



The Mississippi State University (MSU) Dietetic Internship (DI) program offered in the Department of Food Science, Nutrition, and Health Promotion is a post-baccalaureate program designed to prepare interns for rewarding careers in traditional and non-traditional roles. Interns complete the requirements for the DI and 9 hours of graduate credit within 11 months. The program provides 1200 hours of supervised practice experience in various clinical, research, food service management, community nutrition, and nutrition education settings. Upon completion of the internship, graduates are prepared for the registration examination of the Commission on Dietetic Registration (cdrnet.org), as well as entry-level practice. Graduates may also apply for provisional state licensure once the program verification statements are issued.

Mission of the MSU DI

The mission is to provide supervised practice that prepares quality interns to be competent entry-level registered dietitians. The program accomplishes this mission through learning experiences in a variety of practice settings with contrasting delivery systems.

Goals

1. Prepare quality graduates to be competent entry-level dietitians.
2. Promote a commitment to the pursuit of lifelong learning, research, and community service in the dietetics profession.

Objectives

1. Based on graduate surveys conducted 3 months post graduation, 100% of interns will self-rate a competent level of “3-effective” or “4-outstanding” for overall preparation for entry-level dietetics (based on 4 point scale).
2. Over a five-year period, at least 80% of first-time test takers will pass the Registration Exam
3. At least 90% of interns will complete the program in 150% of the time planned for completion, or 15 months
4. Within 1 year of program completion, at least 80% of graduates seeking employment will have obtained a dietetics-related position
5. At least 80% of students will receive a rating of “3=Excellent, exceeds expectations” on culminating clinical staff relief rotation evaluations (based on a 3 point scale)
6. At Least 80% or more of employers will respond “3-good” or “4-excellent” that the internship adequately prepared graduates for professional practice
7. At least 25% of graduates will report the pursuit of graduate education or advanced certification 5 years post completion of the Program
8. At least 25% of graduates will report working in Extension Service or Research

Graduation and Program Completion Requirements

Interns complete the DI over a 11-month period beginning in July. The Verification Statement is issued upon the successful completion of planned supervised practice rotations. Students will be enrolled in 6 hours of supervised practice and one 3-hour graduate course for the Fall and Spring semesters in addition to 3-hour graduate course during second summer term before beginning supervised practice rotations).

The MSU DI will begin for the 2017-2018 class on July 5, 2016.

Prior Learning: The Mississippi State University Dietetic Internship Program does not grant credit for prior learning or competence. All interns must complete the required number of supervised practice hours to receive a verification statement.

Questions?

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Supervised Practice Facilities that Participate in the MSU DI

The total amount of possible travel will be 36 weeks x 4 days/week. The estimated amount of travel to rotation sites is 11,000 miles. Costs for mileage vary tremendously depending on price of gasoline, miles per gallon of your automobile, etc. Carpooling is encouraged. Estimates of round-trip mileage to the rotation sites from the MSU campus for the duration of the internship, based on the number of weeks at each site are provided in parenthesis.

- **Baptist Memorial Hospital–Golden Triangle**, Columbus, MS www.baptistonline.org/golden-triangle | 6 weeks (~60 miles x 4 days/week x 6 weeks = ~1440 miles)
- **Fresenius Medical Care**, Columbus, MS www.ultracare-dialysis.com | 2 weeks (~60 miles x 4 days/week x 2 weeks = ~480 miles)
- **Mississippi State Department of Health**, Starkville, MS www.msdh.state.ms.us/ | 4 weeks (4 days per week) (~8 miles to and from District Office and Oktibbeha County Health Department, Starkville, MS) (~36 miles to and from Clay County Health Department, West Point, MS) (~60 miles to and from Lowndes County Health Department, Columbus, MS) (~60 miles to and from Winston County Health Department, Louisville, MS) (~78 miles to and from Monroe County Health Department, Aberdeen, MS) (~100 miles to and from Monroe County Health Department, Amory, MS)
- **Mississippi State University Extension Service**, Starkville, MS www.extension.msstate.edu | 6 weeks (If the intern is to travel for this rotation, they will be given the option to travel with the preceptor, so no personal mileage will be accrued. This rotation is 4 days/week x 3 weeks)
- **North Mississippi Medical Center–Tupelo**, Tupelo, MS www.nmhs.net/tupelo | 9 weeks (~140 miles x 4 days/week x 12 weeks = ~6720 miles (carpooling is encouraged))
- **North Mississippi Medical Center–Eupora**, Eupora, MS www.nmhs.net/eupora | 3 weeks (~60 miles x 4 days/week x 3 weeks = ~720 miles)
- **Oktibbeha County Hospital (OCH) Regional Medical Center**, Starkville, MS www.och.org | 6 weeks (~8 miles x 4 days/week x 6 weeks = ~192 miles)

Additional travel may be required to attend meetings. You are encouraged to carpool whenever possible. However, please be aware that you need to be at the site when preceptors or staff to whom you are assigned requires you to be there. Preceptors and others may not be able and do not need to change their schedules to accommodate your desire to carpool.



Admission Requirements

Students must meet the following criteria to be considered for the MSU DI program:

- Completion of a Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) with minimum academic requirements as approved by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Verification Statement issued by the DPD Director of your college/ university
- Overall GPA of at least 3.00 (strongly recommended)
- Nutrition (DPD) GPA of at least 3.25 (strongly recommended)
- GRE scores
- MSU Graduate School admission
- \$35 application processing fee payable to MSU DI and mailed to Dr. Terezie Tolar Mosby

Application Procedure

Students applying to the MSU DI must apply through the online Dietetic Internship Centralized Application System (DICAS) (<https://portal.dicas.org/>). Applicants must also register for computer matching with D & D Digital at <http://www.dnddigital.com>. The MSU DI participates in matching in the spring only and selects 8 interns.

Fees and Financial Information

Tuition and financial aid information for graduate students is posted at <http://www.sfa.msstate.edu/cost>. The MSU Office of the Graduate School also has financial and other information at <http://www.grad.msstate.edu>. Other fees may include, but are not limited to: living expenses, campus parking permit, textbooks, supplies, health and liability insurance, Academy membership, professional meeting attendance (in-state only), transportation costs to supervised practice facilities.

Transportation: Interns must provide their own reliable, sufficiently insured transportation between university and facilities. Some carpooling is possible.

Financial Aid: Full-time graduate students are eligible for student financial aid: <http://www.sfa.msstate.edu/cost>. Contact the MSU Financial Aid office: <http://www.sfa.msstate.edu>.

Interns are classified as full-time graduate students for both semesters of the Internship.

The MSU Dietetic Internship is currently granted accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), the accrediting agency for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics; 1200 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000; Chicago, IL 60606-6995 | 312-899-0040 ext. 5400 | www.eatright.org/ACEND/

Estimated Expenses for MSU Dietetic Internship Program¹

MSU Dietetic Internship Program Application Fee, DI-CAS, D&D matching	\$100.00
Resident Tuition (9 hours) per semester	\$3,890.00 ² + 3 credit hours in summer
Non-Resident Tuition (9 hours) per semester	\$10,450.00 ² + 3 credit hours in summer
MSU Campus Parking Permit	\$115.00 ²
Estimated textbooks (Appendix), supplies (scrubs, etc.)	\$300.00
ServSafe Training	\$140.00
Student Health Insurance ³	\$1,201.00
Professional Liability Insurance ⁴	\$24.00
Physical Exam	\$75.00 -\$250.00
Living Expenses (housing, food, etc.) (Interns provide their own living arrangements)	Varies
A.N.D. Student Membership	\$50.00
Internship Fee	\$2,500.00
Transportation (Interns must provide own transportation between the university and facilities and must carry sufficient automobile insurance coverage for collision and liability. Carpooling with other interns in the same rotation is encouraged.)	Varies

¹Interns may not schedule additional responsibilities such as assistantships and full-time jobs as they will be working in assigned facilities Monday–Thursday and will have DI class on Friday mornings. Interns will take one graduate class each semester (must take Advanced Clinical Nutrition in spring) in addition to FNH 8286 Supervised Practice Experience.

²These costs are estimated as average cost, based on the best available information and subject to change or personal difference or needs. Total shown includes tuition, activity fees and do not include course participation fees, special fees, or overload tuition. Additional information is available in the Graduate Bulletin at www.grad.msstate.edu and at www.controller.msstate.edu/accountservices/tuition (Prices will increase yearly and may not be correct as of this printing).

³This insurance is sponsored through the MSU Student Association. It is a voluntary plan for students and their dependents. Prices may change. Information on student health services and student health insurance is available at www.health.msstate.edu or www.health.msstate.edu/health-center/insurance_student.php or by calling (662) 325-5895.

⁴Professional liability insurance is required for Dietetic Interns. One choice for insurance is Marsh U.S. Consumer. Information and registration for this insurance can be found at www.proliability.com. There are 2 options for coverage: 2,000,000 per incident for \$24/year and 1,000,000 per incident for \$20/year.

Questions?

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