



Nutrition and Dietetics MS Program

Student Handbook
2021-2024

Table of Contents:

Topic	Page
General Information about the M.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics and Dietetics	
- What is Dietetics	2
- What is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN)	2
- Employment Opportunities for RDNs	2
- How do I become an RDN	3
Madonna University Dietetics Program (Graduate Track)	
- Mission and Goals of the Program	4
- Admission Policy	5
- Academic Advising	5
- MU Dietetics Program Accreditation Status	6
- Curriculum/Research	6
- Assistance	7
Dietetic Internships/Supervised Practice Programs	
- Internship Application Process	7
- Becoming Competitive for an Internship	9
- Registration Examination	10
- The Job Search	10
Organizations	
- The Nutrition Network	11
- The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics	11
- The Michigan Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics	12
- The South Eastern Michigan Dietetic Association	12
Sample Plan of Study – Appendix A	13
Application to MU Dietetics Program – Appendix B	14
Additional Website Resources	16

General Information about the M.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics:

The graduate program in Nutrition and Dietetics meets the requirements of the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). Students who successfully complete the program will earn a M.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics and a verification statement that will allow the students to apply for post-degree ACEND accredited internships or other supervised practice. Policies and procedures for Madonna University Graduate Students can be found in the Graduate Catalog available at www.madonna.edu/resources/registrar/academic-planning-guides-catalogs/

General Information about Dietetics:

What is Dietetics?

Dietetics is a health-related career that involves translating evidenced-based research results about nutrition to treat and prevent disease, and promote good health. Dietetics is a vital and growing field with many career possibilities.

What is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN)?

A Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) is the food and nutrition expert. An RDN has specialized knowledge of the science of nutrition who has met the minimum academic and professional requirements to qualify for the credential “RDN.” As of January 1st 2024, newly credentialed RDNs will need to have a minimum of a Masters degree.

Dietitian vs Nutritionist – What is the Difference?

A “nutritionist” may or may not be an RDN. The term “nutritionist” has no legal definition; therefore, anyone can call themselves a nutritionist. On the other hand, all registered dietitian nutritionists are nutritionists. Starting in 2014, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics adopted the use of “registered dietitian nutritionist” (RDN) instead of “registered dietitian” (RD) to clarify this concept. The titles of Registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) or Registered dietitian (RD) can only be used by dietetics practitioners who are currently credentialed by the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. These are legally protected titles. Individuals with these credentials have completed specific academic and supervised practice requirements, successfully completed the Registration Examination for Dietitians and maintained requirements for recertification.

What is a Licensed Dietitian?

Most states require that dietitians be licensed by a State Examining Board. In many states the requirements for licensure are the same as for Dietetic Registration. After passing the Registration Examination one would apply to the State Examining Board for licensure and pay the prescribed fee. At this time the state of Michigan does not have licensure.

Employment Opportunities for RDNs:

RDs or RDNs work in a wide variety of settings, including health care, business and industry, community/public health, education, research, government agencies and private practice. Many work environments, particularly those in medical and health-care settings, require that an individual be credentialed as an RD or RDN.

Employment Settings:

1. **Hospitals, clinics, long term care or the military** – Dietitians have roles in educating patients about nutrition and administering medical nutrition therapy as part of the health-care team.
2. **Food Service establishments** -Dietitians may manage the foodservice operations in healthcare institutions, long term care facilities, universities, schools, daycare centers, the military or correctional facilities, overseeing everything from food purchasing and preparation to managing staff.
3. **Sports nutrition** – Dietitians work with high school, collegiate or professional athletes and coaches to assist with improving athletic performance.
4. **Corporate wellness programs** – Dietitians work with employees of businesses, educating clients about the connection between food choices, fitness and health.

5. **Food and nutrition-related business and pharmaceutical companies** – Dietitians may work in sales, communications, consumer affairs, public relations, marketing, product development or consulting with chefs in restaurants and culinary schools.
6. **Private practice** – Dietitians establish their own counseling centers, work in telehealth or work under contract with healthcare companies. RDs or RDNs work with clients with eating disorders, intestinal disorders and a variety of other conditions.
7. **Community and public health settings** – Dietitians teach, monitor and advise the public and to improve quality of life through behavior change throughout the lifecycle.
8. **Universities and medical centers** - Dietitians instruct medical students, student in physician assistant and nursing programs, dietetic students, and dental students about nutritional sciences and medical nutrition therapy.
9. **Research** – Dietitians work in government, food company, university and hospital settings, directing research and collecting data to answer critical research questions that may lead to food or nutrition recommendations for the public.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, healthcare will continue to grow and provide some of the best paying jobs in the nation. Employment of dietitians and nutritionists is projected to grow 8% from 2019 to 2029. Median annual wages of full-time dietitians in the U.S. were \$ 68,600 in 2019 with the highest 10% earning more than \$104,800 (Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Compensation and Benefits Survey). Wages were higher than average for RDNs who had been employed more than 5 years, who held **advanced degrees** or who worked in consultation and business, education and research, food management, pharmaceutical sales and outpatient clinics compared to inpatient care and government nutrition programs. Salaries vary with geographic location, years of practice and education level.

How to Become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN):

Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) are food and nutrition experts who have met the following criteria to earn the RDN credential:

- **Completed a minimum of a bachelor’s degree (the minimum will be a master’s degree by 2024)** at a US regionally accredited university or college and course work accredited or approved by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
Note: Madonna University has an Accredited Didactic Program, successful completion of the MS Nutrition and Dietetics degree meets this requirement.
- **Completed an ACEND-accredited supervised practice program** at a health-care facility, community agency, or a foodservice corporation or combined with undergraduate or graduate studies. Typically, a practice program will run 6 to 12 months in length.
- **Passed the Registration Examination for Dietitians**, a national exam administered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR). For more information regarding the examination, refer to CDR’s website at www.cdrnet.org.

*"Effective January 1, 2024, the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) will require a minimum of a master’s degree to be eligible to take the credentialing exam to become a registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN). In order to be approved for registration examination eligibility with a bachelor’s degree, an individual must meet all eligibility requirements and be submitted into CDR’s Registration Eligibility Processing System (REPS) before **12:00 midnight Central Time, December 31, 2023**. For more information about this requirement visit CDR’s website: <https://www.cdrnet.org/graduatedegree>. In addition, CDR requires that individuals complete coursework and supervised practice in program(s) accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). Graduates who successfully complete the ACEND-accredited Didactic program at Madonna University are eligible to apply to an ACEND-accredited supervised practice program.*

In most states (not Michigan), graduates also must obtain licensure or certification to practice. For more information about state licensure requirements [click here](#). For more information about educational pathways to become a RDN [click here](#)."



Madonna University Didactic Program in Dietetics: Nutrition and Dietetics, MS Track

Mission of the MU Dietetics Program

The Mission of the Dietetics Program is consistent with the Mission of Madonna University to instill in its students Christian humanistic values, intellectual inquiry, and a commitment to serving others through a liberal arts education integrated with career preparation and based on the truths and principles recognized within a Catholic tradition.

The primary Mission of the Dietetics Program at Madonna University is to ensure that graduates can perform successfully in a supervised practice setting and can prepare effectively for credentialing examinations. The Dietetics Program aims to develop students who can utilize their knowledge and skills in an articulate and assertive manner, so they can fulfill their pre-professional roles as interns and their professional roles as capable care-givers, counselors, educators, administrators and advocates.

Goals of the MU Dietetics Program

The goals of the Madonna University Didactic Program are as follows:

1. To encourage a commitment to community and professional service in the areas of food and nutrition.
2. To lay the foundation for successful pursuit of further studies, internship placements or entry-level employment.
3. To provide academic, internship and career advising to assist students in completing the program and pursuing post-degree goals.

Program Outcomes*

Upon completion of the program students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an advanced level of knowledge of topics related to nutrition, food and health.
2. Integrate theory, knowledge and skills to become an effective problem solver of environmental and health issues related to food and nutrition.
3. Communicate effectively in writing and through oral presentations on research-based nutrition topics.
4. Evaluate current research in food and nutrition.

*Program outcomes data available upon request.

Applying to the Graduate School and Dietetics Program at Madonna University

To pursue the M.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics, students must be admitted to:

- a. The M.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics Program. Students begin this process by applying to the Madonna University Graduate School at www.madonna.edu.

The following criteria need to be met for admission:

1. Possession of a bachelor degree from a regionally-accredited college or university, with an undergraduate grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
2. A cumulative overall G.P.A of 3.0 or higher from ALL colleges and universities attended.
3. A G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher in the equivalent of the following six courses: NFS 2270 Human Nutrition, WRT 1010 Composition I, WRT 1020 Composition II, BIO 2250 Human Physiology, CHM 2210 Organic Chemistry; BIO 2270 Microbiology for the Health Sciences.
4. Successful completion with a grade of C or higher of the equivalent undergraduate courses: NFS 2270 Human Nutrition, NFS 2260 Introductory Food Science, NFS 3390 Nutrition Education and Counseling, NFS 4960 Experimental Foods and Research, NFS 4460 Management of Food and Nutrition Services, CHM 1110 General Chemistry, CHM 2210 Organic Chemistry, CHM 3610 Biochemistry, BIO 2250 Human Physiology, BIO 2270 Microbiology for the Health Sciences, SOC 1010 Sociology, MTH 2350 Probability and Statistics, MGT 2360 Principles of Management. CHM 3610 must have been taken within 5 years of program acceptance.
5. Two letters of recommendation from current employer or professional associates familiar with the applicant's work or college performance.
6. Resume
7. Submission of a statement of purpose or research interests related to nutrition and dietetics.
8. Interview with the Director of Graduate Nutrition Programs.

- b. The Madonna University Dietetics Program.

An application (see Appendix B) must be submitted to the Program Director for the Madonna University Didactic Program in Dietetics. Admission is based on meeting the G.P.A. requirements outlined in #3 and #4 above.

Academic Policies and standards for graduate students are outlined in the Graduate Catalog. Students are expected to read the Graduate catalog available on the website www.madonna.edu.

Academic advising

The academic advisor for the M.S. Nutrition and Dietetics Graduate Program is:

Karen Schmitz, Ph.D., R.D.
Office: 217U, Franciscan center
Phone: 734-432-5534
kschmitz@madonna.edu

Students should schedule an initial appointment before scheduling classes for the first time, and one advising appointment each semester prior to enrolling for classes. See your academic advisor to apply for graduation, two terms before you plan to graduate.

For additional assistance, contact the Graduate School (Room 2107): Phone 734-432-5667

Current Accreditation Status of MU Didactic Program in Dietetics (including the graduate track)

The Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) at Madonna University has been accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and is listed in the "Directory of Dietetic Programs, The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics." For information on the accreditation status of the Madonna University Didactic Program in Dietetics, contact:

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics
The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190
Chicago, IL 60606-6995
Phone: 1-800-877-1600

The Dietetics Curriculum

Curriculum Requirements: (See Appendix A for a sample Plan of Study)

Madonna University's Nutrition and Dietetics curriculum has been designed to cover the Core Knowledge Requirements and Competencies for an ACEND Didactic Program. Graduates meet the knowledge requirements that allow them to apply for the dietetic internship. The curriculum focuses on the basic disciplines of food science, food service, nutrition, medical nutrition therapy and management.

Individual Plans of Study (POS) are designed by the advisor to help students meet their academic goals. However, courses are required from a variety of departments and conflicts may occur. **It is the student's responsibility to double check pre-requisite requirements, time conflicts and completion of all program requirements.** Contact your academic advisor as soon as any scheduling problems are detected. Program Requirements for the MS in Nutrition and Dietetics are:

Program requirements:

NFS 5220 Nutrition Assessment	2 s.h.
NFS 5250 Medical Nutrition Therapy I	3 s.h.
NFS 5320 Food Behaviors and Motivations	3 s.h.
NFS 5420 Medical Nutrition Therapy II	3 s.h.
NFS 5870 Sustainable Food Systems	3 s.h.
NFS 6350 Obesity and Chronic Disease	3 s.h.
NFS 6250 Advanced Human Nutrition	4 s.h.
EDU 5060 Educational Research and Practice	3 s.h.
MIS 5230 Healthcare Informatics	3 s.h.
NFS 5030 Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Gerontology	3 s.h.

Choose one class in organizational change:

MGT 5400 Organizational Effectiveness and Change	3 s.h.
EDU 5710 Change in Educational Organizations	3 s.h.

Choose one of the following courses in management:

MGT 5300 Leadership of Organizational Behavior	3 s.h.
MGT 5570 Strategic Management	3 s.h.

Choose Capstone or Thesis:

NFS 6955 Capstone I and NFS 6975 Capstone II	3 s.h.
<u>NFS 6960 Thesis</u>	<u>3 s.h.</u>
Total	39 s.h.

Recency of courses: CHM 3610 Biochemistry must be less than 5 years old (as of the date of the most recent admission to Madonna University) to count toward the pre-requisite for admission into the MS Nutrition and Dietetics Program and the verification statement.

Research or Capstone Project

Students will design and carry out their own nutritional related research project, beginning with identifying the research problem in EDU 5060 and continuing the work under the direction of a faculty advisor in the Capstone or Thesis courses.

Assistance

The following departments may be able to assist you with various needs of graduate students.

Financial Aid/Scholarships/Graduate Assistantships: Information on Financial Aid and Graduate Assistantships can be found on the Madonna website. Students are encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office for assistance: 734-432-5663. Information on graduate assistantships can be found at:

<https://www.madonna.edu/admissions/graduate/scholarships-and-awards/>

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the Michigan Nutrition and Dietetics Institute offer scholarships specifically for graduate level students at ACEND accredited institutions. When information on these scholarships becomes available, it is announced in NFS courses. For more information visit the Academy website www.eatright.org and the Michigan Academy website at www.eatrightmich.org.

Library Services: The Library faculty can help support your research needs. All library resources are available on-line at the library website <http://library.madonna.edu>.

Technology Services provides an IT help desk you can access by phone (734-432-5800) or on-line (helpdesk@madonna.edu) for assistance with Blackboard or general computer questions.

Writing and Tutoring Center: Writing tutors help students at any stage of the writing process. The center is located inside the library, Room 2300 or find a tutor on-line: <https://www.madonna.edu/resources/writing-center/>

Graduate Student Academic Appeal Process

Information can be found in the Graduate Catalog found at:

<https://www.madonna.edu/resources/registrar/academic-planning-guides-catalogs/>

Information about Supervised Practice Programs

There are two types of supervised practice programs that have been accredited by the ACEND: Dietetic Internships and Coordinated Undergraduate Programs. Graduates of the Madonna University MS Nutrition and Dietetics Program usually apply to Dietetic Internships.

Dietetic Internships:

A Dietetic Internship allows you to obtain hands-on experience in hospitals, food service facilities, outpatient clinical sites and community settings. Most internships are 6 to 12 months duration and include a minimum of 1200 hours of supervised experience. Most programs charge tuition to participate in the program, but costs vary. Program graduates are free to apply to any ACEND accredited internship program in the U.S., but if you need to remain in Michigan, there are many choices: Beaumont Hospital, Harper University Hospital, Henry Ford Hospital, Central Michigan University, Western Michigan University, and Michigan State University. In addition, there are many distance internship programs. For detailed information on internships, see The Applicant Guide to Supervised Practice Experience, the www.eatright.org website and individual internship websites. To receive an internship appointment, a student should have a competitive GPA (approximately 3.3 or higher), be active in professional organizations, and have dietetics related work experience (paid or volunteer). Several hundred hours of work experience in a hospital, clinic, food or long term

care facility is highly recommended to be competitive for an internship position. You can receive additional information on applying for internships at the annual fall informational meeting, from the Program Director or from your academic advisor. Ask your advisor for a copy of “The Internship Application Process” handbook.

Paid or Volunteer Experience

Dietetics students planning on applying for internships need experience in the field to be competitive. Experience can be paid or volunteer. For paid positions, you can check for dietetic assistant/diet consultant jobs with Providence Park Hospital, Henry Ford West Bloomfield, Oakwood Hospital, Garden City Hospital, St. Mary’s Hospital or U of M Hospitals at www.umjobs.org. New job announcements will be announced in classes and on-line through the Nutrition Network.

The Internship Application Process:

The Dietetics Program offers a general meeting each term for all students who plan to apply for Dietetic Internships during that academic year or early in the next year. Notification of meeting dates and times is sent by email to all students in the MS Nutrition and Dietetics Program during the previous summer. Information is posted on the Nutrition Network Blackboard site, also. Attendance is strongly encouraged. All Dietetic Internship application materials are available on line through DICAS. Visit individual websites for specific program information. To organize your application and have it reviewed by the program director, you can get a sample application form at www.depdpg.org or at many of the internship websites. You must have your pop-up blocker off to download this form. Don’t worry about calculating your G.P.A., the DICAS website will do that for you.

In general, the student's responsibilities in the process include:

1. Learning how to navigate the DICAS system (see internship handbook).
2. Obtaining specific information from internship websites.
3. Completing computer matching forms on-line at www.dnndigital.com
4. Sending an official transcript from each college or university attended to DICAS. This includes both graduate and undergraduate transcripts.
5. Defining immediate and long term goals
6. Developing personal statement that describes how your interest in nutrition began, how it developed into a career choice, how it was affected by college courses and how your commitment to it was demonstrated through voluntary and paid experiences in the dietetics field
7. Requesting 3 letters of recommendation from professors and work supervisors
8. Having a Madonna University faculty member review your personal statement.

Application Deadlines:

	May/July graduates:	December graduates:
Application Deadline	February	September
Appointment Date	April	November
Internship starts	July, August or September	January or February

Applications may be submitted before graduation if the student will have completed the program by the internship starting date. The Program Director assumes the primary role assisting students with the internship application process.

The Computer Matching Process

Students applying for internships apply on-line through the DICAS process and register on-line for computer matching with D&D Digital at www.dnndigital.com by the application deadline. Students rank the internships they have applied to by their first choice, second choice, etc. On appointment day, students can check the website to find out if they have matched with an internship. If a student has a match, he or she must contact the internship to accept or decline the position. Students receive more information on the DICAS and matching processes at the fall/winter internship meetings.

Coordinated Undergraduate Program (CUP)

A CUP provides for the integration of academic requirements with supervised practice within an academic program. Each program is accredited by the ACEND and culminates in a minimum of a Baccalaureate degree. These programs combine the knowledge and performance requirements of the ACEND. Madonna University does not offer a CUP. Wayne State University offers a one year program to college graduates whereby they can complete the practical experience and qualify to take the registration examination. Madonna University students may apply for this program in lieu of an internship.

The Directory of Dietetic Programs issued each year lists all of the Internships and Coordinated Undergraduate Programs currently accredited by the ACEND. Each listing provides the name, web address, phone and e-mail of the Program Director so that you can contact the program for more information. This directory is available at www.eatright.org, click on EatrightPro>Careers>Become An RDN/DTR>Accredited Educational Programs>Dietetic Internships.

Internship Cost

Costs vary widely, so a student should check with each program about required expenses. Some internships give stipends, some charge no tuition, and others may charge several thousand dollars in tuition. Some accredited internships qualify for government sponsored loan programs. Students should check the websites of the individual programs for financial information.

How do I Become Competitive for a Dietetic Internship?

Although a student has no guarantee of receiving a Dietetic Internship appointment, there are several areas that a student can work on to be more competitive for an appointment. Ask yourself, “What can I do to stand out?” instead of aiming for the minimum requirements.

1. **Grades: Having high undergraduate and graduate GPAs:** Most internships have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA to submit an application, but that does not guarantee a spot. All of your grades, both graduate and undergraduate are used to calculate your overall GPA.
2. **Nutrition-Related Work Experience: Paid and/or volunteer.** The more experience the better. Aim for 100 hours. Hospital work is considered the best initial experience. Other experiences include long term care or university food service, culinary experience, community nutrition programs (WIC, EFNEP, community gardens), and working with dietitians in private practice.
3. **Leadership and Professionalism:** Join professional organizations such as the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, The Michigan Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the Southeast Michigan Dietetics Association (SEMDA). Volunteer for activities with SEMDA. Present research at a professional meeting.
4. **Honor Societies, Scholarships, Awards**
5. **Applying to several internships.**
6. **Personal Statement:** The importance of this statement cannot be stressed enough. Proper grammar and spelling are required. Read the directions from each internship in regards to this letter very carefully. This letter is your chance to describe your goals, strengths and weaknesses. In some internships, this letter plays a large role in who is actually chosen. It is highly recommended to have your personal statement reviewed by a dietetics professor.
7. **Letters of Recommendation:** Ask supervisors and faculty who you believe will give you the strongest recommendations. Supply them with information on your work history, volunteer activities, research and major projects from your courses work, so they can write the best letter possible.

Can I wait and apply for an internship years after graduation or program completion?

Internships can make their own guidelines for recency of education, so you would need to contact the internships that you would like to apply for and ask about their “Recency of Education Policy.” In general, most internship programs do not make you re-take coursework if the verification statement is less than 5 years old. Once the verification statement is five years old, many internship programs will ask you to complete new coursework in medical nutrition therapy and other advanced nutrition courses. Some may even ask you to repeat biochemistry or physiology.

What Do You Do if You Don't Receive an Appointment?

Although most Madonna University students, who maintain a 3.3 GPA or above, receive internship positions, internship appointments are competitive. If an appointment is not received, credentials should be re-examined. Develop a plan to emphasize your strengths and compensate for, or minimize your weaknesses.

Students should contact their advisor to discuss future plans. Consider the following:

- Evaluate how you can improve your qualifications including taking the DTR exam
- Look at additional internships
- Reapply
- Obtain a job in a nutrition related field
- Contact career services for help with resume writing and interviewing

How Do I Apply to Take the Registration Examination?

As you come to the end of your internship you need to start thinking about applying for the Registration Examination for Dietitians. Internship personnel may give you more information on this process. You cannot take the Registration Examination until you have successfully completed the Dietetic Internship. The Registration Examination is available on computer through learning centers across the U.S. A review course or purchase of practice questions is highly recommended.

See the Internship Handbook for a list of review courses. Upon successful completion of the exam, you are a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN).

Assistance with the Job Search after Graduation from Madonna University:

The office of Career Services at Madonna University offers assistance with resume writing and job placement for Madonna University students and alumni. For further information or to schedule an appointment, call 734-432-5623 or visit <https://www.madonna.edu/resources/career-development/>. Nutrition-related employment advertisements can be found web sites such as www.semda.org and www.eatrightmich.org. Recruiters for nutrition and food service jobs might be helpful in finding that first job. Try www.harper-jobs.com or Kelly Scientific recruiters at www.kellyscientific.com (248-848-9315). The ACEND sponsors a site, ADACareerLink.org. This free service for members lets you post your resume, respond to job listings and receive e-mail alerts about new positions.

Additional sites:

www.healthcareers.com

www.henryfordcareers.com

www.MiHealthCareJobs.org

www.rdlink.com

www.medhunters.com

www.ihirenutrition.com

www.umjobs.org

www.indeed.com

<https://www.glassdoor.com>

www.iammorrison.com

Organizations

The Madonna University Nutrition Network

The Nutrition Network is a Madonna University student club run by undergraduate and graduate dietetics students. If you would like to become involved in the Nutrition Network you can find information on Blackboard. If you have questions about the club, you can contact the faculty advisor, Ms. Laura Kull at lkull@madonna.edu.

On Blackboard, if you do not see the Nutrition Network under My Organizations, you may have to add the module to your page which you can do by following these steps:

1. Sign into blackboard with your username and password
2. On the left side of the screen there will be a button that says “Add Module”
3. From there you can go to the search bar also in the left hand corner and search for “My Organizations”
4. Once the result for “My Organizations” appears you click on the add button located underneath the title “My Organizations”
5. Return to the main blackboard screen and you will now be able to see the Nutrition Network link.

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

www.eatright.org

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics is the world's largest professional organization for dietitians. As a student enrolled in a dietetic program in an accredited university, but not yet eligible for active membership, you have the opportunity to become an associate member of the organization. Benefits of membership include:

- Subscription to The Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Subscription to Food and Nutrition Magazine (bi-monthly publication on nutrition issues)
- Subscriptions to the Daily News E-Mail and the EatRight Weekly E-mail with updates on National nutrition headlines
- Continuing education programs and materials
- Professional publications
- Member discounts on publications and materials
- Information on and lower fees for the Annual Meeting
- Information on and access to Dietetic Practice Groups
- Automatic membership in the Michigan Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Job announcements
- E-Mentoring Program
- Access to the Evidence Analysis Library

Scholarships for graduate students are available from this national organization. As of 2020, the student membership fee was \$58.00. Applications can be found at The Academy web site

<https://www.eatrightpro.org/membership/membership-types-and-criteria/student-member>. The Dietetics faculty strongly urge you to be a student member of the Academy. Internship directors look favorably on involvement in dietetic associations.

The Michigan Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

www.eatrightmich.org

The Michigan Academy of Nutrition and dietetics is Michigan's professional organization for dietitians. Students who are Academy associate members are automatically members of the state association.

By becoming a Michigan Academy member you can improve your marketability and get to know dietitians in your area of interest. The Michigan Nutrition and Dietetics Institute awards scholarships on an annual basis to undergraduate and graduate students in didactic programs and to dietetic interns. Scholarship forms need to be submitted in January and scholarships are awarded in the spring at the annual conference. The dietetics faculty members strongly encourage students to attend at least one Michigan Academy Annual Conference to learn more about current topics in nutrition. For more information see the Michigan Academy web site www.eatrightmich.org

The Southeastern Michigan Dietetic Association (SEMDA)

www.semda.org

Only Academy and Academy affiliate members are eligible for membership in local dietetic associations. These organizations provide students with the opportunities to attend local professional meetings, hear speakers, and interact with dietitians on a local level. Any involvement in local dietetic association activities is looked at favorably on internship applications. The membership fees for students are nominal. For more information on topics, dates and locations, go to the SEMDA web site at www.SEMDA.org.

Dietetic Practice Groups (DPGs)

Student members of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics can join Dietetic Practice Groups. DPGs are specialized practice groups which enable members to improve their job performance, gain insight into specialized areas of food and nutrition and network with colleagues. DPGs cover a wide variety of practice topics including: Hunger and Environmental Nutrition (www.hendpg.org), Diabetes Care and Education (DCE) and Sports Nutrition. Go to www.eatright.org for more information.

The Collegiate and Professional Sports Dietitians Association (CPSDA) Students interested in sports nutrition can join this organization including the listserv that provides announcements on internship and scholarship opportunities. The mission of the CPSDA is to create leaders who elevate the profession of Sports Nutrition through ethical, science-based, cutting-edge care. CPSDA represents the vast majority of advanced practice registered dietitians in the United States who work full-time with athletes in colleges, professional sports, Olympic training centers, the U.S. Military and in performance centers.

Member Interest Groups (MIGs)

Member groups represent the many characteristics of the Academy's membership and the public it serves, and are based on common interests and backgrounds. Go to www.eatright.org for more information on the following MIGs:

1. National Organization of Blacks in Dietetics and Nutrition (NOBIDAN)
2. Asian Indians in Dietetics and Nutrition (AIND)
3. National Organization of Men in Nutrition (NOMIN)
4. Jewish Member Interest Group (JMIG)
5. Latinos and Hispanics in Dietetics and Nutrition (LAHIDAN)
6. Muslims in Dietetics and Nutrition (MIDAN)
7. Chinese Americans in Dietetics and Nutrition (CADN)

Appendix A
Madonna University
MS Nutrition and Dietetics Curriculum
Sample Plan of Study

Sample Plan of Study only (See your advisor for an individual plan to meet your specific needs)

The program length is two years of graduate study. A Plan of Study appears below:

Proposed Plan of Study	
<u>Semester I</u>	
NFS 5870 Sustainable Food Systems	3 s.h.
NFS 6350 Obesity and Chronic Disease	3 s.h.
NFS 5220 Nutrition Assessment	2 s.h.
<u>Semester II</u>	
EDU 5060 Educational Research and Practice	3 s.h.
NFS 5030 Interdisciplinary Approaches to Gerontology	3 s.h.
NFS 5250 Medical Nutrition Therapy I	3 s.h.
NFS 5420 Medical Nutrition Therapy II	3 s.h.
<u>Semester III</u>	
NFS 5320 Food Behaviors and Motivations	3 s.h.
EDU 5710 Change in Education Organizations	3 s.h.
One of the following courses in management:	3 s.h.
MGT 5300 Leadership of Organizational Behavior OR	
MGT 5570 Strategic Management	
<u>Semester IV</u>	
MIS 5230 Healthcare Informatics	3 s.h.
NFS 6250 Adv. Human Nutrition	4 s.h.
NFS 6955 and 6975 Capstone	3 s.h.
OR	
NFS 6960 Thesis	
Total	39 s.h.

Appendix B

Application for Admissions into the ACEND-Accredited Madonna University Didactic Program in Dietetics

Admissions Process: Students seeking admission to the Dietetics Program must meet the following requirements (see Undergraduate Bulletin for more details):

1. A minimum of 56 semester hours, completed at or successfully transferred to Madonna University, with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher overall for ALL Madonna and other college level coursework, regardless of whether classes transferred to Madonna University.
 2. Successful completion of the equivalent of all of the following courses—NFS 2270, Human Nutrition; WRT 1010; WRT 1020 or Communications course; BIO 2250, Human Physiology; BIO 2260 or 2270, Microbiology; and CHM 2210, Organic Chemistry—with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher over these six courses.
-

Directions:

1. Complete this form and submit to the Director of the Dietetics Program, Room S217 Franciscan Center, Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia, MI. You must submit this form; information will not be accepted in any other format.
2. Official transcripts from **ALL** colleges or universities attended must be on file with Madonna University or can be mailed directly from the institution to the Program Director. Students with foreign transcripts must have an evaluation sent from the foreign transcript evaluation service to the Program Director.

Deadlines:

July 1st for fall admissions

November 1st for winter admissions

May 1st for spring admissions

**Application for Admissions into the ACEND Accredited
Madonna University Didactic Program in Dietetics**

Name _____ MU student ID number _____

Phone number _____ E-mail _____

Date of Birth _____ Mother's Maiden Name _____

Choose one: First B.S. Degree 2nd B.S. Degree Post Degree Verification MSND

Choose one: Part-time student Full-time student

Date of admission to Madonna University _____

Requesting Admissions for: Fall 20____ Winter 20____ Spring 20____

Complete the following table with information from ALL Colleges or Universities attended, including Madonna University. All official transcripts must be on file with MU.

Name of College / University	Dates Attended	Total Number of Credits Earned	Overall GPA

Signature of student _____

Date _____

For Department use only:

	Equivalent Course	College/University	Credits	Grade	Repeat number
NFS 2270					
WRT1010					
WRT1020/Com					
BIO 2250					
BIO 2260/2270					
CHM 2210					

Decision:

Accepted for admissions beginning _____

Not accepted and reason _____

Signature of Program Director/Date _____

Additional Resources

Careers in Dietetics and Nutrition	The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics website: http://www.eatright.org/BecomeanRDorDTR/content.aspx?id=8127 Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/dietitians-and-nutritionists.htm
Becoming an RDN	http://www.eatright.org/BecomeanRDorDTR/default.aspx
Registration Examination for RDNs	http://cdrnet.org/
Summary of State licensure laws	http://cdrnet.org/state-licensure
Board Certifications by CDR	http://cdrnet.org/certifications/board-certified-specialist
Dietetic Internship List	http://www.eatrightacend.org/ACEND/content.aspx?id=6442485414
Becoming Competitive for a Dietetic Internship	http://www.eatright.org/BecomeanRDorDTR/content.aspx?id=8147 All Access Internships: http://www.allaccessinternships.com/home.php
Applications for Dietetic Internships	DICAS website: https://portal.dicas.org/
The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics	www.eatright.org
The Michigan Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics	www.eatrightmich.org