need to re-apply and be re-accepted into the internship if they want to continue. HSCI 5650 provides 30 weeks of practical experience for which an intern earns 12 hours of
graduate credit over two semesters. Interns will complete 32 hours of practical experience per week (1,200 hours of internship per year) which is supervised by registered dietitians or other trained professionals under the direction of the internship director.

Most rotations will be in Corpus Christi for the interns assigned to that locale. Victoria interns will complete most of their rotations in their locale and will live there during the internship. Recently, Harlingen Medical Center, Kindred Hospital, Laredo Specialty Hospital, Doctors Hospital of Laredo joined our program as rotation sites for clinical and food service. Rotations consist of the following: Medical Nutrition Therapy: 15 weeks; Food Service Management: 8 weeks; and Community Nutrition: 7 weeks. Interns assigned to Harlingen, Laredo, and Victoria can live in the Kingsville/Corpus Christi area during Summer Session II. Supervised practice experiences begin after completion of HSCI 5352 and HSCI 5353.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENT TO DIETETIC INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Minimum Admission Standards
1. GPA of at least 3.0 and DPD GPA of at least 3.0 or higher
2. Verification Statement before the first day of the internship
3. Students should document GPA of 3.0 or higher in last sixty credit hours
5. GRE score of 290 is required as a pre-requirement before Summer school begins.
Courses offered during the summer school are HSCI 5352 and HSCI 5353.
4. Accepted by TAMUK graduate school
6. A minimum of six hours of graduate work (HSCI 5352 and HSCI 5353 with a minimum grade of “C” before the internship rotation begins.
7. Certification for food handlers should be obtained before the internship begins.

However, to guarantee DI-slot, students are encouraged to have a GRE score of 900 at a time applying to the DI program.

Attainment of these minimum requirements does not guarantee admission to the program. Admission decisions are based on assessments of all aspects of the student’s application materials. We reserve the right to increase standards if warranted by enrollment limitations, by the number, and by quality of applicants.

COMPUTER MATCHING PROCESS

This program participates in the D&D computer matching program. Therefore, students need to submit materials for matching to D&D by the specified deadline. D&D can be accessed at the following website: http://www.dnddigital.com. Acceptance into the internship is based on a department review and ranking of candidates’ qualifications.

Student’s folder
The student’s folder must be completed before the student is allowed to start either the clinical, food service, or community rotation begin.
The folder should contain the following information
1. Vaccinations
2. Health insurance
3. Background check
4. Valid driver’s license
5. Drug screening
6. Official Original transcripts with the degree confer date posted in the transcript.
7. Original Verification Statement prior to start of program.
8. Certification for food handlers

**INTERNSHIP SCHEDULE**

Each student will receive their rotation schedules once the student folder is complete. The internship director schedules each student in accordance to the site availability.

**DAILY WORK SCHEDULE**

Interns are to work at least 32 hours per week. At times, students may have to work beyond 32 hours to 40 hours per week to complete their assignments. Sometimes students may need to leave a facility to attend scheduled presentations. The daily work schedule can vary from one site to another. Dietetic Interns are scheduled to attend various sites to learn from the preceptor and the staff. Scheduling interns to various sites does not imply replacing an employee by interns. Rather, the intern position at a site is in addition to the existing employee schedule and not a substitute for employee’s schedule.
Internship course requirements

Summer
Nutrition Care Management I HSCI 5352 3 hours
Nutrition Care Management II HSCI 5353 3 hours

Fall
Practicum in Nutritional Care Management I and II HSCI 5650 6 hours

Spring
Practicum in Nutritional Care Management I and II HSCI 5650 6 hours

TUITION, FEES AND OTHER COSTS
The following costs of the internship are estimates and subject to change.

- The cost is approximation for 18 credit hours. The quotations are estimation and may not be exact.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Expenses</th>
<th>Estimated Expenses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texas Resident</strong></td>
<td><strong>Non-Resident</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Tuition/fees for 18 Hours *</td>
<td>3,627.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. DI Application fee</td>
<td>75.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Application fee to grad school</td>
<td>35.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Books including summer classes</td>
<td>500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Medical insurance</td>
<td>1,022.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics membership</td>
<td>50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Laboratory coats or uniforms, nametags</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Medical exam</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Background check and drug test</td>
<td>120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. 10 month estimate for housing, car, etc</td>
<td>5,500.00-8,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Other miscellaneous expenses</td>
<td>400.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>11,579.00-14,579.00</td>
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Dietetic interns are required to complete 18 hours of graduate coursework for verification (HSCI 5352, 5353, for three credit hours each and HSCI 5650 for 12 credit hours.

- **It is expected that each student to have a lap-top computer as many sites would require each student to work on their computer**
Applying to Graduate Program for Admission

To apply online,

go to [WWW.applytexas.org](http://WWW.applytexas.org) and apply to the graduate program in Human Sciences

[Apply Texas Application](http://WWW.applytexas.org)

Domestic application inquiries should be directed to the Office of Admissions by calling 361-593-2315, email at: [admissions@tamuk.edu](mailto:admissions@tamuk.edu) or using the postal address below:

Office of Admissions
MSC 128
Kingsville, TX 78363-8202

It is the university requirement for all graduate students to have completed the GRE by the end of their first semester as a graduate student.

For International Applicants

- Application ([Apply Texas Application](http://WWW.applytexas.org))
- Application ([PDF](http://WWW.applytexas.org))
- Admission Procedures Brochure ([HTML](http://WWW.applytexas.org))
- Application Checklist ([PDF](http://WWW.applytexas.org))
- Financial Statement Form ([PDF](http://WWW.applytexas.org))
- Sample Sponsor Letter ([PDF](http://WWW.applytexas.org))
- Deferment of Admission ([PDF](http://WWW.applytexas.org))
- International Student Status Transfer Form if Currently in the U.S. ([PDF](http://WWW.applytexas.org))

If you have additional questions contact the address below:

College of Graduate Studies
Texas A&M University-Kingsville
MSC 118, 700 University Blvd.
Kingsville, Texas 78363-8202
Fax: (361) 593-3412
Phone: (361) 593-2808

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT DIETETIC INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

CONTACT
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