MISSION STATEMENT
The faculty and preceptors of the Michigan State University combined Dietetic Internship and Master’s Degree Program in Nutrition and Dietetics will strive to prepare registered entry-level dietitian nutritionists for state-of-the-art practice in diverse and challenging healthcare, foodservice, community and entrepreneurial settings. Program outcomes data are available upon request.

Accreditation Status
The Dietetic Internship at Michigan State University is currently granted accreditation through 2024 by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606-6995, 312/899-4876.

Program Description
The combined Dietetic Internship and Master’s Degree (MS DI) at Michigan State University (MSU) is a 16-month applied practice program in nutrition and dietetics. The program is coordinated with a 30-credit practiced based online Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics. In order to receive a Verification statement, interns must successfully complete BOTH the supervised practice portion of the internship AND the 30-credit Master’s degree.

The MSU MS DI meets all the general ACEND required competencies with a chosen emphasis area of Community Education. The program provides supervised practice experiences necessary for qualified dietetics graduates to write the Registration Examination for Dietitians administered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration.

For more information, please refer to the Dietetic Internship Handbook available on our website: www.fshn.msu.edu/graduate_programs/dietetic_internship

The internship will begin August 24, 2020.

For additional information, please contact:
Michigan WIC: Tara Fischer (517) 335-4286, fischert1@michigan.gov
MSU: Gail Rogers, (517) 449-2911, rogersg3@msu.edu
Overview of Part-time WIC component

The MSU MS DI allows up to 3 part-time positions to qualified Michigan WIC employees. The purpose of this cooperative effort is to provide career advancement opportunity for WIC staff in local communities. Applicants for the MSU DI’s part-time positions must be Michigan WIC employees for at least 3 months prior to application, and meet current ACEND academic and MSU DI Program requirements. The WIC Coordinator at the applicant’s local agency must provide a letter of support with their employee’s internship application. The MSU MS DI program fee and a portion of tuition is paid for by the MDHHS WIC Division; as such, once an intern is accepted into the program, the supporting WIC local agency will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the MDHHS WIC Division, and the intern will sign an Employee/Intern Agreement and Promissory Note with the MDHHS WIC Division.

Over ~66 weeks, Michigan WIC staff accepted into the program will be Dietetic Interns in the MSU MS DI. While internning, the WIC employee will continue to work up to 20 hours/week for their WIC local agency during ~55 weeks of part-time rotations. The WIC employee will require a 14-week educational leave from WIC employment to complete their clinical training.

Upon successful completion of the MSU MS DI program requirements, the intern/employee is required to work for Michigan WIC for 2 years. The intern will take the Registration Examination for Dietitians within 6 months, and needs to pass within one year of Internship Completion.

Admission Qualifications

Admission to the MSU MS DI Program is determined by the Internship Selection Committee (ISC) and the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition Graduate Affairs Committee (GAC). The ISC consists of the Dietetic Internship Director and preceptors. The GAC consists of faculty in the graduate programs in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition.

Qualified applicants will have a bachelor's degree from any U.S. regionally accredited college or university (or a foreign degree, if verified as equivalent), and have completed an ACEND accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics. For recency of educational requirements, a course in medical nutrition therapy is required to have been taken within the last five years.

A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for college work is required. A minimum GPA of 3.00 in professional didactic courses is also required. In addition, work experience and letters of recommendation are taken into consideration.

Scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) are required for application and admission to the MSU MS DI.

The Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition evaluates graduate school applicants individually on a variety of factors and does not have a set minimum GRE score requirement. Successful applicants typically have GRE scores at or above the following: 150 Quantitative Reasoning, 150 Verbal Reasoning and 3.5 Analytical Writing.

Pre-Entrance Requirements

Interns will complete a proficiency exam in medical terminology and abbreviations during the MSU DI Program orientation.

Application Process

Obtain a MSU Part-time WIC DI program application packet from Michigan WIC [Tara Fischer, MS, RD, 517-335-4286, fischert1@michigan.gov]
Location
Every effort will be made to find rotation sites near your home/work. That being said, it will be necessary for interns to travel. Travel may include to rotation sites, travel during rotations to other sites, and travel to Lansing, Grand Rapids/Muskegon, or other areas as needed, for classes and other experiences to meet specific competencies. All interns are required to have an automobile to travel to rotation sites and classes.

Expenses
The DI Program Fee is $7,000. Upon acceptance to the program, a non-refundable $100 down payment is due. The remaining cost ($6,900) will be paid by the MDHHS WIC Division.

Summary of Internship Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Fee</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance</td>
<td>$750 to 800^1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liability Insurance</td>
<td>$30-50^2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal background check/Fingerprinting</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>$500-800/month^3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>$Variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Fee</td>
<td>$30^4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academy Affiliate Member Fee</td>
<td>$49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-refundable deposit</td>
<td>$100^5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^1Health insurance may be purchased through a private carrier or HMO if interns are not already covered by a policy.
^2Liability insurance is available through providers affiliated with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
^3Estimates only.
^4MSU DI Program Application Fee
^5Non-refundable deposit is paid upon acceptance in the program. This deposit is credited to the first installment of the program fee due in August.

Expense Explanation

- Clinical and some food service management field sites require a lab coat worn over professional clothing, which interns must provide at an approximate cost of $40.
- Interns must arrange their own transportation, as supervised practice facilities are often not easily accessible by public transportation.
- Drug testing is not standard though may be requested by certain sites. This is usually covered by the facility; in some cases, this testing may be at the intern expense.
- Interns are required to carry their own health and professional liability insurance.
  - Liability insurance is available from Marsh Affinity Group Services. The price is approximately $40 per year. It is the intern’s responsibility to carry the appropriate health and automobile insurance policy to cover liability in travel related to the internship and in assigned work during the internship.
  - MSU offers a health insurance plan to eligible students and their dependents through The Chickering Group of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Prices vary based on the health insurance plan selected. Interns are covered for injury while working in the facilities for supervised practice by each facility’s liability insurance carrier.
- All interns are expected to hold Academy Affiliate Membership. This costs about $50 per year and includes a subscription to The Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
- Interns are expected to attend a professional conference and there will be some out-of-pocket expenses associated with this activity.
- Other miscellaneous costs may arise that will be the responsibility of the intern.
The MS portion of the program consists of 30 credits offered entirely online. The DI portion of the program will include 1200 hours of supervised practice. The combined program will be ~16 months in length (four semesters) and will culminate with interns earning a verification statement enabling them to sit for the Registration Examination for Dietitians and a Master of Science degree. Projected program structure:

**Year One:**

**Semester one (Fall):**
- HNF 894 (Supervised Practice) 3 credits
- HNF 823 (Research Methods in Human Nutrition) 3 credits
- HNF 892 (Seminar) 1 credit

**Semester two (Spring):**
- HNF 894 (Supervised Practice) 3 credits
- HNF 832 (Advanced Clinical Nutrition) 3 credits

**Semester three (Summer):**
- NUR 804 (Statistics for the Health Professional) 3 credits
- HNF 898 (Masters Project) 2 credits
- Elective 3 credits

**Year Two:**

**Semester one (Fall):**
- HNF 898 (Masters Project) 2 credits
- HNF 892 (Seminar) 1 Credit
- Elective 3 credits
- Elective 3 credits

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30 Total Credits

Tuition for the 30-credit degree will be based on standard online credit tuition rates at Michigan State University. The current rate for online graduate Master’s degree credits can be found on the MSU website, and is subject to change.

**Sample Rotation Schedule for Part-time WIC DI**

Rotation Sites vary from year to year, depending on the intern’s location. Every effort is made to schedule interns at rotation sites within 50 miles of their home/work address.

- **ORIENTATION** – 1 week
- **CLINICAL** – 14 weeks **Full-Time**
- **HOSPITAL FOODSERVICE** – 8 weeks Part-Time
- **SCHOOL FOODSERVICE** – 8 weeks Part-Time
- **COMMUNITY NUTRITION** – Total 16 weeks Part-Time
- **WIC Local Agency/Health Department**: 10 weeks (6 weeks if current WIC CPA)
- **Michigan State University Extension**: 4 weeks
- **Maternal/Infant Health Program**: 2 weeks
- **LONG TERM CARE** – 4 weeks Part-Time
- **OUTPATIENT** – 6 weeks Part-Time
- **ELECTIVE** – 4 weeks Part-Time
- **VACATION** – 1 week (optional)

**TOTAL**: ~66 weeks