

# Dietetics Careers

## Info Session

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# Terminologies

- ▶ **Academy:** Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- ▶ **ACEND:** Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics
- ▶ **CDR:** Commission on Dietetic Registration
- ▶ **DPD:** Didactic Program in Dietetics
- ▶ **DI:** Dietetic Internship (Supervised Practice)

## What is a DPD Verification Statement?

- ▶ A document signed by the Program Director that establishes that an individual has completed the requirements of nutrition and dietetics education program accredited by ACEND (DPD, CP, DI, GP, etc).
- ▶ Most DI programs (and dietetics graduate programs) prefer and require a DPD Verification Statement

## Education Pathways for RDN

### Option 1

- Didactic Programs in Dietetics (DPD)
- Sacramento State DPD is at the **undergraduate** (Dietetics Concentration) and **postbaccalaureate** level

### Requirements

- ▶ Includes undergraduate or graduate level coursework
- ▶ **DPD Verification Statement** received after program completion

## Education Pathways for RDN

### Option 2

Coordinated Programs in Dietetics (CP) or Combined Program

### Requirements

- ▶ Undergraduate or graduate level coursework + 1000 hours of dietetic internship makes one eligible for RDN exam

<https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/accredited-programs/about-accredited-programs>

## Education Pathways for RDN

### Option 3

Graduate Program (Future Education Model)

### Requirements

- ▶ Graduate level coursework + 1000 hours of dietetic internship makes one eligible for RDN exam
- ▶ DPD Verification Statement not required
- ▶ **Prerequisites**
  - ▶ May include Nutrition and Metabolism; General Bio; 1 year of General Chem with lab; Organic Chem with lab; Biochemistry; Physiology with lab; Microbiology with lab; Psychology; Statistics **OR** DPD Verification Statement
  - ▶ GPA

<https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/accredited-programs/about-accredited-programs>

## RDN Education and Professional Requirements



## What is dietetic internship (DI)?

### ► Requirements for admission:

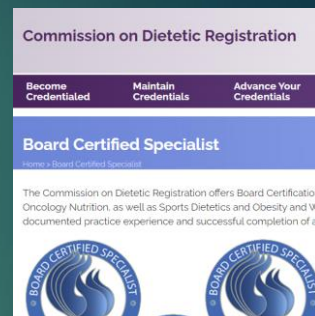
- At least a Bachelor's degree before entry (post Bachelor's). Beginning 2024, Masters degree is required
- Must complete DPD requirements (most require DPD Verification Statement; DPD GPA of at least 3.0, some require Science GPA of 3.0)
- Medical Nutrition Therapy course grades of at least B
- Resume: Experience related to dietetics, Volunteer work, Leadership, Extracurricular
- Strong Personal Statement
- Strong Letters of Recommendations

## What is dietetic internship (DI)?

- ▶ **Involves** at least 1,000 hours of supervised practice in various settings (~40 hours/week typical load)
  - ▶ Clinical, community, food service management, long term care, independent study
- ▶ Can have specific areas of focus or 'Concentrations'

## RDN Board Certifications for Specialized Practice

- ▶ Renal Nutrition
- ▶ Pediatric Nutrition
- ▶ Sports Dietetics
- ▶ Gerontological Nutrition
- ▶ Oncology Nutrition
- ▶ Obesity and Weight Management
- ▶ Pediatric Critical Care Nutrition



<https://www.cdrnet.org/board-certified-specialist>

## Job Outlook and Salary

- Employment of dietitians is projected to grow **8% from 2019-2029**
- **RDN Salary:**
  - \$ 52,000 – \$ 114,000 Range
  - \$ 70,000 (Median Nationally)
  - \$ 83,000 (Median in the Pacific region), up to \$100,000
  - Years of work experience, area of employment, Certifications make difference

US Bureau of Labor Statistics; Academy's Compensation and Benefits Survey 2021

## RDN Career Opportunities

- ▶ Hospitals, clinics or other health-care facilities
- ▶ Sports nutrition and corporate wellness programs
- ▶ Food and nutrition-related business and industries
- ▶ Private practice
- ▶ Community and public health settings
- ▶ Universities and medical centers
- ▶ Research

## Becoming a Nutrition and Dietetic Technician, Registered (NDTR)

- ▶ Completed an ACEND accredited dietetic technician program

**OR**

Complete coursework in ACEND accredited didactic program

- ▶ Pass a national exam for NDTR

## NDTR Salary

- ▶ \$ 35,500 - \$ 77,600 Range
- ▶ \$ 48,000 (Median nationally)
- ▶ Experience, responsibility, and location make a difference

Academy's Compensation and Benefits Survey 2021

## NDTR Career Opportunities

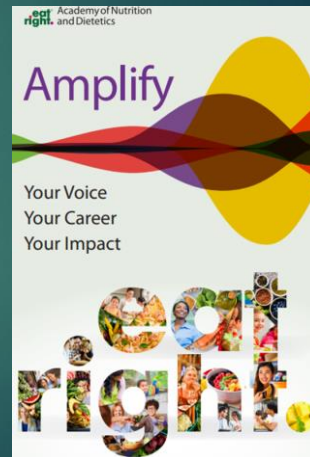
- ▶ Hospitals, clinics or other health-care facilities
- ▶ Foodservice operations in schools, correctional facilities, restaurants
- ▶ Community
- ▶ Health clubs, wellness centers
- ▶ Food companies

## Getting Involved in the Profession



## Join the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (\$60/year) ([eatright.org](http://eatright.org))

- ▶ Career resources
- ▶ Scholarships
- ▶ Networking
- ▶ Publications
- ▶ Discounts



## CA Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

- ▶ If you are an Academy member, then you are automatically a member of your home state
- ▶ Northern Area District (\$15/year)

Thank you

## NUFD Advisors

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- ▶ DI Director, Nadine Braunstein
- ▶ NUFD Program Coordinator, Seunghee Wie
- ▶ MS Nutrition and Food Graduate Program Coordinator, Mical Shilts
- ▶ Kelly Thompson, Grocery Management Certificate Coordinator

