



# Nutrition and Dietetics MS Program

Student Handbook  
2018-2020



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## **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](http://www.madonna.edu) > Academics > Resources > Graduate Catalog.

## **General Information about Dietetics:**

### **What is Dietetics?**

Dietetics is a health related career that involves translating the sciences of **Nutrition** and **Food** to 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.”

### **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 nutritionist. 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. Registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) can only be used by dietetics practitioners who are currently authorized to use the credential by the Commission on Dietetic Registration 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 a registration examination 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 or other health-care facilities**, educating patients about nutrition and administering medical nutrition therapy as part of the health-care team. They may also manage the foodservice operations in these settings, or schools, daycare centers or correctional facilities, overseeing everything from food purchasing and preparation to managing staff.
2. **Sports nutrition and corporate wellness programs**, educating clients about the connection between food, fitness and health.
3. **Food and nutrition-related business and industries**, working in communications, consumer affairs, public relations, marketing, product development or consulting with chefs in restaurants and culinary schools.

4. Private practice, working under contract with healthcare or food companies, or in their own business. RDs or RDNs work with foodservice or restaurant managers, food vendors and distributors, athletes, nursing home residents or company employees.
5. **Community and public health settings**, teaching, monitoring and advising the public and helping improve quality of life through healthy eating habits.
6. **Universities and medical centers**, teaching physician's assistants, nurses, dietetics students, dentists and others about the sophisticated science of food and nutrition.
7. **Research areas** in food and pharmaceutical companies, universities and hospitals directing or conducting experiments to answer critical nutrition questions and find alternative foods or nutrition recommendations for the public.

Employment of dietitians is expected to increase 16% during the 2016 to 2024 projection decade due to increased emphasis on disease prevention by improving health habits (Occupational Outlook Handbook). Median annual wages of full time dietitians in the U.S. were \$ 65,000 in 2016 with the highest 10% earning more than \$104,000 (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 Nutrition and Dietetics MS Track 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](http://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). For more information about educational pathways to become an RDN please visit [www.eatrightpro.org/acend](http://www.eatrightpro.org/acend) .



## **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 Mission of the Dietetics Program at Madonna University is to provide high quality curriculum that prepares graduates to perform successfully in supervised practice settings leading to eligibility for the CDR credentialing exam to become registered dietitian nutritionists. Graduates will be prepared to utilize their knowledge and skills in an articulate and assertive manner, in order to fulfill their pre-professional roles as interns and their professional roles in a variety of employment settings, while positively impacting the health and well-being of the clients and communities they serve.*

### **Goals of the MU Dietetics Program**

#### **Goal #1 - Madonna University Dietetics Program graduates will commit to community and professional service in the areas of food and nutrition.**

Objective 1.1: 80% of students will participate in a minimum of 15 hours of community service or present a community nutrition education session by the end of the final semester as exhibited by their response on the senior exit survey.

Objective 1.2: 70% of students are active members in student/professional organizations by the time they graduate as exhibited by their response on the senior exit survey.

Objective 1.3: 75% of graduates that respond to a survey will report participating in volunteer or professional service within five years of graduation.

Objective 1.4: 50% of graduates that respond to an alumni survey will maintain membership in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and Michigan Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics within 5 years of graduation.

#### **Goal #2 - Madonna University Dietetic Program graduates will be prepared for the successful pursuit of further studies, supervised practice or entry level employment in a variety of settings.**

Objective 2.1: 80% of program graduates apply for admission to a supervised practice program prior to or within 12 months of graduation.

Objective 2.2: 70% of program graduates are admitted to a supervised practice program prior to or within 12 months of graduation.

Objective 2.3: 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 2.4: Supervised practice directors responding to a survey will rate 75% of program graduates as well prepared for supervised practice.

Objective 2.5: At least 80% of program students complete program/degree requirements within three years (150% program length).

\*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 two programs:

- 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](http://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 2760 Food Service Sanitation; NFS 4960 Experimental Foods and Research, NFS 4460 Food Service Management II, 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 the Nutrition and Dietetics Graduate Program.
- 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 at [www.madonna.edu](http://www.madonna.edu)> Resources > Catalog > Graduate Catalog.

### **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](mailto: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.

For additional assistance, contact the Graduate School (Room 2107): Phone 734-432-5667; e-mail: [grad@madonna.edu](mailto:grad@madonna.edu)

## 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 and Competencies for an ACEND Didactic Program. Graduates meet the knowledge requirements for the dietetic internship. The curriculum focuses on the basic disciplines of food science, food service, nutrition, medical nutrition therapy and management.

*Planned maximum completion timeframe for the program is three years full time enrollment.* 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.** Call or see 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 Systems Analysis and Design	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 **one** course Capstone or Thesis:

NFS 6950 Capstone Course in Nutrition and Wellness	3 s.h.
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**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 NFS 6950 Capstone Course in Nutrition and Wellness or NFS 6960 Thesis.

### **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 the Madonna University Alumni Benefit can be found in the Graduate Catalog. Students are encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office for assistance: 734-432-5663.

Information on Graduate Assistantships can be found by contacting the Graduate School at [grad@madonna.edu](mailto:grad@madonna.edu).

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](http://www.eatright.org) and the Michigan Academy website at [www.eatrightmich.org](http://www.eatrightmich.org).

**Library Services:** The Library faculty can help support your research needs. Free graduate research workshops are presented by librarians every term. For workshop information/sign-up call the Graduate School at 734-432-5667. 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](mailto:helpdesk@madonna.edu)) for assistance with Blackboard or general computer questions.

**Writing Center:** Writing tutors help students at any stage of the writing process. There is no charge, simply stop by the Writing Center in the MU Library.

**Grievance procedures:** The Student Grievance Procedure and Appeal Board is described in the Graduate Catalog. As stated in the catalog, complete student appeal procedures are found in the Student Handbook available in the “MyPortal” system, under Student Resources. If a grievance is related to program non-compliance students may file a complaint with ACEND. Go to <https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/public-notices-and-announcements/filing-a-complaint-with-acend> for details.

## **Information about Supervised Practice Programs**

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

### **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, cost varies. Program graduates are free to apply to any ACEND accredited internship program in the U.S., but if you need to remain in the Detroit area you have several to choose from: Beaumont Hospital, Harper University Hospital, Henry Ford Hospital, and the University of Michigan. Also, Wayne State University has a supervised practice program to which Madonna University students can apply. Central Michigan University Internship is located in the Saginaw area, Western Michigan University is in the Kalamazoo area, and Michigan State University offers rotations in East Lansing and Muskegon. For detailed information on internships, see The Applicant Guide to Supervised Practice Experience located in Room 1502, the [www.eatright.org](http://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 student professional organizations, and have dietetics related work experience (paid or volunteer). Several hundred hours of work experience in a hospital, clinic, food service or long term care facility is necessary to be competitive for an internship position. You can receive additional information on applying for internships at the annual fall informational meeting or from the Program Director or 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](http://www.umjobs.org). New job announcements will be announced in classes and posted in room 1502 as they become available. If you cannot find hospital work, nursing homes and food service positions count as experience, also.

**The Internship Application Process:**

The Department offers a general meeting in the fall for all students who plan to apply for Dietetic Internships during that academic year or early in the next year. Notification of the fall meeting date and time is sent by letter and 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](http://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.dnddigital.com](http://www.dnddigital.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. You should review the internship materials available in Room 1502 or internship program websites for more information.

### 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](http://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 meeting.

### Coordinated Program

A Coordinated Program 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 Coordinated Program. 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](http://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. Many internships look for strong grades in Medical Nutrition Therapy and the sciences. 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 200 hours. Hospital work is considered the best initial experience. Other experiences include college food service, nursing home food service, culinary experience, camp food service, 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. 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 Madonna University students, who maintain a 3.3 GPA or above, have high placement rates into internship positions, internship appointments are highly 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
- Look at additional internship or coordinated programs
- 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 (Room 1001) 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. The MU Job link is available at <https://madonna-csm.symphlicity.com/students/>. Nutrition-related employment advertisements can be found web sites such as [www.semدا.org](http://www.semدا.org) and [www.eatrightmich.org](http://www.eatrightmich.org). Recruiters for nutrition and food service jobs might be helpful in finding that first job. Try [www.harper-jobs.com](http://www.harper-jobs.com) or Kelly Scientific recruiters at [www.kellyscientific.com](http://www.kellyscientific.com) (248-848-9315). The ACEND sponsors a site, [ADACareerLink.org](http://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](http://www.healthcareers.com)

[www.medhunters.com](http://www.medhunters.com)

[www.indeed.com](http://www.indeed.com)

[www.henryfordcareers.com](http://www.henryfordcareers.com)

[www.ihirenutrition.com](http://www.ihirenutrition.com)

[www.MiHealthCareJobs.org](http://www.MiHealthCareJobs.org)

[www.umjobs.org](http://www.umjobs.org)

[www.iammorrison.com](http://www.iammorrison.com)

[www.rdlink.com](http://www.rdlink.com)

## **Organizations**

### **The Madonna University Nutrition Network**

The Nutrition Network is a Madonna University student club run by undergraduate students majoring in Dietetics and Nutritional Sciences. Graduate students are welcome to attend meetings, join club activities and gain experience for internship applications, but are not allowed to run for an office. 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](mailto:lkull@madonna.edu).

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](http://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 2018, the student membership fee was \$58.00. Applications can be found at The Academy web site: [www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org). 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](http://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](http://www.eatrightmich.org)

### **The Southeastern Michigan Dietetic Association (SEMDA)**

[www.semda.org](http://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, see the Bulletin Board in Room 1502 or go to the SEMDA web site at [www.SEMDA.org](http://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](http://www.hendpg.org)), Diabetes Care and Education (DCE) and Sports Nutrition. Go to [www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org) for more information.

### **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](http://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**  
**Nutrition and Dietetics Curriculum**  
**Sample Plan of Study**  
**MS Track**

**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:

<b>Proposed Plan of Study</b>	
<b><u>Semester I</u></b>	
NFS 5870 Sustainable Food Systems	3 s.h.
NFS 5320 Food Behaviors and Motivations	3 s.h.
NFS 5220 Nutrition Assessment	2 s.h.
EDU 5060 Educational Research and Practice	3 s.h.
<b><u>Semester II</u></b>	
MIS 5230 Healthcare Informatics Systems Analysis and Design	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.
<b><u>Semester III</u></b>	
<b>One of the following courses in organizational change:</b>	3 s.h.
MGT 5400 Organizational Effectiveness in Change OR	
EDU 5710 Change in Education Organizations	
NFS 6350 Obesity and Chronic Disease	3 s.h.
<b>One of the following courses in management:</b>	3 s.h.
MGT 5300 Leadership of Organizational Behavior OR	
MGT 5570 Strategic Management	
<b><u>Semester IV</u></b>	
NFS 6250 Adv. Human Nutrition	4 s.h.
NFS 6950 Capstone Course in Nutrition and Wellness	3 s.h.
OR	
NFS 6960 Thesis	
<b>Total</b>	<b>39 s.h.</b>

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> for fall admissions

November 1<sup>st</sup> for winter admissions

May 1<sup>st</sup> 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     2<sup>nd</sup> B.S. Degree     Post Degree Verification     Graduate Degree

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 \_\_\_\_\_

## **Additional Resources**

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