

Mission, Goals, and Outcome Measures of the MSU Didactic Program in Dietetics

Mission

To provide a high quality curriculum that prepares students for eligibility for entrance into an ACEND¹-accredited Dietetic Internship (DI) or pathway offering supervised practice in dietetics.

Goals and Measurable Outcomes

Goal 1. The program will prepare graduates for a career utilizing their knowledge, skills and competencies in dietetics and encourage graduates to pursue the RDN credential through participation in a dietetic internship or pathway offering supervised practice in dietetics. Outcome measures are:

- a) Graduates participating in a DI with a degree in dietetics from MSU report a high level of preparation for a dietetic internship or pathways offering supervised practice as exhibited by an average rating score of 3.0 or higher on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being highest for each subject area on the Dietetic Intern Survey.
- b) Program graduates perform at an above average level in their internships as exhibited by a score of >2 on a scale of 1-3 with 3 being the highest on the internship director survey.
- c) At least 60% of program graduates apply for admission to a supervised practice program prior to or within 12 months of graduation.
- d) At least 80% of program graduates (who apply to supervised practice) are admitted to a supervised practice program within 12 months of graduation.
- e) 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%.
- f) At least 75% of graduates accepted to a dietetic internship or pathways offering supervised practice are employed in a dietetics-related field or enrolled in a post-graduate related field of study two years after graduation.
- g) Of those graduates who do not apply to supervised practice programs or who do not match, at least 80% either enter graduate school or are employed in a nutrition related field within a year of graduation.
- h) At least 80% of the program students (in the third year of the DPD program) complete program/degree requirements within 3 years (150% of the program length).

Goal 2. The DPD program will provide a student environment that instills future graduates with a commitment to professionalism and community service. Outcome measures are:

¹ Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition & Dietetics (ACEND), Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606-6995; 312.899.0040 ext. 5400; acend@eatright.org

- a) At least 70% of students are active members in registered student/professional organizations by the time they graduate as exhibited by their response on the senior exit survey;
- b) At least 60% of graduating seniors have participated in at least 1 community service project, dietetics-related employment, or dietetics-related activity as reported on the senior exit survey.

Goal 3. The program will recruit, retain, and graduate students exhibiting academic aptitude from a diverse population. Outcome measures are:

- a) At least 80% of graduating seniors in dietetics have a GPA of 3.0 or above.
 - b) The proportion of students in the program who are ethnic minorities meets or exceeds the current CDR-reported national average of 10-11%.
 - c) The proportion of students in the program who are the male gender meets or exceeds the current CDR-reported national average of 4%.
-

Outcome data regarding achievement of these goals and objectives is available upon request. Contact DPD Director Lorraine Weatherspoon, PhD, RDN, weathe43@msu.edu.