

**For more information on Verification Statements, please visit the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics FAQs About Verification Statements:**

**<https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/program-directors/program-directors-faqs/faqs-about-verification-statements>**

**DPD VERIFICATION STATEMENT GUIDELINES**

**POLICY:**

Completion of the requirements for the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign's Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) will be verified by the DPD Program Director prior to issuing Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) verification statements.

**RESPONSIBILITY and VERIFICATION:**

Current DPD Program Director

**PROCEDURE for those in dietetic degree program:**

1. Program completion requirements:
  - a. Attendance of all classes, seminars, and supervised practice as required for the didactic program in dietetics unless altered as per policy by the program director.
    - Meet degree requirements
    - Minimum of a C letter grades is required in all departmental classes. Please remember that a minimum of a B letter grades is optimum for dietetic internship placement.
    - Must have at least a 3.0 GPA during last 60 hours.
2. Preparation for placement of students into an internship by requiring supervised work experience:
  - a. Work experience in a dietetic-related job:
    - 150 hours of work experience is required for students; 100 hours of work experience is required for transfer students.
      - Required to complete 50 hours of work experience between every year.
      - Work experience must be submitted annually (refer to work experience instructions).
      - Jobs that are dietetic-related examples include: hospital or dorm food service, diet technicians, diabetes or weight control camps, human nutrition research, etc.
        - DPD director or appointee has to provide approval of experience's relevance to dietetics prior to work experience unless already prior approved and listed on the [DPD website](#).
  - b. Registered dietitian mentor:
    - 8 recorded meetings (on-phone or in-person) must be made with a registered dietitian; 4 recorded meetings are required for transfer students
      - Required to complete one contact per semester throughout DPD program
      - Mentor meetings must be submitted (refer to RD mentor instructions).
3. An applicant for an ACEND verification shall submit documentation showing satisfaction of the verification requirements. Upon such submission, the DPD program director shall review that documentation and will issue verification statements if s/he determines that the applicant has successfully completed the degree requirements, met the requirements of the didactic program in dietetics, and satisfied the work experience requirements.

4. In the event of a leave of absence from the program, students must complete all requirements within two years of the semester in which was incomplete.
5. Education policy set by ACEND will take action for course completion and issue of verification statement.
  - a. The following courses need to be completed within the following time frames from the verification statement issue date:
    - FSHN 322, 329, 340, 426, 427, 428 within 5 years of taking these courses
    - FSHN 420 and 429 within 3 years of taking respective courses

**PROCEDURE for those in the DPD program ONLY:**

Includes all of the above with the addition of:

6. Additional courses from other institutions will be considered if the outside course/s is/are substantially similar to UIUC courses or otherwise appropriate dietetic-related coursework, DPD director's discretion on the approval of coursework in the appropriate circumstances will be exercised based on, but not limited to, university transfer guidelines, committee input and petitions.

**PROCEDURE for graduate students fulfilling DPD program requirements:**

Includes all sections with the addition of.

7. Core nutrition courses must be completed at UIUC which include:
  - a. FSHN 420, FSHN 429, and FSHN 340
  - b. FSHN 322, FSHN 426, and FSHN 427 may be completed at another institution as long as the courses are approved and reviewed by the program director based on, but not limited to, university transfer guidelines, committee input and petitions.