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A. Program Information

1. Program Description:
The Dietetic Internship (DI) program is administered by the Department of Food Science & Human Nutrition at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Director of the DI is Jessica Madson MS RD. Please contact her at jamadson@illinois.edu or 217.244.8714, if you have questions about the DI program.

The DI is designed to meet or exceed each of the Competencies/Learning Outcomes for a Dietetic Internship Program, as established by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) www.eatright.org/ACEND of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics www.eatright.org. The program is 33 weeks, full time, beginning in August and ending in April of each year. The program provides 1 week orientation and 32 weeks (1264 hours) of supervised practice in clinical, community, food service administration and research. Completion of the University of Illinois DI Program fulfills all CDR requirements for supervised practice hours in order to take the Registration Exam.

The DI accepts 4 interns each year. The program is restricted to students who are already enrolled in the M.S. or Ph.D. degree program in Department of Food Science & Human Nutrition or Division of Nutritional Sciences and have a Verification Statement from an accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD). In 2010, the DI was approved to participate in the preselect option for matching dietetic interns. The application process is described in Section B.

The concentration area for the University of Illinois DI program is research. Students are required to perform independent research for their graduate degree. In addition, interns complete a research project linked to one of the rotation sites during the internship program. Graduates from this program are well prepared to assess the needs of their target populations, develop appropriate research questions, identify funding sources, carry out new programs/research, and objectively assess these programs' effectiveness.

2. Program Mission
To prepare entry-level registered dietitians with a strong research base to become leaders in the fields of food, nutrition, and health.

3. Program Goals and Measureable Objectives
Goal 1. Prepare highly qualified registered dietitian nutritionists (RDN).

Program Objectives for Goal 1:
- At least 80% of program students complete program/degree requirements within 28.5 months (150% of the program length).
- 80 percent of program graduates take the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists within 12 months of program completion.
- 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%.
- Of graduates who seek employment, 80 percent are employed in nutrition and dietetics or related fields within 12 months of graduation.
- 75% of employers will rate performance of alumni as above average or outstanding at one year post graduation.

**Program Goal 2.** Train dietetics professionals to become leaders in their chosen fields and aid in their development and professional growth.

**Program Objectives for Goal 2:**
- 80% of graduates will have an approved PDP learning plan from CDR by the one year post graduation survey.
- 25% of graduates will seek a leadership role in a local, state or national professional organization as measured by the one year post graduation survey.

**4. Accreditation Status**
The University of Illinois Dietetic Internship program is an ACEND (Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 South Riverside Plaza Ste 2000, Chicago IL 60606-6995. Ph: 1-800-877-1600) accredited post-baccalaureate, supervised practice program which qualifies graduates to take the examination to become Registered Dietitians.

**B. Application process for Prospective Interns**

1. **Who can apply?**
The University of Illinois DI Program is accredited to accept a maximum of 4 interns per year and is restricted to students who have earned at least a bachelor’s degree from an accredited school and are already enrolled in the M.S. or Ph.D. degree program in Department of Food Science & Human Nutrition or Division of Nutritional Sciences. If you are planning to complete the DI, please contact the DI Director, Jessica Madson (jamadson@illinois.edu) so that she is aware of your interest and can set an appointment to meet with you. At that time, she will discuss with you timing of application to the DI. Applicants are required to provide a Verification Statement (complete or from an accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) In addition, DI applicants are expected to have completed volunteer or work experience in clinical nutrition, community nutrition or food service settings.

2. **What if I have not met the DPD requirements or do not have a Verification Statement?**
In order to enroll in the DPD courses, you will need to complete the "Application for Concurrent Enrollment in the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) and University of Illinois Graduate School". This form is available on the DI web site. Once you have completed this form, it should be submitted to Justine Karduck, MS, RD, (karduck@illinois.edu), the Director of the DPD in the Department of Food Science & Human Nutrition. Note that this application will require signature approval by your graduate
advisor. Acceptance into the DPD program is not guaranteed and will be dependent upon performance in previous coursework and the availability of space in undergraduate courses. After Ms. Karduck has approved this application, Dr. Donovan can assist you in planning your program of study.

3. What is the timing of completion of the DI and Graduate Degree?

Typically, students complete the internship after completing all their graduate degree coursework and research. However, doctoral students may complete the internship earlier in their graduate degree program, depending upon availability of slots in the internship and approval by their graduate advisor. Including the internship component, most MS students will be able to complete their graduate program in 3 years. Most PhD students will be able to complete their program in 5-6 years. The DI Director will inform students when they can apply to the DI.

Students may not enroll in DI until all other coursework for their graduate degree program is completed and they have completed most (or all) of the research requirements for their thesis or dissertation. The student may choose to defend a thesis before or after the DI, but it is expected that very little experimental work will be performed after the internship is completed. You will enroll in FSHN 590 and 591 during the internship.

When a student deposits their thesis or dissertation, he or she is no longer eligible to register for courses. It is imperative, therefore, that interns complete DI courses before depositing a thesis. Contact the Dietetic Internship Director if you have questions about this requirement.

4. How do I apply to the DI?

a. Pre-select Option to Computer Matching
The University of Illinois DI participates in the pre-select option. In the pre-select process, the program can select up to 4 students per year who have met the admission requirements for the DI. The DI Director then informs D&D Digital Systems which applicant(s) have matched to the University of Illinois DI for the upcoming year. Applicants cannot match to the University of Illinois DI through computer matching the D&D Digital Systems. However, if an applicant is not matched to the University of Illinois DI, they can apply to other internships through the computer matching process.

b. Application Process
Applicants must submit the following materials to the DI Director (Jessica Madson, 433 Bevier Hall) by October 15th (or the next week day closest to that date) of the fall prior to the year you intend to complete the internship:

1. Cover letter summarizing your motivation for completing the RD and your career goals
2. AND Dietetic Internship Application Form This form is available on the DI web site.
3. **Degree Progress Form** signed by your graduate advisor to verify they will have completed all graduate course requirements and a major portion of the thesis research prior to starting to the dietetic internship program. *This form is available on the DI website.*

4. **Verification Statement** (completion or intent to complete) from an accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD)

5. Copy of **Current Immunization Record**

6. **Three Reference Letters** on the AND reference form. *This form is available on the DI website.*
   a. At least 1 letter must come from an employer or academic advisor who has worked closely with the student
   b. At least 1 letter must come from a professor or instructor
   c. In order to ensure confidentiality, letters of recommendation must be sent directly to the DI Director from the employer/instructor’s office. Alternatively, letters may be sealed in an envelope and signed across the envelope flap by the employer/instructor and then submitted with the student’s other application materials

7. Copies of your undergraduate and graduate **transcripts** from your graduate application file will be obtained from the Department of Food Science & Human Nutrition or the Division of Nutritional Sciences office by the DI Director. You do NOT need to request copies of transcripts from previous degrees.

c. **What are the selection criteria?**
   Due to high demand for the DI, it is possible that more than 4 students will be applying for the internship in a given year. Applications will be evaluated by the DI Internal Advisory Committee and acceptance for competitive admission to the DI be based on the following criteria:
   - Quality of the cover letter
   - Cumulative GPA, undergraduate, graduate and DPD coursework
   - GRE scores - minimum 900 cumulative score for quantitative and verbal
   - Volunteer or paid experience in nutrition and dietetics (preferably with registered dietitians in a variety of work settings)
   - Letters of Recommendation
   - Degree objective (MS vs. PhD) – Doctoral students will be given priority
   - Thesis or Non-thesis MS – MS students completing thesis research will be given priority

d. **When will I know if I am matched in the Preselect Process?**
   The applicant will be notified on **November 15th**, or the week day closest to that date, confirming her/his acceptance or rejection into the program through the pre-select process.
   If pre-selected, the applicant will be required to complete a form including social security number and original signature. The Program Director must submit this form by February 1st to D&D Digital Systems, Inc. to ensure that the applicant will not participate in the April computer match.

e. **What if I am NOT matched in the Preselect Process?**
   Applicants may apply to another DI through the computer-matching process. Applicants participating in computer matching should request instructions and a mark/sense card to prioritize their DI preferences. Applicants should request this material from any ACEND-accredited/approved Didactic Program in
Dietetics program director or from D&D Digital Systems, Inc.  [http://www.dnddigital.com/](http://www.dnddigital.com/) or dnd@netins.net. This request should be made to allow turnaround time for submitting by the February postmark deadline for computer matching. There is no charge for this material. However, there is a $50.00 charge for computer matching that is due with the applicant's prioritized ranking.

C. What are the costs of the DI program?

1. **Stipend**
   There is no guarantee that you will receive support from your graduate advisor during the DI. However, the DI Director will work with the prospective intern and his or her graduate advisor to determine whether an assistantship can be provided during the internship. If not, interns will be responsible for their own living expenses and tuition. Interns can also apply for scholarship support for DI through the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

2. **University of Illinois Tuition & Fees**
   If an intern is not being supported by an assistantship, scholarship or fellowship that provides that tuition and fee waiver, they will be responsible for tuition and fees. To view the current costs, please visit the Office of the Registrar's tuition and fee rates page: [http://registrar.illinois.edu/financial/ tuition.html](http://registrar.illinois.edu/financial/ tuition.html). Tuition assessment is based on the total number of credit hours being taken per semester. Both FSHN 590 and 591 are 5 credit hours (Range III).

3. **Internship Participation Fee**
   In addition to tuition and fees, interns are required to pay a fee for participation in the DI. The annual fee is $2,000. The $1000 fee will be automatically billed to your university account at the beginning of each semester for a total of $2000.

4. **Other Costs:**
   a. Student membership in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND) ($50.00)
   b. Student membership in the Eastern Illinois Dietetic Association (EIDA) ($5.00)
   c. Practice Liability Insurance (~$24.00)
   d. TB test between June and August (cost varies)
   e. Other Required Insurance:
      - Individual Health Insurance, if not covered by University of Illinois (cost varies)
      - Vehicle Liability Insurance (cost varies)

D. **Didactic Portion of the Internship**

During your internship, you will enroll in **FSHN 590** Dietetic Internship I (fall semester) and **FSHN 591** Dietetic Internship II (spring semester).
1. Course Objectives:
The goal of this internship is to equip you with the following skills:
   a. Integration of fundamentals of biological and physical sciences, theories of culture and behavior, learning, management and social interaction as they relate to human health.
   b. Application of the concepts of human biological, social and psychological development to health and disease.
   c. Application of administrative and clinical expertise in hospital-based and community settings.
   d. Active enlistment of current research techniques and findings in administrative, clinical, and community areas of practice.
   e. Become eligible to sit for the Registration Examination of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
   f. Prepared to function as entry-level registered dietitians and ultimately become leaders in the profession of dietetics.

2. Textbook and Reading Materials
   a. The required text is “Food Medication Interactions, 16th edition” by Zaneta M. Pronsky, MS, RD, LDN. This book can be purchased on Amazon.com.
   b. It is highly recommended that you purchase the "International Dietetics Nutritional Terminology (IDNT) Pocket Guide, ed. 3", which is put out by the AND. You can purchase by calling the AND Member Service Center at 1-800-877-1600 ext 5000. Have your AND membership ID number ready.
   c. Throughout the internship experience, you will also utilize many other resources from your didactic training in dietetics. If those resources are outdated, you are responsible for updating them.
   d. In addition, you will be required to review AND position statements and other pertinent publications from the scientific literature. Check the Compass site prior to each rotation for review materials.

3. Attendance
   The didactic portion of the internship will be held during the orientation week. You are expected to attend all portions of the orientation. If you will be unable to attend, you must contact the internship director prior to the class.

4. Grading
   Course grading will be S/U. Each competency (listed in your internship binder) must be met in order to complete the internship experience. It is your responsibility to actively confirm opportunities to fulfill these competencies. If you are unsure of any of the competencies, check with the internship director(s) and your preceptor(s).

5. Assignments
   The following must be satisfactorily completed during the internship period:
   a. All projects
   b. Research project
   c. Portfolio of assignments (binder)
6. Evaluations:
There are three “evaluation” forms that must be included in your binder. These are on the COMPASS site in the
a. Competencies met
b. Intern evaluation of the Preceptor(s). This should be sent to me. Do NOT give to the preceptors.
c. Preceptor evaluation of the Intern

E. Description of Supervised Practice Sites

1. Carle Physicians Group – Cancer
   a. Overall Goal of the Rotation: The goal of the oncology clinical rotation at Carle Physicians Group is to provide interns with supervised experiences of the oncology patients before, during and after: surgery, radiation and chemotherapy. The intern will participate in the nutritional care of both adult out-patients and adult in-patients. The intern will observe all aspects of the treatment process including: nutrition, surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, social work, etc.
   b. Duration: 2 weeks
   c. Assignments/activities that the interns will complete:
      i. Follow radiation therapist for tour of equipment and services
      ii. Follow social worker with patient and to staffing meeting
      iii. Attend Tumor Board meeting
      iv. Meet with Apria representative to discuss tube feeding, pumps, etc.
      v. Attend Head and Neck clinic (8 am – 12 am)
      vi. Follow RD through appointments in both chemotherapy and radiation
vii. Attend at least 2 of the following:
   1. Head and Neck Support Group meeting
   2. Women’s Room Cancer Support Group
   3. Daytime Cancer Support Group or Nighttime Cancer Support Group
   4. Cancer Caregivers Group

viii. Prepare an educational sheet for nurses to use that tells them an idea of how much enteral formula to tell patients to try to consume until they see the dietitian. Include Harris-Benedict formula, different formulas most widely used by the hospital, progression, etc.

ix. Make a handout on ways to moisten food to help ease with limited saliva, trouble swallowing and sore throat.

x. Create an informational session regarding a topic requested by the support group. We will get requests from participants in the groups and the intern will be able to choose what group they would like to present to.

xi. Make a recipe book of ideas of soft foods that someone going through treatment may be able to tolerate limiting spice but with additional calories and protein. This could be compilation of all of the interns.

xii. Make a general tube feeding instructional sheet for patient: Discuss flushing tube with water before and after each feeding, the need for fluids and what to do with additional cans of open product, etc.

3. Carle Physicians Group – Diabetes (or other assigned location for outpatient diabetes)
   a. Overall Goal of the Rotation: The goal of the diabetes rotation at Carle Physician Group is to provide the interns with appropriate knowledge on how to provide medical nutrition therapy to diabetes patients, as well as, with other health conditions – hyperlipidemia, weight loss, hypertension, etc., in an outpatient/counseling setting. Provide them with the experience of being part of a Diabetes Recognized Program and teaching diabetes education classes and gestational diabetes classes.

   b. Duration: 2 weeks

   c. Assignments/activities that the interns will complete:
      i. Complete a list of different diabetes-related terms/definitions
      ii. Observe diabetes/gestational diabetes, pre-diabetes, heart healthy classes
      iii. Complete grocery store tour assignment can be completed before this rotation, but can bring to discuss different foods which would be beneficial to recommend to patients with diabetes and in general.
      iv. Complete 2 different case studies – preferably on a Type 1 and then Type 2 diabetic or gestational diabetic. Present case studies to the patient’s lead dietitian.
      v. Update or create a nutrition education handout for patients
      vi. Perform staff relief for the dietitians after observing them with patients for the first 1.5 weeks of their 4 week rotation. This entails providing medical nutrition therapy to the patients with diabetes, or other health conditions in which the intern is comfortable doing. Complete a chart note on patient using the ADIME method of charting.
i. Be able to discuss different questions in regards to medical nutrition therapy for diabetes, diabetic oral medications/insulin, and other issues like sick days, alcohol, traveling as applies to people with diabetes.

ii. Attend any staff/professional meetings as appropriate and if available when intern is there.

iii. Observe the dietitian in the bariatric clinic and cystic fibrosis clinic as possible.

iv. Meet with Martha Trenkamp, RD or Jennifer Caulfield, RD to discuss the diabetes recognized program the Endocrinology/Nutrition Services Dept. is a part of and become familiar with what this entails.

ev. Observe a diabetic nurse educator at least ½ day with patients.

vi. Observe an Endocrinologist with 2-3 diabetic patients as possible.

4. Champaign-Urbana Public Health and WIC

a. Overall Goal of the Rotation: The goal of the administrative rotation at the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District is to provide the interns with supervised experiences to familiarize themselves with the WIC Value Enhanced Nutrition Assessment (VENA) approach that is used nationally for nutrition assessment and client-centered nutrition services. Interns will also become familiar with personnel, fiscal, clinic, and grant management in a not-for-profit setting.

b. Duration: 1 week

c. Assignments/activities that the interns will complete:
   i. Clinic staffing and cost activity
   ii. Food instrument redemption activity
   iii. Clinic schedule creation activity
   iv. Summer Food Program Revenue/Expense activity
   v. WIC Risk Factor Identification competency activity
   vi. Grant RFP Outline activity
   vii. Farmers’ Market Promotion activity

5. CU-Dialysis Center

a. Overall Goal of the Rotation: The goal of the renal rotation at C-U Dialysis Center is to provide the interns with supervised experiences in the nutritional care of ESRD (End Stage Renal Disease) patients who are on maintenance dialysis.

b. Duration: 1 week

c. Assignments/activities that the interns will complete:
   i. Review the unique role of the renal dietitian
   ii. Participate in the nutritional assessment and plan of care for a dialysis patient
   iii. Provide patient education on a component of the renal diet
   iv. Round with Nephrologist and other medical team members
   v. Create an educational bulletin board in the patient waiting room with appropriate handouts
   vi. Develop a renal friendly recipe

6. Clinical
a. **Overall Goal of the Rotation**: The goal of the clinical rotation is to provide interns with the tools and experiences necessary to function as a competent Registered Dietitian.

b. **Duration**: 8 weeks

c. **Assignments/activities that the interns will complete**:
   i. Mini case study
   ii. Major case study
   iii. Patient care experiences
   iv. Multi-disciplinary team meetings
   v. Diet educations
   vi. Nutrition Care Process
   vii. Critical thinking skill and clinical judgment

7. **Hospital Food Service**
   a. **Overall Goal of the Rotation**: The goal of the hospital food service rotation is to provide interns with the tools and experiences necessary to function as a competent Registered Dietitian.
   b. **Duration**: 4 weeks
   c. **Assignments/activities that the interns will complete**:
      i. Café promotion
      ii. Menu and Cost Analysis
      iii. Procurement activities
      iv. Educational in-service to FNS employees
      v. Participate in daily operations

8. **Eastern Illinois Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics**
   a. **Overall Goal of the Rotation**: The goal of the administrative rotation with the Eastern Illinois Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics is to provide interns with supervised and leadership experiences in a dietetics professional organization. Each intern gains valuable hands-on experience in administration of the society's meetings and the roles of the member of the Leadership Team.
   b. **Duration**: 40h during internship
   c. **Assignments/activities that the interns will complete**:
      i. Attend and participate in all EIAND meetings, schedule permitting.
      ii. Completely coordinate one EIAND meeting, including speaker, snack, location, time
      iii. Write articles for the EIAND newsletter and website.
      iv. Present at EIAND research forum.
      v. Improve the EIAND Facebook page, Tweet using Twitter, etc.
      vi. Attend advocacy day in April in Springfield, IL

9. **Hy-Vee Bloomington**
   a. **Overall Goal of the Rotation**: The goal of this community rotation is to provide interns supervised experience in a retail setting.
b. **Duration:** 2 weeks  
c. **Assignments/activities that the interns will complete:**  
   i. Familiarize themselves with the role of the dietitian in a retail setting  
   ii. Observe and assist in the delivery of community nutrition programming  
   iii. Observe and assist in nutrition counseling sessions

### 10. Illinois Bariatric Center and Carle Bariatric

a. **Overall Goal of the Rotation:** The goal of this clinical rotation is to provide interns supervised experience with both surgical and non-surgical weight loss patients.

b. **Duration:** 1 week each  
c. **Assignments/activities that the interns will complete:**  
   i. Initial consultation visits to determine appropriate course of treatment  
   ii. Pre-op and post-op counseling & education  
   iii. Initial and follow-up visits for medical weight management  
   iv. Post-op support groups  
   v. Developing monthly nutritional newsletters & corresponding recipes  
   vi. Observing surgical procedures (as desired)

### 11. University of Illinois Extension

a. **Overall Goal of the Rotation:** The goal of the community nutrition rotation at University of Illinois Extension is to provide interns with supervised experiences working with University staff who deliver nutrition education to low-income audiences. Interns will be able to observe and assist in program delivery as well as develop nutrition materials appropriate for at-risk audiences. Our nutrition programs partner with several community agencies/programs (WIC, food pantries, Public Health, etc.) so interns will experience and observe how our clientele benefit from these community partnerships.

b. **Duration:** 2 weeks  
c. **Assignments/activities that the interns will complete:**  
   i. Familiarize themselves with Federally Funded Programs that provide food assistance and nutrition education.  
   ii. Develop educational materials appropriate for at-risk audiences.  
   iii. Observe and assist in the delivery of community nutrition programs.  
   iv. Provide feedback to program supervisors on nutrition content, teaching methods and program evaluation observed during their internship.

### 12. University of Illinois Foodservice

a. **Overall Goal of the Rotation:** The goal of the UI Dining Services rotation is to provide an overall introduction into the daily operations of a large multi-faceted university food service operation. The interns will observe and participate in the provision of healthy meals to the residential campus communities and to a variety of catering events. The interns will participate in menu planning, food production, food costs, research specialized products and work with a computerized menu management system. The interns will also provide supervised nutrition
guidance to students and analyze the nutrition intake for this population. In addition the students will conduct supervised sanitation inspections in accordance with the Illinois Food Service Sanitation Code.

b. **Duration:** 2 weeks

c. **Assignments/activities that the interns will complete:**
   i. Develop a Specialty Restaurant menu and determine the food costs
   ii. Observe and discuss the various issues personnel issues, the Seniority program and the Performance Partnership Program (PPP) and complexities of working and supervising a diverse, large work force.
   iii. Conduct a sanitation and safety inspection based on the Illinois Sanitation standards
   iv. Research products for use in special diets, allergies, food intolerances and other issues for this age group
   v. Develop and in-service presentation for staff.
   vi. Participate in “Meet the Dietitian” by going with the Dietitian to the various Dining Halls during meal times and answering questions
   vii. Observe Specialty restaurants
   viii. Answer “Ask the Nutrition Expert” questions
   ix. Using the Menu Management system CBORD, enter a recipe for nutrition analysis

14. **VA Illiana Health Care System, Danville, IL**

   a. **Overall Goal of the Rotation:** The goal of the clinical rotation at VA Illiana is to provide interns with supervised experiences of nursing home populations including Alzheimer’s unit and Palliative care

   b. **Duration:** 1 week

   c. **Assignments/activities that the interns will complete:**
      i. Complete nutritional assessment on NH residents
      ii. Provide education as appropriate to Alzheimer and Palliative Care residents
      iii. Complete case study on assessed residents
      iv. Attend interdiscipliary team meetings on assigned units
         iv. Work with other disciplines as needed such as speech, OT, social work

F. **CODE OF ETHICS FOR THE PROFESSION OF DIETETICS**

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and its Commission on Dietetic Registration have adopted a voluntary, enforceable code of ethics. This code, entitled the Code of Ethics for the Profession of Dietetics, challenges all members, registered dietitians, and dietetic technicians, registered, to uphold ethical principles. The enforcement process for the Code of Ethics establishes a fair system to deal with complaints about members and credentialed practitioners from peers or the public.

The first code of ethics was adopted by the House of Delegates in October 1982; enforcement began in 1985. The code applied to members of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics only. A second code was adopted by the House of Delegates in October 1987 and applied to all members and Commission on Dietetic Registration credentialed practitioners. A third revision of the code was adopted by the House of Delegates on October 18, 1998, and enforced as of June 1, 1999, for all members and Commission on Dietetic Registration credentialed practitioners. The current Code of Ethics was approved on June 2,
2009, by the Academy Board of Directors, House of Delegates, and the Commission on Dietetic Registration.

The Ethics Committee is responsible for reviewing, promoting, and enforcing the Code. The Committee also educates members, credentialed practitioners, students, and the public about the ethical principles contained in the Code. Support of the Code of Ethics by members and credentialed practitioners is vital to guiding the profession’s actions and to strengthening its credibility.

PREAMBLE
The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and its credentialing agency, the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR), believe it is in the best interest of the profession and the public it serves to have a Code of Ethics in place that provides guidance to dietetics practitioners in their professional practice and conduct. Dietetics practitioners have voluntarily adopted this Code of Ethics to reflect the values and ethical principles guiding the dietetics profession and to set forth commitments and obligations of the dietetics practitioner to the public, clients, the profession, colleagues, and other professionals.

The Code of Ethics applies to the following practitioners:

a) In its entirety to members of the Academy who are Registered Dietitians (RDs) or Dietetic Technicians, Registered (DTRs);

b) Except for sections dealing solely with the credential, to all members of the Academy who are not RDs or DTRs; and

c) Except for aspects dealing solely with membership, to all RDs and DTRs who are not members of the Academy.

All individuals to whom the Code applies are referred to as “dietetics practitioners,” and all such individuals who are RDs and DTRs shall be known as “credentialed practitioners.” By accepting membership in the Academy and/or accepting and maintaining CDR credentials, all members of the Academy and credentialed dietetics practitioners agree to abide by the Code.

1. The dietetics practitioner conducts himself/herself with honesty, integrity, and fairness.

2. The dietetics practitioner supports and promotes high standards of professional practice. The dietetics practitioner accepts the obligation to protect clients, the public, and the profession by upholding the Code of Ethics for the Profession of Dietetics and by reporting perceived violations of the Code through the processes established by the Academy and its credentialing agency, CDR.

3. The dietetics practitioner considers the health, safety, and welfare of the public at all times.

4. The dietetics practitioner will report inappropriate behavior or treatment of a client by another dietetics practitioner or other professionals.
   a. The dietetics practitioner complies with all laws and regulations applicable or related to the profession or to the practitioner’s ethical obligations as described in this Code.
   b. The dietetics practitioner must not be convicted of a crime under the laws of the United States, whether a felony or a misdemeanor, an essential element of which is dishonesty.
c. The dietetics practitioner must not be disciplined by a state for conduct that would violate one or more of these principles.

d. The dietetics practitioner must not commit an act of misfeasance or malfeasance that is directly related to the practice of the profession as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction, a licensing board, or an agency of a governmental body.

5. The dietetics practitioner provides professional services with objectivity and with respect for the unique needs and values of individuals.
   a. The dietetics practitioner does not, in professional practice, discriminate against others on the basis of race, ethnicity, creed, religion, disability, gender, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, economic status, or any other legally protected category.
   b. The dietetics practitioner provides services in a manner that is sensitive to cultural differences.
   c. The dietetics practitioner does not engage in sexual harassment in connection with professional practice.

6. The dietetics practitioner does not engage in false or misleading practices or communications.
   a. The dietetics practitioner does not engage in false or deceptive advertising of his or her services.
   b. The dietetics practitioner promotes or endorses specific goods or products only in a manner that is not false and misleading.
   c. The dietetics practitioner provides accurate and truthful information in communicating with the public.

7. The dietetics practitioner withdraws from professional practice when unable to fulfill his or her professional duties and responsibilities to clients and others.
   a. The dietetics practitioner withdraws from practice when he/ she has engaged in abuse of a substance such that it could affect his or her practice.
   b. The dietetics practitioner ceases practice when he or she has been adjudged by a court to be mentally incompetent.
   c. The dietetics practitioner will not engage in practice when he or she has a condition that substantially impairs his or her ability to provide effective service to others.

8. The dietetics practitioner recognizes and exercises professional judgment within the limits of his or her qualifications and collaborates with others, seeks counsel, or makes referrals as appropriate.

9. The dietetics practitioner treats clients and patients with respect and consideration.
   a. The dietetics practitioner provides sufficient information to enable clients and others to make their own informed decisions.
   b. The dietetics practitioner respects the client’s right to make decisions regarding the recommended plan of care, including consent, modification, or refusal.

10. The dietetics practitioner protects confidential information and makes full disclosure about any limitations on his or her ability to guarantee full confidentiality.

11. The dietetics practitioner, in dealing with and providing services to clients and others, complies with the same principles set forth above in “Responsibilities to the Public” (Principles #3-7).

12. The dietetics practitioner practices dietetics based on evidence-based principles and current
13. The dietetics practitioner presents reliable and substantiated information and interprets controversial information without personal bias, recognizing that legitimate differences of opinion exist.

14. The dietetics practitioner assumes a life-long responsibility and accountability for personal competence in practice, consistent with accepted professional standards, continually striving to increase professional knowledge and skills and to apply them in practice.

15. The dietetics practitioner is alert to the occurrence of a real or potential conflict of interest and takes appropriate action whenever a conflict arises.
   a. The dietetics practitioner makes full disclosure of any real or perceived conflict of interest.
   b. When a conflict of interest cannot be resolved by disclosure, the dietetics practitioner takes such other action as may be necessary to eliminate the conflict, including recusal from an office, position, or practice situation.

16. The dietetics practitioner permits the use of his or her name for the purpose of certifying that dietetics services have been rendered only if he or she has provided or supervised the provision of those services.

17. The dietetics practitioner accurately presents professional qualifications and credentials.
   a. The dietetics practitioner, in seeking, maintaining, and using credentials provided by CDR, provides accurate information and complies with all requirements imposed by CDR. The dietetics practitioner uses CDR-awarded credentials (“RD” or “Registered Dietitian”; “DTR” or “Dietetic Technician, Registered”; “CS” or “Certified Specialist”; and “FADA” or “Fellow of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics”) only when the credential is current and authorized by CDR.
   b. The dietetics practitioner does not aid any other person in violating any CDR requirements, or in representing himself or herself as CDR-credentialed when he or she is not.

18. The dietetics practitioner does not invite, accept, or offer gifts, monetary incentives, or other considerations that affect or reasonably give an appearance of affecting his/her professional judgment.

19. The dietetics practitioner demonstrates respect for the values, rights, knowledge, and skills of colleagues and other professionals.
   a. The dietetics practitioner does not engage in dishonest, misleading, or inappropriate business practices that demonstrate a disregard for the rights or interests of others.
   b. The dietetics practitioner provides objective evaluations of performance for employees and coworkers, candidates for employment, students, professional association memberships, awards, or scholarships, making all reasonable efforts to avoid bias in the professional evaluation of others.

The dietetics practitioner supports and promotes high standards of professional practice. The dietetics practitioner accepts the obligation to protect clients, the public, and the profession by upholding the Code of Ethics for the Profession of Dietetics and by reporting alleged violations of the Code through the defined review process of The American Dietetic Association and its credentialing agency, the Commission on Dietetic Registration.

G. Policies and Procedures

1. Statement of Equal Opportunity
The University of Illinois is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution. It is the policy of the University of Illinois not to engage in discrimination or harassment against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, unfavorable discharge from the military, or status as a disabled veteran of the Vietnam era and comply with all federal and state nondiscrimination, equal opportunity, and affirmative action laws, orders, and regulation (Handbook of Policies and Regulations Applying to All Students).

2. Protection of Privacy Information and Access to Personal Files
It is the policy of the University to comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA). Through implementation of this Act, the student’s record will not be released without consent of the student, except for documented conditions (Handbook of Policies and Regulations Applying to All Students). Intern files are accessible only by the intern, in addition to university personnel associated with the program. Interns will be required to sign a form agreeing to allow ACEND access to their official transcripts in the case of a random audit.

3. Access to Student Support Services
Information on various student support services available at the University of Illinois (health services, counseling and testing, financial aid resources, etc.) may be found on the UIUC Student Resources webpage.

4. Professional Ethics and Behavior
Professional, ethical conduct is expected at all times. Professional behavior includes being prompt, alert, and prepared for all class sessions and site experiences. Students are guests of the facility. Preceptors at the facility teach to contribute to and further the profession of dietetics. Your placement is a privilege, not a right. It is expected that all interns know and adhere to The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Code of Ethics at all times. See Section F.

Interns are expected to honor the affiliation contract, agreed-upon hours, scheduled dates and times, and duties, even if they slightly exceed the minimum number of hours allotted to that rotation. Rotation-hours are work hours and do not include the time for meals, breaks, writing time and conferences with the Internship Director.
Completion of the objectives is each intern’s responsibility. Actively seek and meet each rotation’s goals and objectives. In the event that a student in the Dietetic Internship fails to fulfill responsibilities, is absent or late without cause and/or proper notification, lacks initiative, takes on responsibilities with authority, violates confidentiality of patient or client or in any other way behaves in an unprofessional or unethical manner, action shall be taken to dismiss the student from the Dietetic Internship. We may discuss certain issues that are scientifically and ethically controversial. It is expected that each person will allow other’s opinions to be heard in a fair and orderly manner. Opinions should be discussed in an objective manner, without passing judgment on the person as a whole. The same respect should be extended to patients and clients you come into contact with. For example, you should refer to a person who has elevated blood sugar as “a person who has diabetes,” not “a diabetic.”

5. Professional Appearance
Students are expected to follow the dress code policies and procedures at each facility. It is the responsibility of the intern to know the dress code and the responsibility of the facility to enforce the policy.

The following are guidelines that indicate professional attire:

**All interns:** Wear a name badge at all times. Students should be clean, neat and well groomed at all times. Gum chewing is not allowed. Smoke only in designated areas. Hairnets and/or caps must be worn in foodservice areas. Avoid wearing strong perfumes or colognes. No gym shoes, except clean white athletic shoes are acceptable for the foodservice rotation.

**Men:** Conservative front-button shirts with slacks and dress shoes. A clean white lab coat is also necessary.

**Women:** Acceptable: business casual street clothes (e.g., dress, skirt or pants with blouse or sweater) with a clean white lab coat. Not acceptable: sundresses without jackets, very short skirts, t-shirts, shorts, sweatshirts, jeans, bare midriffs. Shoes need to be comfortable for walking, but no clogs, sandals, thongs, or other open-toe shoes. Check with the Dietetic Internship Director and/or Preceptor if you have any questions concerning the dress code for a particular rotation site. In all cases, follow the dress code outlined by the facility you are working in.

6. Confidentiality of Medical Records
Interns will have access to confidential medical records and client interviews. **FAILURE TO DO SO CAN RESULT IN DISMISSAL FROM THE PROGRAM.** Under no circumstance should you disclose any private information or discuss cases in such a way that would identify an individual person, his or her family. **DO NOT DISCUSS PATIENTS IN PUBLIC AREAS SUCH AS CAFETERIAS, ELEVATORS, RESTROOMS, ETC. DISCUSS PATIENTS ONLY IN STAFF-SECURED AREAS WITH APPROPRIATE PERSONNEL.**

Interns will follow the standards as set forth in HIPPA at all times. A medical record or chart is a legal document that can be used as evidence in a Court of Law. Documentation must follow the guidelines
outlined by the facility. If you have any questions, ask the Program Director, Preceptor or the facilities HIPPA representative.

7. Scheduling and Program Calendar
Scheduling is done at the discretion of the internship director and site availability. As possible, intern preferences will be honored.

Students are expected to follow the schedule of the personnel at each respective facility. The hourly schedule will vary between the different internship affiliations, but interns may expect to be at the affiliation sites a minimum of 32-40 hours per week, and involved in internship assignments for another 5-10 hours per week. Also, at times, weekend and evening attendance at various sites may be required for successful completion of all competencies and objectives.

Regular attendance and punctuality at each site and for weekly internship meetings are mandatory. Being tardy during a rotation may result in failing the rotation. All failed rotations must be repeated in order to receive credit for supervised practice hours. Reassignment for failed rotations is at the discretion of the Internship Director. To pass a rotation, you must have received an evaluation of satisfactory or higher on at least 80% of that rotation’s competencies. Interns may fail a rotation due to unethical or unprofessional behavior regardless of successful completion of required competencies. Failure of two rotations during the program constitutes grounds for dismissal from the program. Life crises such as death, bereavement, illness, accidents, and other emergencies may result in the intern having to take an approved leave of absence from the program. Being late for or missing meetings with the Internship Director may result in the intern being given additional assignments, so it is important that interns manage their time as wisely as possible. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT INTERNS CALL THEIR SITES AND TELEPHONE THE INTERNSHIP DIRECTOR WHEN THEY WILL BE LATE OR ABSENT FOR ANY REASON.

Personal leave for other than medical, bereavement, or emergency reasons is must be cleared with the internship director. If you know you are going to need time off for any reason, please let the Internship Director know as soon as possible. All absences related to supervised experiences need to be rescheduled at a time that is mutually acceptable and agreed upon by the site preceptor and the student. Possible solutions may include extension of a scheduled day or working on an unscheduled day. If for any reason absence prevents student’s progress, the University policy for incomplete grades will apply.

8. Site Selection
It is the policy of the UIUC DI to select new rotation sites based on need or the ability of the site to provide a unique niche to the rotation offerings. The program director will meet with the lead preceptor and review relevant competencies and learning activities appropriate to the site’s emphasis area. Scheduling procedures, length of rotation and learning activities will be mutually agreeable to both the PD and primary preceptor. A Standard University of Illinois Externship Agreement must be signed by both parties before interns may be placed in rotation at that site. Site evaluation will occur through intern evaluations and correspondence with the primary preceptor. Interns are not given credit for
orientation, simulation, or case studies. Hours counted towards the internship are only included if the hours are completed during on-site supervised practice.

9. Paperwork and Assignments
Interns are responsible for completion of all paperwork regarding evaluations and written assignments. All work assigned to you by the Internship Director or the Site Preceptors must be completed in the given time frame. Interns are required to submit a COPY of all evaluation material within one week of the completion of each rotation. Originals are to be retained by the intern for inclusion in the professional portfolio.

The Site Preceptors will have been instructed to complete the paperwork in timely fashion so as to provide timely feedback on intern performance in the facilities.

10. Minimum Wage Ruling
The minimum wage ruling is in effect at all times during the internship, meaning that interns are not employees of the sites, and are not entitled to a job at the conclusion of the internship or an individual rotation.

11. Assessment of prior learning
It is the policy of the UIUC DI to grant credit for prior learning to interns who can provide documentation of significant work experiences that comprise the same types of learning experiences as required by the ACEND competency statements in particular emphasis areas. Students must provide written explanation/documentation of work experiences as well as corroborating information from the immediate supervisor of those work experiences. No credit will be extended for clinical hours and only hours which meet or exceed the number of required hours for a particular rotation will be considered. Final determination of assessment of prior learning is at the discretion of the internship director. Interns must apply for prior learning assessment before the beginning of internship rotations.

12. Professional Membership and Activities
Interns must hold membership in the AND (which automatically confers membership in the Illinois Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics) and the Eastern Illinois Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. They will be required to attend EIDA meetings and participate in the association as part of the requirements for the supervised practice.

13. Program-Associated Costs
If an intern is not being supported by an assistantship, scholarship or fellowship that provides that tuition and fee waiver, they will be responsible for tuition and fees. To view the current costs, please visit the Office of the Registrar's tuition and fee rates page.

In addition, interns are required to pay a fee for participation in the DI. The annual fee is $2,000. The fee can be paid in one payment prior to beginning the internship or can be divided into two $1,000
payments paid before the beginning of the fall and spring semesters. Checks should be made to “University of Illinois” and given to the DI Director. After receipt of the payment, students will be cleared to enroll in FSHN 590 and FSHN 591

Other Costs:
• Student membership in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND) ($50.00)
• Student membership in the Eastern Illinois Dietetic Association (EIDA) ($5.00)
• Practice Liability Insurance (~$24.00)
• TB test between June and August (cost varies)

14. Insurance

a. Personal Health: It is required that the intern carry personal health insurance.

b. Automobile: Interns are responsible for maintaining your own driver’s license, mode of transportation, and liability insurance on your motor vehicle. If students use a University-owned vehicle, liability for safety in travel is covered by university policy. If students travel in a private vehicle, the owner/driver is required by Illinois law to carry individual liability.

c. Professional Liability: Interns are required to carry professional liability insurance. Liability insurance is available from Marsh Affinity Group Services. The price is approximately $24 per year. A copy of the application form for Illinois residents can be obtained from the DI Program Director.

15. Immunizations
Interns must provide evidence of being current on all necessary vaccinations and must have a negative tuberculosis test result in the past 3 months.

16. Drug screens and background checks
Interns will be required to submit to drug screens and background checks as required by the individual sites. FAILURE OF A DRUG SCREEN OR BACKGROUND CHECK WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC TERMINATION FROM THE PROGRAM.

17. Verification Statements
It is the policy of the UIUC-DI to issue verification statements to all interns who have successfully completed a minimum of 1200 documented hours of supervised practice, returned any and all borrowed resources and turned in original copies of all rotation documents in a completed portfolio. Verifications will be provided to the intern after evidence of completion of the graduate degree requirements and on-line submission of the thesis or dissertation. Original signed copies of the verification statements remain on file at UIUC indefinitely.
18. Injury or Illness while in a Facility for Supervised Practice
If injury or illness occurs en route to or while working in a supervised practice facility and immediate medical care is required, the student must follow guidelines contained in the student’s health insurance policy. Any expenses incurred for illness/injury during the supervised practice and graduate school hours are the student’s responsibility.

*In case of illness, the student must notify the affiliated facility no later than 30 minutes prior to scheduled duty. The Internship Director should also be notified on the same day.*

19. Medical Leave of Absence
Request for medical leave must be approved by the Internship Director. Documentation of the medical condition will be required. If a medical leave of absence is taken, the intern must agree to re-enter the program at a time when the Internship Director can schedule the intern for remaining rotations. Medical leave for more than one year will result in forfeiture of the internship slot and tuition.

20. Withdrawal and Refund of Tuition and Fees
Tuition payment is due in full prior to the start of the supervised practice rotations. Tuition is non-refundable regardless of the reason for non-completion of the program.

21. Maximum Time Allowed for Completion of Internship
Completion of all program requirements (graduate and DI) must occur within 150% of the time planned for program completion.
   a. For the MS degree, typically 24 months is allotted for coursework and research and 9 months of the interns for a total of 33 months. Therefore, all program requirements must be met within 50 months, which is within the 60 month (5 year) time limit for degree completion established by the University of Illinois Graduate College.

   b. For the PhD degree, typically 48 to 60 months is allotted for coursework and research and 9 months of the interns for a total of 57-69 months. Therefore, all program requirements must be met within 86-103 months. The 150% time for planned program exceeds the 84-month (7 year) time limit for doctoral degree completion established by the University of Illinois Graduate College. Therefore, a petition for a time extension must be submitted to the Graduate College, if a doctoral student were to exceed the 7 year time limit for the doctoral degree.

22. Non-completion of Internship
In all cases, interns who do not complete the internship program successfully within a one year period are subject to dismissal from the program and forfeiture of tuition fees.

23. Discipline and Termination
It is the policy of the UIUC-DI that interns may be disciplined or terminated from the program as outlined below:

*Interns may be disciplined by:*
a. termination from the program (see below)
b. suspension for a time commensurate with the offense
c. suspension for remediation of knowledge or other aspects of performance as determined by the Internship Director

**Interns may be terminated from the program for the following causes:**

a. Repeated poor performance
b. Not following instructions as requested
c. Repeated absenteeism or tardiness
d. Unprofessional or unethical conduct or violating the policies of the internship as set forth in this document or the intern’s signed contract
e. Two rotation failures
f. Non-payment of tuition and fees or Internship Fee
g. Failure to pass drug screen or background check
h. Other reasons as set forth in the signed contract

Grievance for removal from the UIUC DI must be initiated within 90 days of dismissal from the program

**24. Protocols and Grievances**

It is the policy of the UIUC DI that interns have a right to redress their grievances. The Program Director is the primary focus for problem-solving. Problems at a site or with a preceptor should be discussed with the Internship Director as soon as possible. However, it is expected that interns cultivate cordial, professional relationships with the preceptor at the outset of any rotation.

Interns must first discuss the issue with the Site Preceptor, and attempt to resolve before bringing it up with the Internship Director. If an issue is not resolved to an intern’s satisfaction after discussing the matter in a mature fashion with both the Site Preceptor and the Internship Director, the intern may request a formal review by the Chair of the Department of Health and Human Performance.

The following is the complete order in which a grievance may be reviewed:

a. Site Preceptor
b. University of Illinois Dietetic Internship Director
c. FSHN Department Chair
d. Dean of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

ACEND will review complaints that relate to a program’s compliance with the accreditation/approval standards. ACEND is interested in the sustained quality and continued improvement of dietetic education programs but does not intervene on behalf of individuals or act as a court of appeal for individuals in matters of admissions, appointment, promotion or dismissal of faculty, staff, or students/interns. Interns should submit complaints regarding accreditation matters to ACEND only after all other options with the program have been exhausted.
A copy of the accreditation/approval standards and/or the Council’s policy and procedure for submission of complaints may be obtained by contacting the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190, Chicago, IL, 60606-6995 or calling 312/899-0040 extension 5400. A file will be maintained in the Program Director’s office for all grievances and complaints.

25. **Performance monitoring**
Interns must submit weekly summaries of their activities and competencies completed, hours accrued, and evaluations at the end of each rotation. The internship director will review and provide feedback regarding intern progress. In the event that the intern is not progressing at an appropriate level and speed, a conference between the intern, coordinator and preceptor will be initiated. Appropriate remedial steps will be taken including extending the time in the rotation if deemed necessary to achieve the level of competency at an entry-level. The program is committed to retaining interns within the program and additional time will be granted for remediation. If it is deemed the intern will not successfully complete the internship, the intern will be counseled into career paths that are appropriate to their ability. Failure of two rotations may result in termination from the program.

Interns are responsible for completion of all paperwork regarding evaluations, written assignments, and documentation of hours. All work assigned by the Internship Director or the Site Preceptors must be completed in the given time frame. Interns are required to submit all evaluation material within one week of the completion of each rotation. Originals are to be uploaded as part of the professional portfolio.

The Site Preceptors will have been instructed to complete the paperwork in timely fashion so as to provide timely feedback on intern performance in the facilities.
Student Agreement Form

MY SIGNATURE BELOW VERIFIES THAT I HAVE:

1) READ THIS HANDBOOK
2) UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT
3) WILL COMPLY WITH ITS CONTENT.

_________________________  ________________________
DATE                      SIGNATURE