The mission of the SJSU Dietetic Internship (DI) Program is to provide a high-quality supervised practice experience that will prepare entry-level Registered Dietitians/Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RD/RDN) who are employable in dietetics and related fields and apply an evidence-based approach to nutrition and dietetic practice and life-long learning.

DI COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS: The DI Director will issue a DI Verification statement of completion after confirming that 1000 hours of supervised practice in all major rotations have been successfully completed, all core and concentration/emphasis competencies have been met at a proficient level, and all assignments and evaluations have been completed. The DI Verification is a statement that the Intern demonstrates the skills necessary to practice as an entry-level RD and is ready to sit for the RD exam.

PROGRAM COSTS - Approximate costs include, but may not be limited to the following:

- SJSU Enrollment Fees (18 units)….. $5,040*
- AND Student Membership Fee….. $58
- Facility On-Boarding Fees (e.g. Background Check, TB test, immunizations, etc.)….. $100
- Technology Expenses (internet, software, etc.)….. $100
- CDR RD Exam Fee….. $200
- Housing, transportation, and living expenses are not included in these estimates.
- Interns must have their own health insurance and (if driving) car insurance policy.
- Student Professional Liability Insurance is supplied by the University at no cost to the Intern.

* Enrollment is through Special Sessions, which is not eligible for Financial Aid. Program does not offer a loan deferment plan. Department Circle of Friends alumni group offers scholarship opportunities. Stipend available at select DI sites.
APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must meet these eligibility requirements:

- Already have a graduate degree or are getting a graduate degree at the time of application. Prior to the start of the application semester, SJSU MS students must provide a completed draft of MS project writeup/thesis. MS project/thesis defense must be completed by the time the DI starts.
- Have a DPD Verification Statement (obtained within the past 5 years) or a Declaration of Intent.
- Completion of the following select DPD courses (or equivalent courses per GPA calculation worksheet provided by the DI Director) with a GPA of 3.2 or higher (with no grade lower than a C accepted):
  - NUFS 101A Food Science
  - NUFS 103 Food Processing
  - NUFS 106A Nutrition Life Span
  - NUFS 106B/295 Research Method
  - NUFS 108A Nutrition & Metab
  - NUFS 109 Advanced Nutrition
  - NUFS 110 and 110B MNT
  - NUFS 110A Foodservice
  - NUFS 111 Comm Nutrition
  - NUFS 113 Foodservice
  - NUFS 114A and 110B MNT
  - NUFS 190 Nutri Edu & Counsel
  - CHEM 132 Biochemistry
  - NUFS 220A (to start DI)

- Documentation of a minimum of 450 hours of dietetics work/volunteer experience is required. Dietetic work experience must have been completed in the United States and within the last five years. Half or 225 hours must be in a hospital-like setting. Half or 225 hours may be acquired in non-clinical settings. These hours must be completed before the application semester. For more info, refer to the DI Frequently Asked Questions page.

- During the application semester, enrollment in NUFS 220A (Advanced MNT, 3 units) and NUFS 280A (DI, 1 unit). Passing NUFS 220A with a C grade or better is required for starting the DI.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Detailed instructions on how to submit your DI Application Packet to the DI Director will be given during NUFS 280A.

The SJSU DI application packet will consist of electronic files of the following:

1. A personal statement addressing preparation for the internship and applicant’s professional goals
2. Resume including work/volunteer experiences in nutrition/dietetics/foodservice/food management
3. A baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution (official transcript)**
4. Verification Statement of completion of an ACEND-accredited DPD within the past five years (or Declaration of Intent showing the application semester is applicant’s last semester)**
5. Grade point average calculation worksheet (minimum 3.2 GPA in select DPD classes)
6. Three letters of recommendation, typically from faculty member(s) and dietetics-related work/volunteer experience supervisor(s)
7. Confirmation from MS project advisor that a completed draft of writeup has been submitted**

** DI start date will be contingent upon obtaining DPD Verification Statement and completion of project/thesis defense and MS requirements.

The SJSU DI participates in a preselection process and can select a maximum of 25 dietetic Interns per year. There are two rounds of applications each year:

- DI start date in January/February (depending on site availability): Applications due October 1 the previous year; applicants will be notified on or before December 1 the previous year.
- DI start date in June/July (depending on site availability): Applications due March 1; applicants will be notified on or before May 1.

If an applicant is not selected through the preselect process, they may apply to other DI programs through the computer matching process.

LINKS AND RESOURCES:

- Department site: www.sjsu.edu/nufspkg
- SJSU Dietetic Internship (DI) Program site: www.sjsu.edu/nufspkg/programs/dietetic-internship
  - Program Overview and Accreditation Status
  - DI Handbook (abbreviated version for public) and DI Application Timeline and Requirements
- SJSU DI Frequently Asked Questions page: www.sjsu.edu/people/kasuen.mauldin/FAQ_SJSU_DI/
  - Regarding SJSU DI eligibility criteria and the SJSU DI Application semester
  - Recency of education policy for SJSU DI application
  - Regarding the required 450 hours of dietetic work/volunteer experience
- SJSU Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD): www.sjsu.edu/nufspkg/programs/didactic-program-in-dietetics
- SJSU Master of Science in Nutritional Science Program: www.sjsu.edu/nufspkg/programs/ms-nutritional-science
- Department Circle of Friends Scholarships: www.sjsu.edu/nufspkg/scholarships
- Department LinkedIn Group: www.linkedin.com/groups/13554995/
- Department Facebook Group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1416333378560753