

Texas A&M University Kingsville

Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD)

Student Handbook

**The Texas A&M University Kingsville
Didactic Program in Dietetics is currently
accredited by the
Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and
Dietetics (ACEND)
120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190
Chicago, Illinois 60606
800-877-1600, ext. 5400**

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The following pages in the DPD Student Handbook are updated annually to stay consistent with information in the Texas A&M University-Kingsville Student Handbook and the Texas A&M University-Kingsville Undergraduate Bulletin. Additional website information is included from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics, the Commission on Dietetic Registration, and the Texas Dietetic Association.

Texas A&M University-Kingsville Department of Health Professions

Introduction

The TAMUK Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) meets the eligibility requirements and accreditation standards for entry-level dietetics education programs specified by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). The DPD curriculum is based on the ACEND Eligibility Requirements and Accreditation Standards for dietitians, with required coursework in communications, physical and biological sciences, social sciences, research, food, nutrition, management, and health care systems. Graduates of the Didactic Program in Dietetics are eligible to apply for a supervised practice program (Dietetic Internship) leading to eligibility to take the registration examination for dietitians and to apply for membership in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

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DIDACTIC PROGRAM IN DIETETICS (DPD)

Student Handbook

Texas A&M University-Kingsville

OVERVIEW of the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD)

The DPD is the first of the three required components in the education and training of dietetics professionals.

Dietitians are the health professionals who translate the science and art of nutrition and food in the service of people. They can do this best if they are confidently grounded in their foundational knowledge and skill development. The DPD is intended to provide this firm foundation and to prepare the student for the second educational requirement, that of the supervised practice experience. The well-designed didactic program will provide courses and educational experiences in the basic sciences of biology, chemistry, biochemistry, anatomy, physiology and microbiology; nutrition sciences, to include basic nutrition, food science, medical nutrition therapy, food service management and advanced nutrition; psychology and management. Students will be encouraged, to the extent possible, to choose elective coursework in areas of interest or potential professional involvements.

Graduates of our Didactic Program in Dietetics will successfully complete the Foundation Knowledge and Skills as delineated in the Accreditation Standards. They will be prepared to competitively seek, receive, and successfully complete an accredited dietetic internship program.

The Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) of Texas A&M University-Kingsville

The DPD is through the Department of Health Professions, part of the College of Nursing and Health Professions at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Its focus is to study concepts including dietetics, food systems management and community food principles, nutrition, medical nutrition therapy, experimental foods, community nutrition, quantity food preparation, and food service management. Additional information can be found online at

<https://www.tamuk.edu/cnhp/health-professions/human-nutrition/index.html>

The Human Sciences Department has been a part of the Texas A&M University-Kingsville since it was established in 1925. The initial emphasis was vocational home economics. A concentration in General Dietetics was added in 1956. The Didactic Program in Dietetics

received accreditation status in 1992 and was followed by a Dietetic Internship program in 1994 and received full accreditation in 1999. Undergraduate Human Nutrition majors now earn their Baccalaureate degrees in Human Nutrition through the University's College of Nursing and Health Professions under the Department of Health Professions.

The Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) may be completed in conjunction with the Department's Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition. Students accepted into the M.S. Degree Program or with a Baccalaureate Degree in a field other than nutrition may complete the DPD requirements along with their graduate coursework in Human Nutrition if they anticipate applying to a supervised practice program (dietetic internship).

- Attain a Master of Science in Human Nutrition while completing the dietetic internship at TAMUK with different areas of emphasis in coursework to include:
business/management, sports nutrition, nutrition education and clinical nutrition
- Experience nutrition care beyond the classroom through direct exposure to real patients, clients, organizations, and healthcare teams
- Tailored internship experiences to your career interests

Accreditation Status

The Didactic Program in Dietetics at Texas A & M University Kingsville is currently Accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) is an autonomous accrediting agency for education programs preparing students to begin careers as registered dietitians or dietetic technicians, registered. Programs meeting the ACEND Accreditation Standards are accredited by ACEND. More information on our program's accreditation is available at the ACEND website at <https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend>.

Mission Statement of the College of Nursing and Health Professions

The mission of the College of Nursing and Health Professions is to develop skilled health professional graduates who embody the values of care, integrity, innovation, and professional ethics through comprehensive clinical education which bridges the gap between theoretical classroom knowledge and hands-on care to our communities.

Our programs provide evidence-based education through academic and clinical excellence preparing leaders committed to inter-disciplinary collaboration and life-long learning.

We are committed to empowering graduates to promote quality health care across all communities, focusing on rural and under-served populations across South Texas and beyond.

Mission Statement of the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD)

The mission of the DPD program at Texas A&M University-Kingsville is to provide students with the Foundation Knowledge and Skills which prepares and enables students for supervised practice leading to eligibility for the CDR credentialing exam to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist.

Graduates with a concentration in Human Nutrition meet the educational requirements for acceptance into an Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Education (ACEND) accredited dietetic internship program. After successful completion of this Didactic Program in Dietetics, both completion of a dietetic internship, a graduate degree, and a passing score on the CDR dietetic registration examination are required to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). Program graduates should be able to work effectively as professionals within their communities to improve the quality of food and nutrition for all people.

To accomplish this mission, the program's curriculum includes broad foundations of knowledge in the fields of biochemistry, microbiology, human anatomy and physiology, education,

communication, psychology, and management. In-depth coursework is required in the fundamentals of nutrition, life cycle nutrition, nutrition and disease, advanced nutrition, cultural and community nutrition, food science, quantity foods, and food service management.

Located in South Texas, the university is a teaching, research, and service institution that provides access to higher education in a unique population in the South Texas region. Texas A&M-Kingsville's DPD program is the only accredited DPD program south of San Antonio.

DPD Program Goals and Outcome Measures

GOAL 1: Prepare graduates to achieve competence required for the entry-level dietetics professional.

Outcome Measures

- Outcome Measure 1.1) 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%.
- Outcome Measure 1.2) At least 80% of program students complete program/degree requirements within 6 years (150% of the program length)
- Outcome Measure 1.3.) At least 75% of graduates will rate themselves as prepared or well prepared for a dietetic internship or employment in a dietetics-related area

GOAL 2: Produce graduates successful in obtaining internship acceptance and/or employment in nutrition, dietetics, food service administration or continue their education in graduate programs.

- Outcome Measure 2.1) At least 30% of program graduates apply for admission to a supervised practice program prior to or within 12 months of graduation.
- Outcome Measure 2.2) Of program graduates who apply to a supervised practice program, at least 50% of program graduates are admitted to a supervised practice program within 12 months of graduation.

Outcome Measures

Outcome's data available upon request.

DPD Philosophy

The philosophy of the DPD at Texas A&M University Kingsville is to educate individuals

through quality dietetic courses and didactic course learning experiences, to develop professionals who will translate the science and art of nutrition and food into application through practice of dietetics, and to develop visionary and competent individuals who will be able to understand and to solve complex problems encountered by the professional dietitian.

The DPD's mission is congruent with that of the University and the College of Nursing and Health Professionals in seeking to provide the appropriate environment to enable students to become proficient in their major field of study and in entry-level dietetics practice and to instill an appreciation for skills necessary in life-long learning. The DPD's mission is consistent with academic preparation for supervised practice to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist and, as integrated into the Program's didactic learning experiences, complies with the AND Standards of Professional Performance.

DPD Program Policies and Procedures

The Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) is located in the Department of Health Professions and may be completed in conjunction with the Department's Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition. Students who have been accepted into the M.S. Degree Program or have a Baccalaureate Degree in a field other than nutrition may complete the DPD requirements along with their graduate coursework in Human Nutrition if they anticipate applying to a supervised practice program (dietetic internship). Courses required for the DPD will be integrated within the undergraduate curriculum for those students desiring to continue on in dietetics (a complete listing of DPD courses is included on page 22).

Admission Requirements

No additional requirements for admission to the Department of Health Professions DPD Program exist beyond the university admission requirements, as stated in the Texas A&M University Kingsville Undergraduate Catalog located online: <https://catalog.tamuk.edu/>

Academic Calendar

See the Texas A&M University-Kingsville Academic Calendar.

<http://www.tamuk.edu/academics/academic-calendar/index.html>

Disciplinary/Termination Procedures

Disciplinary/Termination procedures for students in the DPD Program follow the same procedures found in the TAMUK Student Handbook under Academic Misconduct beginning on page 54. For an electronic version of the Texas A&M University-Kingsville Student Handbook go to: [Student Handbook | Texas A&M University Kingsville](#)

Minimum Grade Requirements

The minimum grade point requirement for DPD students who are making satisfactory academic progress is a 3.0 overall grade point average and is the GPA required for program completion.

Scholastic Probation

Students will be placed on DPD scholastic probation any time their overall grade point average falls below 3.0. Such students are required to participate to the fullest in academic support programs and to seek academic advising. Students who have been placed on scholastic probation will be removed from such probation at the conclusion of the semester or summer term at this university when they have achieved a 3.0 grade point average.

Enforced Withdrawal

Students who have been placed on scholastic probation, and who fail to achieve the minimum cumulative grade point average during the next long semester, will be placed on enforced withdrawal. Students who have been placed on enforced withdrawal may return after an absence of one semester; however, students placed on enforced withdrawal for a third time may return only after an absence of one year. These students must obtain an approval letter from the appropriate college dean and submit a readmission application to the Office of Admission. In any case, the required absence period may be shortened or eliminated upon approval of the college dean.

Maximum time to Complete Program

In compliance with ACEND program requirements, students enrolled in the bachelor level DPD are expected to complete program/degree requirements within 150% of the time planned for completion, or six years.

Withdrawal from the University

Definition of a Withdrawal: Students who drop **ALL** classes for which they are enrolled are considered to have withdrawn from the university for that semester.

If a student withdraws by the census date for the term, they will not receive a grade on their transcript. Undergraduate students subject to [Senate Bill 1231](#) who withdraw after the official census date will receive a QE grade for their courses. Undergraduate students who are not subject to [Senate Bill 1231](#), as well as graduate and doctoral students, who withdraw after the official census date will receive a Q grade for their courses.

Students may not withdraw from the university after the last day to drop/withdraw (set by the university academic calendar).

- **NOTE:** A student wishing to withdraw will need to contact the Office of the Registrar directly to obtain the Request for Withdrawal Form. Staff members can assist you in making an informed decision; explain the difference between dropping a course and withdrawing; things to think about before withdrawing; implications academically or financially; institution's withdrawal policy; and steps to proceed with withdrawal process.
- **IMPORTANT:** Drops or withdrawals are initiated by the student. Not attending class does not initiate a drop, withdrawal or refund and may result in failing grades.

Access to Personal Files

PRIVACY OF STUDENT RECORDS: FERPA POLICY

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 is a Federal Law which states (a) that a written institutional policy must be established and (b) that a statement of adopted procedures covering the privacy rights of students be made available. The law provides that the institution will maintain the confidentiality of student education records.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) afford students certain rights with respect to their education records. These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the university receives a request for access. A student should submit to the registrar, dean, head of the academic department or other appropriate official, written requests that identify the records(s) the student wishes to inspect. The university official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the university official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA. A student who wishes to ask the university to amend a record should write the university official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed.

If the university decides not to amend the record as requested, the university will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student's right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to provide written consent before the University discloses personally identifiable information from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the university in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person or company with whom the university has contracted (such as an attorney, auditor or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill her/his professional responsibilities for the University.

Upon request, the university discloses education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. [NOTE: FERPA requires an institution to make a reasonable attempt to notify the student of the records request unless the institution states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the University to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-5901. If you have any questions about FERPA compliance or the release of student information, please contact the University Registrar at registrar@tamuk.edu or 361-593-2811.

Access to Student Support Services

Texas A&M University-Kingsville offers a number of student support services free of charge or for minimal fee including Life Services and Wellness, Disability Services for Students, Testing Services, Wellness Program, Women's Enrichment Program, International Student Services, Veterans Services, the Marc Cisneros Center for Young Children, and Career Services. For more information on the services available at Texas A&M University-Kingsville, consult the undergraduate handbook at [Student Handbook | Texas A&M University Kingsville](#)

Grievance Procedure

Complaints or concerns about the program should be discussed with the program director. If a student has a grievance with another student, faculty or program director, the policy as outlined in the University handbook should be followed. Grievances will be discussed with the Chair of the Department and not the program director.

Assessment of Prior Learning

All students, including transfer students, are required to meet both University and major degree requirements to graduate. To *also* complete the DPD Program requirements, students –with assistance from the DPD Director and their Department advisor- integrate DPD course requirements into their major plan of study.

The University's Office of Admissions conducts transcript evaluations for prospective and incoming transfer students. Transfer student requests for course substitutions or petitions are handled by the DPD Director, with the DPD Director compares the transfer student's prior coursework to DPD Program's course requirements to determine if there are any DPD course equivalencies and thus, the students remaining DPD course requirements. For courses outside the Department, decisions are made by the corresponding department through the University petition process. If a student has previous relevant work experience, certain DPD course requirements may be waived after careful review of appropriate documentation by the DPD Director.

Documentation to review may include certificates, position descriptions, projects, reports, written rationale, professional resumes, and/or letters of recommendation or explanation from designated person(s). In some cases, a comprehensive exam/project may be taken for certain DPD course credit to appropriate documentation to ensure all KRDN's are covered. The DPD Director will make all final decisions. Copies of documentation will be retained for DPD Verification Statement eligibility and record keeping upon program completion.

Formal Assessment of Student Learning

Student progress towards learning goals and outcomes occurs throughout the student's academic program. Each semester, the DPD Director will review student performance (grades) – overall performance in the course and on specific assignments - to make this assessment.

DPD Retention and Remediation Procedures

Students failing to maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 and a DPD GPA of at least 3.0 will be asked to meet with the DPD Director to receive additional instruction and guidance regarding improvement of performance and review the student's long-term plans. Remediation is conducted with students who do not meet KRDN assessment learning activity benchmarks by having students rework project until the benchmark is met. KRDN activity log is kept by instructor teaching the course and provided to program director at the end of each semester.

Didactic Program in Dietetics Verification Statement Policy

A verification statement is required in order to apply to dietetic internship programs. Completion of a Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) approved Dietetic Internship or Coordinated Program. To be eligible to receive a verification statement, students in the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) at Texas A&M University-Kingsville must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 overall in required DPD courses and hold a baccalaureate degree. Receipt of a verification statement, alone, does not guarantee acceptance into a ACEND accredited dietetic internship as programs are highly competitive. Students who do not meet the grade point requirement for a verification statement, but satisfy graduation requirements, will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition.

Dietetic Internship Applications

General Timeline. You should begin investigating DI programs

(<https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/accredited-programs/accredited-programs-directory>)

during the end of your junior year, and apply during the last semester of your senior year.

The annual application deadlines vary based on the internship and it is imperative to visit each individual site for deadline details. Some programs have rolling admission.

Dietetic Internship Centralized Application Services (DICAS). Each DI provides directions for applying to their programs. Many use the DICAS site [DICAS | Applicant Login Page](#). In general, DICAS requires that you create an account and provide personal and background information, including details about your college education (transcripts for all colleges attended), details about DPD courses, contact information of your DPD Director, a

list of awards, experience, certifications, volunteer activities, an updated resume, three letters of reference (2 academic and 1 from volunteer/work experience), a list of DIs for which you are applying, etc. Gathering these materials takes time. This system requires \$50 to apply for the first DI, and an additional \$25 for each additional program to which the student applies. Some programs may have an additional supplemental fee. There is no longer a computer matching component of the DI application process. For additional information, visit [Application Process for Students](#).

Completing the DPD Program

Internship programs vary in duration, depending on the particular program and associated graduate study (if any). Completion of both a Bachelor's degree and the required DPD coursework is mandatory before an internship experience can be started. All students, not only those planning to apply to dietetic internships (DI), will receive official verification of DPD completion, provided by the DPD Director in the form of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' (AND) "Verification Statement." Students applying to a DI prior to completing all of the DPD coursework will be supplied with a form entitled, "Declaration of Intent to Complete DPD", which lists any remaining DPD coursework - during the time between sending the DI application and entering the internship - and is signed by the DPD Director and the student. Upon completion of an accredited Dietetic Internship, Graduate degree, a national registration examination is taken. Successful completion of the examination is necessary in order to receive credentialing as a Registered Dietitian (RD).

Texas Dietetic Licensure (LD)

In Texas, the Texas State Board of Examiners of Dietitians licenses and regulates Licensed Dietitians and Provisional Licensed Dietitians. Unless the person holds an appropriate license, a person may not use the title or represent that the person has the title Licensed Dietitian or use a facsimile of that title. Education and experience required for licensure in Texas includes:

- Successful completion Registration Examination administered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
- You must provide documentation showing a passing score on the Texas Dietitian

Jurisprudence exam when you apply for a new license. The Texas Dietitian Jurisprudence Examination content is based on the state and federal laws, rules, and regulations relating to the practice of Licensed Dietitians.

Licensed Dietitians have met strict standards to become licensed by the state of Texas. Those standards include a minimum of a Graduate degree from an accredited college or university, post graduate supervised training of at least 1000 hours, and the passing of a national registration examination. Since Licensed Dietitians are required to complete continuing education classes annually, the public can be assured that Licensed Dietitians are maintaining and upgrading their skills and knowledge in order to provide quality services and products. Source: Texas State Board of Examiners of Dietitians (<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/diet/>).

Exit Evaluation

DPD students are requested to evaluate the overall program upon completion of the requirements for the degree by completing an exit survey. Survey information is kept confidential. Compiled data are shared with faculty as part of the program evaluation. Students must complete evaluation survey before verification statement is issued and if the student meets DPD GPA requirements.

Anticipated Student Expenses and Requirements for the DPD Program

A. Refer to the Educational Expenses Section of the TAMUK Catalog, or online at for typical tuition, books and supply costs, living expenses, and other fees and charges.

<https://catalog.tamuk.edu/undergraduate/educational-expenses/>

B. Students need to allow money for the following (cost varies):

1. A calculator (\$5-20)
2. Required and recommended books and references. (~\$250-\$500)
3. Student Membership of Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (\$58.00 annually)
4. Membership dues for TAMUK Student Dietetic Association (\$15.00 annually)
5. Student registration fees for professional seminars/annual meetings (\$150)
6. General school supplies. (~\$150-250 annually)

C. Additional Expenses

Special projects and research may necessitate photocopying of pertinent resources, handouts, and other materials.

D. Transportation

Each student should have a car or access to a car.

Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Department of Biological & Health Sciences

Degree: B.S. in Human Nutrition
ACEND APPROVED DIDACTIC PROGRAM IN DIETETICS

BIOL 1306 General Biology & Biology 1106 (Lab)	4				
BIOL 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I	4				
BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II	4				
BIOL 2421 Elementary Microbiology	4				
BIOL 3402 Genetics	4				
CHEM 1311 General Inorganic Chem.& CHEM 1111(Lab)	4				
CHEM 1312 General Inorganic Chemistry & CHEM 1112	4				
CHEM 3323 Organic Chemistry I & CHEM 3123 (Lab)	4				
CHEM 4345 Principles of Biochemistry	3				
ENGL 1301 Rhetoric and Composition	3				
ENGL 1302 Rhetoric and Composition	3				
HIST 1301 American History	3				
HIST 1302 American History	3				
MATH 1314 College Algebra	3				
MGMT 3312 Organization Theory & Human Behavior	3				
POLS 2301 Government & Politics - U.S.	3				
POLS 2302 Government & Politics - Texas	3				
PSYC 2301 Introduction to Psychology	3				
STAT 1342 Elementary Statistics	3				
Language/philosophy/culture	3				
Communications	3				
Creative arts	3				
UNIV 1201 Learning in Global Context	2				
Elective	3				
HMNT 1350 Food Preparation & Meal Management	3				
HMNT 2350 Introduction to Nutrition & HMNT 2150 (Lab)	4				
HMNT 3350 Nutrition through Life Cycle	3				
HMNT 3352 Experimental Food Science	3				
HMNT 3353 Medical Nutrition Therapy I	3				
HMNT 3363 Medical Nutrition Therapy II	3				
HMNT Elective	3				
HMNT 4312 Nutrition Counseling & Diet Instruction	3				
HMNT 4351 Foods & Nutrition I	3				
HMNT 4352 Foods & Nutrition II	3				
HMNT 4360 Quantity Food Preparation & Management	3				
HMNT 4366 Advanced Institutional Food Service Mgmt	3				
HMNT 4367 Advanced Nutrition I	3				
HMNT 4368 Advanced Nutrition II	3				

TOTAL 122

Texas A & M University-Kingsville
Didactic Program in Dietetics Required Course List

BIOL 1306 General Biology and Biology 1106 (Lab)
BIOL 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I
BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II
BIOL 2421 Elementary Microbiology

CHEM 1311 General Inorganic Chemistry and CHEM 1111 (Lab)
CHEM 1312 General Inorganic Chemistry and CHEM 1112 (Lab)
CHEM 2421 Elementary Organic Chemistry or CHEM 3323/3123
CHEM 4345 Principles of Biochemistry

PSYC 2301 Introduction to Psychology
STAT 1342 Elementary Statistics
MGMT 3312 Org. Theory & Human Behavior

HMNT 1350 Food Preparation and Meal Management
HMNT 2350 Introduction to Nutrition (Lab 2150)
HMNT 3350 Nutrition through Life Cycle
HMNT 3352 Experimental Food Science
HMNT 3353 Medical Nutrition Therapy I
HMNT 3363 Medical Nutrition Therapy II
HMNT 4312 Nutrition Counseling/DI
HMNT 4351 Foods and Nutrition I
HMNT 4352 Foods and Nutrition II
HMNT 4360 Quantity Food Preparation & Management
HMNT 4366 Advanced Institutional Food Service Management
HMNT 4367 Advanced Nutrition I
HMNT 4368 Advanced Nutrition II

Texas A&M University-Kingsville Department of Biology & Health Sciences Semester Degree Plan
Human Nutrition

Freshman Year Fall Semester _____ BIOL 1306 General Biology and 1106 Lab (4) _____ ENGL 1301 Rhetoric and Composition (3) _____ HMNT 1350 Food Prep and Meal Management (3) _____ MATH 1314 College Algebra (3) _____ UNIV 1201 (1) 15 hrs	Spring Semester _____ CHEM 1311 General Inorganic Chemistry and 1111 Lab (4) _____ ENGL 1302 Rhetoric and Composition (3) _____ PSYC 2301 Introduction to Psychology (3) _____ COMS (3) Select COMS, BCOM, ENGL courses available. See Undergraduate Catalog for details. _____ <i>Creative Arts</i> (3) Select from ARTS, MUSI, THEA courses. See Undergraduate Catalog for details. 16 hrs
Sophomore Year Fall Semester _____ CHEM 1312/1112 General Inorganic Chemistry and Lab (4) _____ STAT 1342 Elem. Statistics (3) _____ HIST 1301 American History (3) _____ HMNT 2350/2150 Introduction to Nutrition/Lab (4) _____ POLS 2301 Government & Politics-U.S. (3) 17 hrs	Spring Semester _____ CHEM 3323/3123 Organic Chemistry and 3123 Lab (4) _____ HIST 1302 American History (3) _____ POLS 2302 Government and Politics – Texas (3) _____ BIOL 2421 Elementary Microbiology (4) _____ <i>Literature/Philosophy/Culture</i> (3) 17 hrs
Junior Year Fall Semester _____ BIOL 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I (4) _____ CHEM 4345 Principles of Biochemistry (3) _____ HMNT 3350 Nutrition through Life Cycle (3) _____ HMNT 3353 Medical Nutrition Therapy II (3) 13 hrs	Spring Semester _____ BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II (4) _____ HMNT 3352 Experimental Food Science (3) _____ HMNT 3363 Medical Nutrition Therapy I (3) _____ HMNT elective (3) 13 hrs
Senior Year Fall Semester _____ HMNT 4351 Foods and Nutrition I (3) _____ HMNT 4360 Quantity Food Preparation & Management (3) _____ HMNT 4367 Advanced Nutrition I (3) _____ MGMT 3312 Org Theory & Human Behavior (3) _____ Elective (3) 15 hrs	Spring Semester _____ HMNT 4312 Nutrition Counseling and Diet Instruction (3) _____ HMNT 4352 Foods and Nutrition II (3) _____ HMNT 4366 Advanced Institutional Food Service Management (3) _____ HMNT 4368 Advanced Nutrition II (3) _____ BIOL 3402 Genetics (4) 16 hrs

Student Organizations

Texas A&M University Kingsville has an active Student Dietetic Association (SDA). Membership in the student association, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and the Texas Dietetic Association is recommended. Students in the Program are expected to actively participate at the local and state level and attend professional meetings each semester.

Why Become an AND Student Member?

Joining the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND), the world's leading organization of food and health professionals, will enable you to enhance your educational preparation and gain access to a wealth of career building resources. When you become an AND student member, you automatically will become a member of the AND Student Council. AND Student Membership benefits include:

- Network with other dietetics students via the Web-based Student Council Community of Interest (CoI), which connects AND student members nationwide, provides a communication vehicle for your student representatives, allows you to access cutting-edge information about the profession, read useful Web sites and articles, share ideas and more.
- Become eligible for leadership opportunities on the Student Council Advisory Committee.
- Obtain free membership in your state dietetic association and become eligible for state and national Outstanding Dietetics Student Awards.
- Access AND's Student Center website and the student online newsletter, the AND Student Scoop.
- Access the monthly Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics online, the award-winning AND Times, subscribe to the Daily News and more.
- Apply for Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation scholarships (for U.S. citizens or permanent residents).
- Access to AND Careerlink.org for the latest information on the profession's hottest job opportunities.
- Obtain student liability insurance and special member rates on credit cards, car rental and hotel accommodations.

The AND Student Council and Community of Interest (CoI)

The AND Student Council is a national student organization within AND formed to address student-related issues and increase peer networking. All current AND student members are automatically Council members. The purpose of the AND Student Council is to increase involvement of AND student members by creating opportunities for leadership within the Association and to facilitate communications among student members and with the AND leadership. The Student Council is represented by a Student Council Advisory Committee (SCAC). The SCAC consists of: Chair, Vice-chair, Student Delegate, ACEND Student Representative and additional student representatives. AND Student Council members will elect the SCAC annually. Each year SCAC will set goals and objectives consistent with AND's strategic plan. Core functions of the SCAC will be to:

- Promote the role of student members in dietetics-related areas,
- Promote diverse membership, and
- Encourage the participation of students in AND and in the Council.

SCAC will meet annually at the AND Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo (FNCE) and participate in the planning of the Student Forum and newsletter content.

The creation of the AND Student Council Community of Interest (CoI) is the first step towards uniting our student body. The CoI is a networking and information resource for AND student members only. Dietetics is a vital, growing field open to creativity and many opportunities. The purpose of this CoI is to connect student members nationwide, provide a communication vehicle for our student representatives, allow student members to access cutting-edge information about the profession, useful Web sites and articles, to share ideas and more. If you haven't joined or heard about the CoI, or you are a new student member and we have your current e-mail address, look for an invitation to join in your e-mail box soon, or ask a friend who has joined the CoI to send you an invitation.

Tuition and Scholarships*

Students must pay regular tuition and fees for university services and activities. There is no stipend for Program students. Students requiring financial assistance should contact the Office of Scholarships and Student Financial Aid on campus.

Some scholarships and loans may be obtained through professional organizations. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics each offer opportunities for scholarship application. These applications are usually accepted between November and February and are reviewed by a special board of AND or TAND in accordance with pre-established policies.

Scholarships are also available from:

Javelina Scholarships – <https://www.tamuk.edu/enrollment-management/scholarships/index.html>

*Information and amounts awarded vary from year to year.

Academy Foundation Student Scholarship and Financial Aid Information

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, through its many association groups, offers a variety of scholarships and educational stipends to individuals pursuing undergraduate and advanced degrees in dietetics or food and nutrition related areas. General scholarship and educational stipend information from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation, the dietetic practice groups and affiliate (state) and district dietetic associations can be accessed from the respective group's information listed on this site.

Scholarships Offered Through the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation

Scholarships, including funds set up by many of the affiliate (state) dietetic associations and dietetic practice groups, are available to encourage eligible students and members to enroll in dietetics programs. All Academy Foundation scholarships require Academy membership; some may require specific dietetic practice group membership and residency in a specific state. While all students are eligible for most Academy Foundation scholarships, some are specifically for dietetics students who are members of underrepresented groups.

Eligibility and Application Information

Scholarships awarded by the Academy Foundation are generally for Academy members enrolled in the junior or senior year of a baccalaureate or coordinated program in dietetics or the second year of study in a dietetic technician program, a dietetic internship program or a graduate program. One application form is used for all Academy Foundation scholarships. The number of scholarships available and their dollar amounts vary from year to year based on total donations. Scholarships are awarded in amounts ranging from \$500 to \$3,000. The majority of the scholarships awarded are for \$1,000.

Academy Foundation Scholarship Eligibility Requirements and Application

The Academy Foundation scholarship form is also available by contacting the Education Team by phone at 800/877-1600, ext. 5400 or e-mail at education@eatright.org. Applications are available each year between mid-September and mid-January. The annual deadline for submitting applications is in mid-February. Scholarships are awarded for the following academic or program year.

Scholarships Offered by Other Academy Groups

Scholarships from the dietetic practice groups and the affiliate and district dietetic associations generally require membership in that group or residence in its area. Individuals interested in scholarships offered by the DPGs and affiliate or district dietetic associations should contact these groups directly for more information.

Free International Financial Assistance and Resources Directory

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation has released the third edition of the Academy Foundation Directory of Resources for International Food, Nutrition, and Dietetics Professionals. This publication was made possible through the Wimpfheimer-Guggenheim Fund for International Exchange in Nutrition, Dietetics and Management. The 90-page directory is a reference for U.S. and international students and professionals who are seeking funding for professional study, work experience, or research in their home country or abroad. The publication lists more than 100 groups offering financial assistance and features education organizations, loan programs, literature and Internet resources.

Other Sources of Financial Aid

Financial assistance is essential for many students enrolled in dietetics education programs. Information about student aid should be sought from the financial aid office or administrator at individual institutions. Additional sources include the state higher education agency and local civic, professional and community organizations or foundations. Detailed information about federal grants and loans administered by the United States Department of Education is available via the Internet at www.studentaid.ed.gov.

Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation

The purpose of the Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation (TANDF) is to raise and award money for scholarships for dietetic students. Additional information about the TANDF organization, available scholarships and awards, eligibility, and application information may be obtained on the TANDF website <https://eatrighttexas.org/scholarships/>

Procedures for Complaints Against DPD Programs

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) has established a process for reviewing complaints against accredited programs in order to fulfill its public responsibility for assuring the quality and integrity of the educational programs that it accredits. Any individual, for example, student, faculty, dietetics practitioner and/or member of the public may submit a complaint against any accredited or approved program to ACEND. However, the ACEND board does not intervene on behalf of individuals or act as a court of appeal for individuals in matters of admissions, appointment, promotion or dismissal of faculty or students. It acts only upon a signed allegation that the program may not be in compliance with the accreditation standards or policies. The complaint must be signed by the complainant. Anonymous complaints are not considered. Where a complainant has threatened or filed legal action against the institution involved, ACEND will hold complaints in abeyance pending resolution of the legal issues and the complainant is so advised.

1. ACEND staff forwards all written complaints to the ACEND chair within three weeks of receipt of the complaint.
2. If the ACEND chair determines that the complaint does not relate to the accreditation standards or policies, the complainant is notified in writing within two weeks of the Chair's review that no further action will be taken.
3. If the ACEND chair determines that the complaint may relate to the accreditation standards or policies, the complaint is acknowledged in writing within two weeks of the chair's review and the complainant is provided a copy of the process for handling the complaint.
4. At the same time as the complainant is notified, the complaint is forwarded to the program by express mail second day delivery for tracking purposes. The administrative officers of the institution or organization sponsoring the program, currently on file with ACEND, receive copies of the correspondence by first class mail. At the request of the complainant, the name of the complainant is "blocked out" within the body of the written complaint that is sent to the program.
5. The ACEND chair requests the program to conduct a preliminary investigation and submit a report addressing the relevant accreditation standards or policies postmarked no more than 30 calendar days from receipt of the notification, as documented by the record of second day delivery.
6. The ACEND chair may also request further information or materials relating to the complaint from the complainant, the institution or other sources.
7. The ACEND chair appoints a review committee to consider the complaint, along with all relevant information. The review committee recommends appropriate action to the ACEND board at its next scheduled meeting.
8. In determining the appropriate action, the ACEND board considers the complaint, materials relating to the complaint, the review committee's recommendation, if any, and additional evidence provided by the program, if any.

9. The ACEND board or the ACEND chair may determine that legal counsel is needed to address the complaint. Staff works with the ACEND board and legal counsel to identify a plan to address the complaint.
10. If the complaint is determined to be unsubstantiated or not related to the accreditation standards or policies, no action is taken.
11. If the complaint is substantiated and indicates that the program may not be in compliance with the accreditation standards or policies, appropriate action is taken, which may include, but is not limited to, scheduling an on-site visit of the program. If the complaint is substantiated and the ACEND board determines that the program is not in compliance with the accreditation standards or policies, the ACEND board may place the program on probation or withdraw accreditation or approval.
12. The program director and administration of the sponsoring institution are notified of the ACEND board's decision and action in writing within two weeks of the decision. The complainant is notified of the final decision and action when the reconsideration and appeals process expires.
13. The program has the right to request the ACEND board to reconsider a decision to place the program on probation or to withdraw accreditation or approval.

Written complaints should be mailed to the Chair, the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics at the following address:

**Accreditation Council for Education
in Nutrition and Dietetics
120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190 Chicago, Illinois 60606-6995
Phone: 800-877-1600 Ext. 5400**

WHO IS A REGISTERED DIETITIAN (RD) OR REGISTERED DIETITIAN NUTRITIONISTS (RDN)?

Registered Dietitians (RD) or Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDN) are individuals who have met all requirements as outlined in this document.

To become a [registered dietitian nutritionist](#), you will need to:

1. **Complete a minimum of a master's degree** granted by a college or university accredited by a U.S. Department of Education recognized accrediting agency or foreign equivalent, and coursework through an Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics accredited Didactic, Coordinated, Graduate or International program.
2. **Complete required supervised practice/experience** through an ACEND-accredited Dietetic Internship, Coordinated Program, Graduate Program, or an Individualized Supervised Practice Pathway offered through an ACEND-accredited program.
3. **Pass a national examination** administered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration. For more information regarding the examination, refer to [CDR's website](#).
4. **Meet requirements to practice in your state.** Many states have regulatory laws (i.e. licensure) for food and nutrition practitioners. All states accept the RDN credential for state licensure purposes.
5. **Stay up-to-date in dietetics through continuing education.** After successfully passing the national exam and earning the credential, RDNs maintain ongoing professional development in order to stay up to date on the latest research, recommendations and best practices.

Dietetics education programs in colleges and universities are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics — or ACEND. As an accrediting agency, ACEND makes sure that [students preparing for careers as RDNs](#) are getting the education they need to qualify for taking the national RDN exam.

Some RDs hold additional certifications in specialized areas of practice. These are awarded through CDR, the credentialing agency for the Academy, and/or other medical and nutrition organizations and are recognized within the profession, but are not required. Some of the certifications include pediatric or renal nutrition, sports dietetics, nutrition support and diabetes education.

In addition to RD credentialing, many states have regulatory laws for dietitians and nutrition practitioners. Frequently, these state requirements are met through the same education and training required to become an RD.

What Do You Study to Become a Registered Dietitian?

Students wishing to become registered dietitians study a variety of subjects, ranging from food and nutrition sciences, foodservice systems management, business, economics, computer science, culinary arts, sociology and communication to science courses such as biochemistry, physiology, microbiology, anatomy and chemistry.

Where Do Registered Dietitians Work?

Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) are food and nutrition experts with a minimum of a graduate degree from an accredited dietetics program, who completed a supervised practice requirement, passed a national exam and continue professional development throughout their careers. There also are specialty credentials in areas of gerontological nutrition (CSG), sports dietetics (CSSD), pediatric nutrition (CSP), renal nutrition (CSR) and oncology nutrition (CSO). Board-certified specialists are credentialed by the Commission on Dietetic Registration, the credentialing agency for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. For Registered Dietitians (RDs/RDNs), microcredentials are short, focused credentials that demonstrate expertise in a specific practice area without completing another degree. They can strengthen a résumé, support career advancement, and help meet continuing education goals. More information can be found on the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics website at eatright.org.

Career options and specialty areas for dietitians are diverse and flexible. RDNs can:

- perform **medical nutrition therapy** as part of the health care team in hospitals, clinics or other health care facilities.
- manage **foodservice operations** in hospitals, school districts, colleges and universities, long-term care facilities, day-care centers, correctional facilities and more — overseeing everything from **food purchasing and preparation** to **setting menus and managing staff**.
- consult with **food companies, foodservice or restaurant managers, food vendors and distributors**, nursing home residents or company employees in corporate wellness programs.
- develop public awareness campaigns in **community and population health settings** to improve peoples' quality of life through healthy eating habits.
- help **athletes, police forces, firefighters and members of the military** understand the connection between food, fitness and **performance in the field**.
- work in **communications, consumer affairs, public relations, marketing or product development** for food and nutrition-related businesses and industries.
- educate **physicians, nurses, dietetics students and other health practitioners** the sophisticated science of nutrition and dietetics in universities and medical centers, .
- conduct **dietetics research** to answer critical nutrition questions and find alternative foods or nutrition recommendations for the public.

What Is the Salary Range for Registered Dietitians?

According to the *2024 Compensation & Benefits Survey of the Dietetics Profession*, **the median full-time salary of RDNs is \$79,000 per year**. As with any profession, salaries and fees vary by region of the country, employment settings, scope of responsibility and supply of RDNs. Salaries increase with experience and **many RDNs — particularly those in business, management, education and research — earn incomes above \$100,000**.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of dietitians is projected to grow 7% from 2023-2033, faster than the average for all occupations, because of the increased

emphasis on the role of food and nutrition in preventing and treating diseases, a growing and aging population and public interest in nutrition.

How can I locate a registered dietitian near me?

Looking for credible nutrition information and recommendations? The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' network of credentialed food and nutrition practitioners are ready to help! Visit eatright.org to find RD in your area!

WHO IS A NUTRITION AND DIETETICS TECHNICIAN, REGISTERED (NDTR) OR A DIETETIC TECHNICIAN, REGISTERED (DTR)?

Nutrition and dietetics technicians, registered (NDTRs) — often working in partnership with registered dietitian nutritionists — screen, evaluate and educate patients, manage and prevent diseases such as diabetes and obesity, and monitors patients' and clients' progress. NDTRs work in settings such as hospitals and clinics, extended care facilities, home health care programs, schools, prisons, restaurants, food companies, foodservice providers, public health agencies, government and community programs such as Meals on Wheels, health clubs, weight management clinics and wellness centers.

To become a [nutrition and dietetic technician, registered](#), you will need to:

1. **Earn at least an associate's degree and completed an accredited NDTR program.** These programs include 450 hours of supervised practice experience in various community programs, health-care and foodservice facilities.
OR
Earn at least a bachelor's degree and complete coursework accredited DPD. [Learn more](#) about didactic programs in dietetics or coordinated programs in dietetics.
2. **Pass a national exam for NDTRs.** Once one completes their educational requirements, they may schedule to take CDR's Registration Examination for Dietetic Technicians to become credentialed as a nutrition and dietetics technician, registered.
3. **Stay up-to-date in dietetics through continuing education.** After successfully passing the national exam and earning the credential, NDTRs maintain ongoing professional development in order to stay up to date on the latest research, recommendations and best practices.

Dietetics education programs in [colleges and universities are accredited](#) by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics—or ACEND. As an accrediting agency, ACEND makes sure that students preparing for careers as NDTRs are getting the education they need to qualify for taking the national DTR exam.

There are several kinds of accredited dietetics education programs—each offering a different experience and "pathway" to NDTR eligibility.

- **Nutrition and Dietetics Technician Programs (DTs)** offer associate's degree level coursework and at least 450 hours of supervised practice for NDTR eligibility.
- **Didactic Programs in Dietetics Programs (DPDs)** offer bachelor's and graduate level dietitian

coursework.

- **Coordinated Programs in Dietetics (CPs)** offer bachelor's and graduate level dietitian coursework.

Salaries and Job Outlook

According to the *2024 Compensation & Benefits Survey of the Dietetics Profession*, salaries have increased steadily over time. **The median full-time salary of NDTRs was \$54,700 in 2024.** As with any profession, salaries and fees vary by region of the country, employment settings, scope of responsibility, and supply of NDTRs. Salaries increase with experience, **with the top percentile reporting salaries around \$88,000.**

According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of dietitians and nutritionists is projected to grow 7% from 2023-2033, faster than average for all occupations, because of the increased emphasis on the role of food and nutrition in preventing and treating diseases, a growing and aging population and public interest in nutrition.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR:

For any questions regarding dates and times throughout the semester, the following website will have all information including the most up to date academic calendar.

<http://www.tamuk.edu/academics/academic-calendar/index.html>

Signature Page and Statement of Student Accountability

Didactic Program in Dietetics

Texas A&M University Kingsville

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the policies and procedures described in the Student Handbook for the Didactic Program in Dietetics, the TAMUK Undergraduate Catalog, and the TAMUK Student Handbook. I agree to comply with these policies and procedures and accept the consequences that could result in dismissal at any time from the Didactic Program in Dietetics.

Student Signature

Date