WMU’s dietetic internship program is accredited through the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Participation in an accredited internship program is a requirement to become a registered dietitian.

100% of 2017-2018 survey respondents who graduated in dietetics reported finding a job in their field or continuing their education within 3 months of graduation.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Dietitians study the relationship between health, wellness, and the science behind food and nutrition. Students apply for special admission to this competitive program during the fall semester of their junior year, after completing all pre-nutrition and dietetics course work. Graduates of the major are eligible to apply for accredited internship programs, a necessary step in fulfilling the requirements to become a Registered Dietitian.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students begin their studies in the pre-professional program. Special admission is required into the professional, upper-level courses (typically after students’ sophomore year).

- Completion of required pre-nutrition and dietetics courses with a grade of “C” or better
- Achievement of a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher
- Letter of application stating reasons for selecting dietetics as a career, including short- and long-term professional goals
- Completion and submission of a formal application and non-refundable application fee to the CEHD Office of Admissions and Advising

WMU at Western Michigan University
PROGRAM STRENGTHS

- Accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

- Students can participate in the Dietetic Community Service Program, which links students to dietitians and food service professionals in Kalamazoo and surrounding areas for mentorship opportunities.

- Students must complete a dietetic internship and pass the national Registration Examination for Dietitians in order to qualify for certification as a Registered Dietitian (RD). Students apply for admission to internships during the last semester of their senior year or after graduation.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

- Hospitals
- K-12 and college/university dining services
- Long-term care facilities
- Food service industry
- Food manufacturing companies
- Government sponsored child nutrition programs
- Armed forces and Veterans Administration
- Community and public health
- Research and Education

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- Student Dietetic Association (SDA)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Michigan Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Southwest Michigan District Dietetic Association

“MY INTERNSHIP ALLOWED ME TO GET SOME GOOD PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES IN MY FUTURE CAREER FIELD AND SHOWED ME DIFFERENT AREAS OF DIETETICS THAT I COULD GO INTO.”

Nathan Reed, nutrition and dietetics alumnus