

PHILOSOPHY AND MISSION:

The philosophy and mission of the UT Health Science Center – Houston (UTHSC) School of Public Health Dietetic Internship Program is to educate and train graduates to be competent, entry-level registered dietitian nutritionists in the field of nutrition and dietetics through current research and the application of new knowledge and technology for improving the nutritional status of a multicultural society.

PROGRAM GOALS:

The Program Goals and Outcome Measures for the Dietetic Internship (DI) are in concert with the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) 2017 Eligibility Requirements and Accreditation Standards, the UTSPH, and the Michael & Susan Dell Center for Healthy Living Goals. They are as follows:

Goal 1:

Program graduates will become professional entry-level dietitians through a comprehensive educational and experiential program. The DI Program's will meet the required competency statements of entry-level dietetic education programs for the supervised practice component in public health/community, foodservice/management and medical nutrition therapy dietetics practice.

- a. Program Completion: At least 80% of the program students will complete program/degree requirements within 33 months (150%) of the program length).
- b. Graduate Employment: Of graduates who see employment, 80% will be employed in nutrition and Dietetics or related field within 12 months of graduation.
- c. Graduate Performance on Registration Exam:
 1. 80% of program graduates take the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists within 12 months of program completion.
 2. The program's one-year pass rate (graduates who pass the registration within one year of first attempt) on CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists is at least 80%.
- d. Employers Satisfaction: 80% of the Employers returning the Employer of the UTHSC DI Program Survey will state that they would hire another UTHSC DI graduate from this DI Program.
- e. 90% of the graduates will complete their Competencies/Learning Outcomes for Entry-Level Dietitians as evidence by scores of 2-3 on evaluations by preceptors and DI program faculty.

Goal 2:

The UTHSC Program will provide opportunities for graduates to develop professional attitudes and skills, with an understanding of and commitment to ethical practices consistent with the emerging needs of the dietetic professional.

- a. At least 90% of the UHealth graduates (who respond to the survey) will state yes through Student Evaluations that their supervised practice experience helped develop competency as an entry-level dietitian nutritionist.
- b. At least 90% of UHealth graduates (who respond to the survey) will rate learning activities as strongly agree or agree regarding preparing the intern for professional practice as an entry-level dietitian nutritionist.
- c. At least 90% of UHealth students will achieve Excellent – Satisfactory scores for all Supervised Practice Rotation Completion scores on knowledge base, communication skills, timeliness, interpersonal skills, dependability, and attitude as evaluated by Supervising Practice Preceptors.
- d. At least 80% of the employers returning the Employer DI Program Graduate Survey will rate graduates as good-excellent on performs at a high ethical standard in professional practice.