

NUTRITION AND DIETETICS

Bachelor of Science

wmich.edu/familyconsumer/academics



I was provided current evidence-based education and opportunities to develop my critical thinking skills. Faculty were attentive and dedicated to helping me achieve my professional goals.

■ Daniel Barrett, alumni

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Dietitians study the relationship between health, wellness, and the science behind food and nutrition. Students apply for special admission to this 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 Nutritionist (RDN).

WHY WMU?

Personalized Attention: With a 18-1 student-to-faculty ratio, students receive personalized attention. Faculty support students through the undergraduate program and guide them through the post-graduate dietetic internship application process.

Community Service: Students can participate in the Dietetic Community Service Program, which links students to dietitians and food service professionals in the local area for mentorship opportunities. WMU is the only school in Michigan that formally connects its students with volunteer experiences.

Experiential Focus: Students receive strong support from current professionals in the greater Kalamazoo and SW Michigan regions. Local RDNs provide opportunities for externships, mentor our students, and work closely with our student organizations.



The program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics through 2023.



95% of WMU nutrition and dietetics graduates who applied to postgraduate internships were accepted, which is over 37% higher than the national acceptance rate for 2016-21.

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
College of Education
and Human Development

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students begin their studies in the pre-nutrition and dietetics 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 the online application and non-refundable application fee

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

- Hospitals (in-patient and out-patient clinical dietitian)
- Long-term care facilities
- Food service industry
- Food manufacturing companies
- Government sponsored child nutrition programs
- College and university dining services
- Armed forces and Veterans Administration
- Community and public health agencies
- Research and education

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- Student Dietetic Association (SDA)
- Dietetic Community Service Program (DCSP)

RDN CREDENTIAL

Students must complete a dietetic internship and pass the Registration Examination for Dietitians to qualify for certification as a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). Students apply for admission to internships during the last semester of their senior year or after graduation. Effective January 1, 2024, to be eligible to take the RDN Registration Examination, the candidates must have a master's degree in addition to successful completion of an accredited dietetic internship program.



88% of 2020-21 WMU nutrition and dietetics graduates who responded to the post-graduate report survey were employed or continuing education within three months of graduation.

88%



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