

# **Benedictine University**

## **Dietetic Internship Program**

### **Mission, Goals, and Student Outcomes**

#### **Institutional Mission**

Benedictine University is dedicated to the education of undergraduate and graduate students from diverse ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds. As an academic community committed to liberal arts and professional education distinguished and guided by our Roman Catholic tradition and Benedictine heritage, we prepare our students for a lifetime as active, informed and responsible citizens and leaders in the world community.

#### **Nutrition Department Mission:**

The Benedictine University Nutrition Programs will be recognized at the community, state, national, and international level for its leadership in developing optimal teaching and learning within nutrition programs. The programs will prepare future nutritionists/registered dietitians/nutrition managers to address important food and nutrition issues that impact the quality of life of people.

#### **Dietetic Internship Program Mission**

The Benedictine University Dietetic Internship will provide a high quality program that is recognized as a superior model for the preparation of entry-level dietitians, and display excellence in provision of community and wellness initiatives and interventions.

#### **Program Goals**

1. The dietetic internship will prepare highly qualified entry-level Registered Dietitians.
  - 100% of the dietetic interns will complete the program within 18 months of starting it.
  - At least 80% of first-time takers of the RD exam will pass.
  - 100% of the dietetic interns will take the RD exam within one year of completing the program.
  - 75% of graduates will seek an entry-level position in dietetics within the first 12 months following program completion.
  - 12 months after completing the dietetic internship, employers will rate 90% of the graduates as “outstanding” or “above average” entry-level dietitians.
  
2. The dietetic internship will prepare graduates who demonstrate professionalism through their interpersonal relationships with patients and the health care team, as well as participating in the mentoring of future professionals.
  - The average self-rating of DI graduates for “interacting effectively with other health care disciplines” will be 4 on a 5 point scale.
  - The average manager rating for “developing interpersonal relationships” and “practices professionalism” will be 3 on a 4 point scale.
  - 50% of graduates will serve as mentors for dietetic student education..

3. The dietetic internship will prepare graduates to effectively provide nutrition counseling to individuals/groups.
  - The average score of interns for “providing nutrition counseling/education to individuals/groups” will be 4 on a 5 point scale.
  - The average score by managers in “counsels patients regarding nutrition and diet” will be 3 on a 4 point scale.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively in individual and group settings.
  - 100 % of interns will have the demonstrated ability to provide group presentations
  - 100% of interns will have the demonstrated ability to provide individual nutrition counseling sessions.
  - 100% of interns will have the demonstrated ability to create a lesson plan.
  - 100% of interns will have the demonstrated ability to create nutrition education materials.
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to conduct high quality nutrition assessment and outcome plans for their clients.
  - 100% of interns will demonstrate the ability to provide nutrition assessment to individuals with basic and complex medical conditions
  - 100% of interns will demonstrate the ability to provide nutrition assessments to individuals across the lifespan
  - 100% of interns will demonstrate the ability to provide nutrition assessments to individuals receiving enteral and/or parenteral feedings
  - 100% of interns will demonstrate the ability to create measurable outcomes for their client’s nutrition care plans
3. Students will demonstrate their understanding of various management concepts and functions.
  - 100% of interns demonstrate the ability to calculate math related to foodservice management.
  - 100% of interns demonstrate the ability to supervise sanitation and safety issues
  - 100% of interns demonstrate the ability to apply management skills to the successful operation of an outpatient nutrition clinic.
  - 100% of interns demonstrate their ability to implement marketing strategies
  - 100% of interns possess knowledge of management theory and concepts.
4. 100% of students will demonstrate the ability to apply research principles
  - 100% of interns will participate in activities associated with a community-based research project
  - 100% of interns will demonstrate knowledge and application of research principles and methodologies
  - 100% of interns demonstrate the ability to conduct original research, perform statistical analysis, and communicate results.