PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Master of Dietetics and Nutrition (MDN) is a clinical Master’s degree that provides the didactic education as well as the supervised practice experiences to meet the competency-based education approach under the Future Education Model to prepare students to practice as an entry-level registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN). The MDN program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

The program is administered as a collaboration of the Department of Human Sciences in the College of Education and Human Ecology with the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences in the College of Medicine. Registered dietitian nutritionists are nutrition experts that are trained to assess nutritional status and provide medical nutrition therapy for fitness, health, wellness and the treatment of diseases. Registered dietitian nutritionists are prepared to manage nutrition therapy, to administer food service systems in hospitals and other health care settings, and to provide nutrition services in community settings.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. GPA of 3.0 or higher

A minimum 3.0 cumulative undergraduate GPA is required in all coursework taken at any accredited institutions. Although a 3.0 GPA is the minimum, the average GPA of admitted students is higher.

2. Prerequisite Courses

All prerequisite courses or their equivalents must be completed with a C or higher prior to beginning professional coursework.

3. Online Application

The application is available online, which must be completed and submitted with all required supplemental documents if applicable. Application FAQ can be found here.

4. Letters of Recommendation

Three professional letters of recommendation, including the Graduate School recommendation form, submitted directly to gpadocs@osu.edu by the recommender.

5. Statement of Intent

A statement of intent is required and should include relevant educational and professional career goals and an indication of future aspirations. The statement is reviewed for quality of writing and for appropriate matching between the applicant’s stated career goals and the purpose and philosophy of the program.

A personal interview will be offered to competitive applicants. Knowledge of the profession and personal career goals will be evaluated at that time. The program will give individual consideration in the admission assessment to courses taken and applicant experiences.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applicants must meet the following minimum requirements and submit requested materials to be considered for admission. The priority application deadline for Autumn 2021 is December 1, 2020 for early admission and consideration for University Fellowships. The final deadline is January 31, 2021 to begin the professional program in Autumn 2021.

PREREQUISITE COURSES

These courses must be completed prior to beginning the professional program. Ohio State course numbers shown below.

- College Algebra or higher
  - MATH 1148

- Intro to Statistics
  - STATS 1350.01 or 1450.01

- Intro to Psychology
  - PSYCH 1100

- Introduction to Nutrition
  - HUMNUTR 2310

- Advanced Nutrition and Metabolism
  - HUMNUTR 4609 or MEDDIET 3100

- Biochemistry/Organic Chemistry
  - BioPharm 3311 and 3312

- Fundamentals of Food (may be completed during program)
  - HUMNUTR 2314

- Food Services Systems (may be completed during program)
  - CSHHSPMG 3720

- Human Anatomy
  - Anatomy 2300.04

- Human Physiology
  - EEOB 2520

- General Chemistry 1 & 2
  - Chemistry 1210 and 1220

- Medical Terminology
  - HTHRHSC 2500

- Biology
  - Biology 1110 or 1113

- Microbiology
  - Microbiology 4000.01

- Lifecycle Nutrition (Optional, Recommended)
  - HUMNUTR 3506

To request an assessment of existing or planned courses for equivalency by the Graduate Program Manager, please send questions and the course syllabi to Dietetics@osumc.edu.
The above plan demonstrates how students complete the MDN in five semesters, including one summer term. The curriculum is developed in a lock-step progression through the content. The professional curriculum is completed in sequence and there is no provision for part-time or evening-only enrollment. The program includes supervised practice experiences in: acute care; long-term care; outpatient settings; wellness facilities; and in community and industry agencies. Many experiences will be tailored to student interest. Completion of the program will require the successful completion of didactic coursework, supervised practice experiences, and the graduate project or case study.

The curriculum includes all didactic knowledge, practice skills, and the graduate degree required to sit for the national registration examination to become an RDN, the credential required to obtain a license to practice dietetics in Ohio. Students who intend to transfer credit to Ohio State may view how credit is accepted on Transferology.com.

Ohio State academic programs are designed to prepare students to sit for applicable licensure or certification in Ohio. If you plan to pursue licensure or certification in a state other than Ohio, please review state educational requirements for licensure and certification and state licensing board contact information at http://go.osu.edu/disclosures for online programs and http://go.osu.edu/onground for on-campus programs.