

DIETETICS PROGRAM

Program Description

The Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) at San Jose State University provides the curriculum to prepare students (B.S. or M.S.) to meet the requirements to become a Registered Dietitian (RD).

What is a Registered Dietitian?

A Registered Dietitian (RD) is a professional who has completed the course work as well as internship requirements established by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), the credentialing agency for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and who is able to:

- ◆ Make decisions about nutrition care for people of all ages;
- ◆ Interpret the latest scientific findings into easy to understand nutritional information;
- ◆ Plan menus and direct the service of meals.

How to become a RD?

1. Complete a B.S. or B.A. degree.
2. Satisfy coursework requirements of the AND via Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD).
 - ◆ Please contact Department Chair and DPD Director Dr. Ashwini Wagle for a transcript evaluation (408-924-3110).
3. Complete an Accredited Dietetic Internship (DI).

- ◆ Internal Internship: The Nutrition, Food Science & Packaging Department at SJSU offers internships to their own degree students. Please contact Dr. LaSalle (408-924-3104) for more information.
- ◆ External Internship: Please contact Dr. Ashwini Wagle for more information.

4. Pass the RD exam.

Dietetics Course Requirements

- ◆ Nutritional Science
- ◆ Food Science
- ◆ Medical Nutrition Therapy
- ◆ Foodservice Management
- ◆ Community Nutrition
- ◆ Nutrition Education
- ◆ Chemistry & Biochemistry
- ◆ Physiology & Microbiology
- ◆ Statistics

Program Goals:

Goal #1: The program will prepare graduates to be competent for entry into supervised practice or other post-graduate programs through quality educational offerings.

- ◆ *Objective 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%.
- ◆ *Objective 2:* Over a 3 year period, at least 60% of program graduates apply for admission to a supervised practice program prior to or within 12 months of graduation.

- ◆ *Objective 3:* At least 60% of program graduates are admitted to a supervised practice program within 12 months of graduation.
- ◆ *Objective 4:* Supervised practice program directors will rate their overall satisfaction with the graduate's preparation for supervised practice as at least 3.0 on a 5.0 scale for at least 70% of the graduates.
- ◆ *Objective 5:* At least 80% of program students complete program/degree requirements within three years (150% of the program length).

Goal #2: To foster a desire to improve the quality of life in diverse communities.

- ◆ *Objective 1:* At least 50% of students will indicate participation in their community.
- ◆ *Objective 2:* At least 50% of students will participate in a global experience to gain intercultural perspective.

Employment Opportunities

The employment outlook for dietitians is excellent. The U.S. Labor Bureau projects a 10 to 20% increase in the need for dietitians through the year 2010. Dietitians may work in a variety of positions or for a variety of employers.

Health Care

- ◆ Clinical Dietitian
- ◆ Nutritional Services Administrator
- ◆ Nutrition Support Dietitian
- ◆ Specialized Health Educator (e.g. Renal, Diabetes)

Schools and Universities

- ◆ Foodservice Administrator
- ◆ University/College Educator
- ◆ Research Dietitian

Business and Industry

- ◆ Food Editor/Journalist
- ◆ Consumer Nutrition Specialist
- ◆ Public Relations Specialist
- ◆ Corporate Health Specialist
- ◆ Food & Nutrition Researcher
- ◆ Food Marketing Specialist
- ◆ Food & Nutrition Advertising Specialist
- ◆ Pharmaceutical Sales Representative
- ◆ Food Sales Representative
- ◆ Equipment Sales Representative

Public Health Agencies

- ◆ Community Nutrition Programs
- ◆ Senior Nutrition Programs
- ◆ Child Care Nutrition Programs

Government Agencies

- ◆ Food & Drug Administration
- ◆ Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
Supplemental Food Program
- ◆ Public Health Departments
- ◆ State Department of Education

Other Areas

- ◆ Peace Corps Representative
- ◆ Sports Nutritionist
- ◆ Private Practice Dietitian

Contact Information

Department of Nutrition,
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SJSU

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AND FITNESS
HAVE BECOME A WAY
OF LIFE. CONSIDER
A CAREER IN...**

DIETETICS

**San Jose State University offers a
B.S. Degree in Nutritional Science
with a Concentration in Dietetics**

The Didactic Program in Dietetics at
San Jose State University is granted by the
Accreditation Council for Education
in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of
The Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics (AND),
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