

Sam Houston State University Food Science & Nutrition Program

2024 - 2025 Handbook



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Welcome!

Welcome to the Bachelor of Science program in Food Science and Nutrition (FSN-DP) at Sam Houston State University (SHSU). This handbook provides students in the program with additional guidance and contains important FSN-DP policies.

The FSN-DP is a 120-credit hour baccalaureate science-based program that educates students through traditional coursework and applicable laboratory and experiential learning activities in the areas of food and nutrition, medical nutrition therapy, community nutrition, nutrition education and food service. Topics include food selection, preparation, and quantity production for individuals at all stages of the lifespan, and management of human resources and food systems. Students learn the science and art of the practice of dietetics by applying the natural and behavioral sciences such as physiology, chemistry, and psychology to the practice of medical nutrition therapy. Students will be able to apply these concepts in communities to study the role that diet plays in the treatment and prevention of diseases. Health care delivery methods, professional ethics, and advocacy are also explored. A variety of teaching modalities are utilized to ensure student learning including experiential and interprofessional learning, simulation activities, case studies, team projects and participation in research. Students are guided through the program by experienced faculty with diverse backgrounds and research interests.

Employment Outlook

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Occupational Outlook Handbook* (<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/>), employment of dietitians and nutritionists is projected to grow 7% percent from 2022 to 2032 (<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/dietitians-and-nutritionists.htm>) faster than average for all occupations (2.8%). The role of food in preventing and treating illnesses, such as diabetes, is well known. More dietitians and nutritionists are needed to provide care for patients with various medical conditions and to advise people who want to improve their overall health.

The median income for registered dietitian nutritionist in the United States working full-time in the field is \$70,000.00 per year ([Compensation and Benefits Survey 2021](#)). As with any health care profession, salaries vary by years of experience in the field, region of the country, demand and supply, employment settings and scope of responsibility.

Becoming a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist

The Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) is recognized for expertise in the food and nutrition field. Many jobs in nutrition require the RDN credential to be considered for employment. RDN's work in a wide variety of settings including hospitals or other health-care facilities, sports nutrition and corporate wellness programs, private practice, community and public health settings, universities, and medical centers, and in research areas. Some RDN's hold additional certifications in specialized areas of practice such as pediatric or renal nutrition, sports dietetics, diabetes education, and nutrition support.

Many students in the FSN-DP pursue the RDN credential. The educational and professional requirements to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist include:

1. **Completion of a minimum of a bachelor's degree** at a U.S. regionally accredited university or college and course work accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
2. **Receipt of a verification statement** from such an accredited program.
3. **Completion of an ACEND-accredited supervised practice program** consisting of a minimum of 1000 hours of supervised practice. As of **January 1, 2024**, a graduate degree is the minimum degree requirement for those seeking to become eligible for the registration examination for dietitians.
4. **Passage of a national examination** administered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR). For more information regarding the examination, refer to CDR's website at www.cdrnet.org

Additional information is located at the program webpage located here - [Food Science and Nutrition Program](#)

The FSN-DP assists qualified students with completion of the first two steps - completion of a bachelor's degree and issuance of a verification statement. To be eligible to receive an *ACEND Verification Statement of DPD Program Completion*, students in the FSCN/DPD program at SHSU must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 overall, a FSCN GPA of 2.75 or better (Appendix A), and a "C" or better in all FSCN courses, and 100% achievement of Knowledge requirements for Registered Dietitians/Nutritionist (KRDNs) from ACEND. Upper-level courses must have been completed in the previous 5 years. The DPD Director will issue the *Verification Statement* once the FSCN degree has been conferred on the student's academic transcript (usually one month after the end of the semester). An official copy of the *Verification Statement* is required to begin an ACEND-accredited dietetic internship. Receipt of the *Verification Statement* does not guarantee an ACEND-accredited dietetic internship. Students who do not meet the requirements for a *Verification*

Statement but satisfy graduation requirements will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Nutrition. SHSU does not guarantee dietetic internship placement or selection.

SHSU faculty provide opportunities to achieve KRDNs in learning assignments, which are linked to SHSU courses and visible on course syllabi. Students are encouraged to achieve all KRDNs assigned to each course **during the semester that the course is taken**. If the student fails to achieve the KRDN, he/she must arrange with the course instructor to remediate the KRDN as soon as possible while enrolled in the course. Students must complete upper-level courses within 5 years prior to the FSN-DP completion date.

Successful completion of the FSN-DP also prepares students to take the Registration Examination for Dietetic Technicians. Students must have also earned a verification statement as described above to qualify to take this exam.

As of January 1, 2024, a graduate degree is the minimum degree requirement for those seeking to become eligible for the registration examination for dietitians. For more information on becoming a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) or Dietetic Technician, Registered (DTR), explore <https://www.eatright.org/become-an-rdn-or-ndtr>.

The SHSU Food Science and Nutrition - Dietetics Program (FSN-DP) Accreditation Status

The FSN-DP is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics; 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190; Chicago, IL 60606-6995; 1-800-877-1600 x5400.
www.eatrightpro.org/acend.

Mission and Goals

The mission of the FSN-DP at SHSU is to provide quality scholarship and community service opportunities to all of its students in order to complete the knowledge requirements set by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) so that *each graduate is prepared for supervised practice leading to eligibility for the CDR credentialing exam in order to become a registered dietitian leading to a global marketplace meeting individual and family needs in the food or healthcare industry.*

FSN-DPD Goals and Objectives

The FSN-DP has established two goals with specific measurable objectives that assess the achievements of the program and the students in the program. They are also used to for continuous program improvement planning. Data is collected on an on-going

basis. Program outcome data is available upon request.

Program Goal #1

Graduates will be prepared to perform competitively in a dietetic internship or supervised practice program for further education as an entry level dietitian.

Program Objectives for Goal #1

1. Fifty percent (50%) of program graduates will apply for admission to a supervised practice program prior to or within 12 months of graduation.
2. Of program graduates who apply to a supervised practice program, at least 30 percent will be admitted within 12 months of graduation.
3. The program's one-year pass rate (graduates who pass the registration exam within one year of first attempt) on the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists is at least 80%.
4. Of graduates completing supervised practice programs at least 70% will apply and be accepted to graduate programs within one year of completing the supervised practice program.

Program Goal #2

Graduates will choose to work in nutrition and food related careers upon completion of internship or supervised practice.

Program Objectives for Goal #2

1. Of program graduates 50% will indicate with a satisfactory response or better that the DPD program prepared them for their supervised practice and career as a Registered Dietitian, other healthcare industry, food science, manufacturing, or food distribution employee.
2. At least 80% of program graduates complete the program/degree requirements within 150% of the program length.
3. Fifty percent (50%) of Supervised Practice Program Directors will indicate on surveys satisfactory or better performance in the workplace, performance in the Dietetic Internship or in community service.
4. All DPD program graduates who meet the Verification Statement requirements and who choose not to enter a dietetic internship will obtain a Verification Statement at the completion of the DPD

coursework.

Admission Requirements

A student may enter the FSN-DP as a freshman, transfer student, or as a change of major (internal transfer) at SHSU. The current general admission guidelines for incoming freshman and external transfer students are available at <http://www.shsu.edu/admissions/>. Change of major and transfer students must have a GPA of 2.75 or better to declare Food Science and Nutrition as their major.

Transfer and Review of Previous Coursework

When students transfer to SHSU, they are often met by an advisor at the Sam Center for advisement. They may be directed to the FSN-DP Director with their degree plan for mentoring. Efforts are taken to assure all prior learning has been reviewed and evaluated. The FSN-DP director can determine if any FSN-DP courses or content has been achieved at other universities. It is important that transfer students meet with the program director as soon as possible to make this determination.

Assessment of Prior Learning

All students are required to meet both the University and major degree requirements to graduate regardless of new freshman, transfer, or post baccalaureate status. Students will receive assistance from the Sam Center advisor and the FSN-DP Director to integrate FSN- DP course requirements into their plan of study and after declaring their major. Assessment of prior learning begins with the University's Office of Admissions who initially conducts transcript evaluations for prospective and incoming transfer students.

International Students

International students frequently graduate with a degree in dietetics and return to their native countries after graduation, while others remain to complete their training to become an RDN. If you are interested in obtaining the RDN credential, it is important to start planning early to be able to successfully complete a Dietetic Internship within the time frame allowed by your VISA. You should plan on completing the supervised practice as soon as possible after graduating from SHSU. Sam Houston State's Office of International Programs can assist you in making plans to complete your training with an extended Visa. Please visit their website or go by their office for an appointment. Many students find that their RDN credential is an advantage once they return to their native country to seek employment and is recognized by the International Congress of Dietetics.

Verification Statement Policy

To be eligible to receive an *ACEND Verification Statement of DPD Program Completion*, students in the FSCN/DPD program at SHSU must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 overall, a FSCN GPA of 2.75 or better (Appendix A), and a "C" or better in all FSCN courses, and 100% achievement of Knowledge requirements for Registered Dietitians/Nutritionist (KRDNs) from ACEND located here [ACEND Accreditation Standards](#). Upper-level courses must have been completed in the previous 5 years. The DPD Director will issue the *Verification Statement* once the FSCN degree has been conferred on the student's academic transcript (usually one month after the end of the semester). An official copy of the *Verification Statement* is required to begin an ACEND-accredited dietetic internship. Receipt of the *Verification Statement* does not guarantee an ACEND-accredited dietetic internship. Students who do not meet the requirements for a *Verification Statement* but satisfy graduation requirements will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Nutrition. SHSU does not guarantee dietetic internship placement or selection.

SHSU faculty provide opportunities to achieve KRDNs in learning assignments, which are linked to SHSU courses and visible on course syllabi. Students are encouraged to achieve all KRDNs assigned to each course **during the semester that the course is taken**. If the student fails to achieve the KRDN, he/she must arrange with the course instructor to remediate the KRDN as soon as possible while enrolled in the course. Students must complete upper-level courses within 5 years prior to the FSN-DP completion date.

A list of the courses used to determine the FSN-DP GPA can be found in Appendix A.

Advising

The advising process is designed to help students make important decisions related to their academic progress at the University. At SHSU, each student is advised at the Sam Center. They will assist with meeting the University's general education requirements. Students in the Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Nutrition program will also be mentored by the FSN-DP Director beginning the second semester of their sophomore year.

Below are some guidelines to follow throughout the year.

When to see your advisor:

- To discuss problems that might affect your academic performance
- To select courses for the upcoming semester
- To discuss your academic progress
- To discuss dropping a class
- To discuss volunteer opportunities, work opportunities, scholarship applications, research opportunities and community events that could enhance

- the dietetic application packet
- To discuss career considerations
- To find out more about a particular major and/or minor option
- To identify your progress in making your application for the dietetic internship a viable application

Student Progression

Formal assessment of student learning and regular reports of performance and progress occurs at specified intervals throughout the program, such as within and at the conclusion of a given course, unit, or segment of a planned learning experience.

- Volunteerism and Advocacy will be reviewed during program meetings, SHSDA meetings, in courses, and during advising sessions.
- Study Groups and Peer Teaching Assignments are encouraged on numerous projects in class assignments.
- Students are expected to adhere to all dress codes and policies related to the student Code of Conduct for SHSU. In addition, syllabi may have additional dress codes related to specific courses. The FSN-DP program also has dress code expectations for students when representing the program outside of campus and when guests are visiting the program.

Retention and Remediation Procedures

Students who fail to maintain an overall GPA of a 2.75, fail to maintain a “C” or above in FSCN courses, or fail to achieve KRDNs will meet with the FSN-DP Director to discuss guidance regarding plans for immediate improvement and/or changes in the overall academic plan. This may include planning for other food and nutrition careers or consideration of a change in the degree plan. Considering another degree will be discussed at this time. The path for utilizing the FSN-DP program area for completing the Dietetic Technician Registered credential may be suggested.

FSN Program Surveys (graduation and one-year post-graduation)

A few weeks prior to graduation, all students are required to participate in a program evaluation survey and an exit evaluation. These are vital to assist in program improvement efforts. Survey responses are anonymous and are aggregated with other graduating classes for that academic year. Also, the DPD program contacts students one year after graduation to complete a program survey relative to the student’s experience with DPD preparation for supervised practice, graduate

school, or work in the nutrition field. Lastly, the DPD program surveys Program Directors in supervised practice, graduate school, and employment for their feedback about SHSU student performance and evaluates data for program improvement.

Student Professionalism

Dress Codes

Students are expected to be dressed and groomed in a manner appropriate to the profession at all times. Students should maintain a neat and professional appearance. Remember, when wearing University and FSN-DP program attire, you are representing the university and our program. When in outside facilities, you are a guest and should abide by those facilities policies. Please seek additional guidance from faculty for specific activities. It is important to note, that many guests of the program and many facilities you may visit are potential employers!

Classroom Etiquette

Students should follow the classroom guidelines delineated by course faculty in their syllabi. FSN-DP majors should be reminded that program faculty will be asked to evaluate your academic professionalism for your internship application.

Basic classroom etiquette includes:

1. Punctuality - if you are late for any reason, do not disturb the activities of the class. Quietly enter and sit in the first available spot close to the door or at the back of the classroom.
2. Conversations during class when faculty or fellow students are speaking are unacceptable.
3. Be prepared, read instructions carefully and follow them.
4. Communication with faculty should be professional and appropriate salutations should be used, do not use texting slang or abbreviations.

Academic Guidelines and Policies

Grades Matter

An overall GPA of 3.2 is typically necessary to be considered a viable applicant and selected into a DI program. The acceptance of most DI programs is a GPA of 3.3-3.4 on the average. The DPD course list is divided between the DPD nutrition and professional classes and the natural science courses. It is necessary for DPD students to have at least a B average in the DPD courses to confirm understanding of the

KRDN's and show a mastering of the knowledge and skills to perform in the CRDN's during the DI program. To see a list of the DPD/Science courses required, please view appendix A of the DPD Handbook. If the DPD student fails to maintain a GPA of 2.75 or above or if the student repeatedly fails KRDN assessments, the student will be instructed to meet with the DPD Director and/or advisor to receive additional guidance regarding improvement of performance and review long-term plans, retaking courses, and other specific activities to improve scholastically and enhance the DI application packet. SHSU academic support and student engagement and retention services may be found here:

<https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/support-services/academic-support-services/>

<https://www.shsu.edu/dept/dean-of-students/engagement>

Student Complaints and Grievance Procedures

Student complaints of discrimination and/or retaliation are governed by the SHSU PRE-29 - Non-Discrimination Policy [PRE-29 Non-Discrimination policy](#). SHSU is committed to an educational environment that provides equal opportunity and access to all qualified persons. Academic grievances are governed by Academic Policy Statement 900823 - Academic Grievance Procedures for Students. The Academic Grievance Procedures for Students - Grievance Form can be found here: [Academic Grievance Form](#).

Submission of Written Complaints to ACEND

ACEND reviews complaints that relate to a program's compliance with ACEND accreditation standards. The Commission is interested in sustained quality and continuous improvement of dietetics education programs, but does not intervene on behalf of individuals, or act as a court of appeal for individuals in matters of admission, appointment, promotion, or dismissal of faculty, staff, or students. More information can be found on the ACEND website:

<http://www.eatrightpro.org/acend>.

Disciplinary and Termination Procedure

Access the student code of conduct here. [SHSU Student Code of Conduct](#)

Access the SHSU policy statement for Academic Honest 810213 here. [SHSU Academic Honesty Policy](#)

Distance Instruction and Online Testing

SHSU uses Blackboard for delivery of distance education and the Lockdown

Browser for online testing. The Lockdown Browser secures the exam environment within certain Blackboard courses. When it is used during an online exam, you are unable to go to other URLs, switch applications, take screenshots, copy questions or print. Some faculty require this on their exams. The Lockdown Browser can only be accessed after logging into your Blackboard account if you are using a traditional computer: for more information, please contact the SHSU Online Support Desk.

<https://www.shsu.edu/dept/it@sam/tech-tutorials/katalyst/>

Academic Calendar

Students enrolled in the FSN-DP follow the University academic calendar available at <https://www.shsu.edu/dept/registrar/calendars/academic-calendar.html>

Withdrawal and Refund of Tuition and Fees

Students choosing to withdraw from a course, or the University may be eligible for a refund of tuition and fees. For more information, visit the Office of the Registrar's website at:

<https://www.shsu.edu/dept/registrar/students/registration/drop-resignations-and-refund-policies.html>

Insurance Requirement

Student Health Insurance: Students are strongly encouraged to have medical insurance coverage or subscribe to the medical insurance program offered by Sam Houston State University Health Center while in the program.

Visit the Student Health Center for more information:

<https://www.shsu.edu/dept/student-health-center/student-health-insurance>

Experiential Learning

Experiential learning allows for hands-on learning to enhance the educational process. This is planned with on- and off-campus partners, and it includes food service experiences, community nutrition projects, and working in the Nutrition Assessment and Counseling Center.

Liability for safety in travel to and from assigned areas

Students are responsible for providing his/her own transportation to and from the experiential learning sites and responsible for payment of any parking fees incurred while at the facility.

Injury or illness while in a facility for experiential learning

Students that are injured or become ill while in a facility during a scheduled experience will follow the protocol for that facility. In the event of a major injury or illness, the FSN-DP Director should be notified. Students are responsible for all healthcare costs associated with any experiential learning experience related injury or illness they sustain while enrolled in the program.

SHSU is not liable for injuries or illness that arise from the student spending time at experiential learning sites or from the student traveling to/from the site.

TB Screening, drug testing, and background checks

Students may be assigned to facilities that require additional testing to participate in experiences in their facility. Students may be assigned to facilities that require drug testing. The student is responsible for arranging and paying for any drug testing that the supervised practice site may require.

Many of the supervised practice facilities require background checks. Students will be responsible for the cost of this check unless the facility assumes the cost.

If the site requires additional testing, the FSN-DP Director or the facility will inform the student of the additional requirements. The student is responsible for arranging and paying for any additional testing the site may require.

Students will not be used to replace employees

SHSU students completing experiential learning experiences will not be used to replace employees in any facility. The educational training given to the student during these experiences is for the benefit of the student, who works under the supervision of the preceptor and does not replace regular employees.

Protection of Privacy of Student Information

SHSU protects the security, confidentiality, and integrity of student records and maintains security measures to protect and back up data. SHSU complies with the Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 202, Subchapter B, Rule 202.20 and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) to ensure the security, confidentiality, and integrity of student records. The University's Academic Policy 810806 (Student Educational Records) (<https://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic->

[affairs/documents/aps/students/810806%20Student%20Educational%20Records.pdf](#)), is established to assure FERPA compliance and designates types, locations, and custodians of various student records. This policy also provides guidelines for the printing of hard copy student academic records. The University has established an Information Security Program that provides direction for managing and protecting the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of SHSU information technology resources.

Program Costs

Information regarding the cost of attending SHSU may be found on the Admissions website at <https://www.shsu.edu/admissions/>. Go to Explore SHSU.

Additional costs include:

- Student membership in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics-\$58 per year
- Sam Houston Student Dietetic Association membership -\$25 per year
- Textbook costs vary based on course requirements and can be purchased using Bearkat bundle:

<https://www.shsu.edu/services/auxiliary/bookstore/bearkatbundle.html>

- Dress requirements for laboratories - \$150
- Travel to/from experiential learning sites - (\$700 - \$750 per academic year)
- TB tests, drug screenings, and background checks may be required for experiential learning sites and student workers, but may already be included in university admissions requirements \$55- \$75

- Individual course requirements can be viewed on online syllabus

<https://www.shsu.edu/services/course-and-faculty-information>

- For example, ServSafe Manager online exam access code (\$36)

Financial Aid & Scholarships and Support Services

Many students who attend SHSU receive some financial aid in the form of loans, grants, scholarships, tuition waivers, and employment. In addition, several scholarships are available to FSN-DP students through the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. For application and eligibility requirements, visit <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/financial-aid/index.html>.

SHSU provides a variety of services to assist students:

- Health Center: <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/student-health-center/>
- Counseling Center: <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/counseling/>
- Testing Center: <http://www.shsu.edu/centers/testing-center/>
- Financial Aid: <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/financial-aid/>
- Writing Center:
<https://www.shsu.edu/centers/academic-success-center/support.html>
- Housing: <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/residence-life/>
- Campus Dining: <http://shsu.campusdish.com>
- Newton Gresham Library: <http://library.shsu.edu>
- Recreational Sports: <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/recreational-sports/>

More scholarships are available at the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation
<https://www.eatrightfoundation.org/foundation/apply-for-funding/scholarships>

Social Media Policy

The FSN-DP Program supports the use of social media to reach audiences important to the University such as students, prospective students, faculty, and staff. The University presence or participation on social media sites is guided by university policy located at:

https://www.shsu.edu/intranet/policies/integrated-marketing-communications/documents/IMC_Policy_SocialMedia_approved_Feb2024.pdf

This policy applies to dietetic students who engage in internet conversations for school-related purposes or school-related activities such as interactions in or about experiential learning and course activities. Distribution of sensitive and confidential information is protected under HIPAA and FERPA whether discussed through traditional communication channels or through social media. All social media associated with the SHSU FSN-DP program should meet professional standards.

It is the responsibility of the student to refrain from any of the following:

1. Using language that is libelous, defamatory, or disparaging.
2. Violating another's copyright or other intellectual property rights.
3. Condoning or promoting illegal activity.
4. Using any obscene or other speech that is not protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

5. Offering unauthorized advice or tips including healthcare advice.
6. Using patients' names (any identifier including initials, hospital name, etc.), medical diagnoses, and personal health information in any way which is a direct violation of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA).
7. Disclosing confidential information about SHSU programs, its employees, or its students.
8. Stating personal opinions as being endorsed by the SHSU Programs.

4-year Plan of Study 2024-2025

The course requirements are dependent on the year of acceptance into the DPD according to the corresponding course catalog and plan of study.

<https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/colleges-academic-departments/health-sciences/human-sciences/bs-food-science-nutrition/>

First Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
BIOL 2403	4	BIOL 2404	4
ENGL 1301	3	CHEM 1411	4
HIST 1301	3	ENGL 1302	3
KINE 2115	1	HIST 1302	3
MATH 1314	3	MATH 1370	3
	14		17
Second Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
CHEM 1412	4	BIOL 2420	4
FSCN 1441	4	CHEM 2123	1
POLS 2305	3	CHEM 2323	3
PSYC 1301	3	POLS 2306	3
Component Area IV	3	FSCN 2362	3
	17		14
Third Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
FSCN 3370	3	Component Area V	3
FSCN 3445	4	FSCN 3380	3
FSCN 3330	3	FSCN 3339	3
FSCN 3329	3	FSCN 4371	3
Component Area IX	3	FSCN 3367	3
	16		15
Fourth Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
FSCN 4360	3	COMS 3385	3
FSCN 4373	3	FSCN 4361	3
PSYC 3374	3	FSCN 4370	3
MGMT 3310	3	FSCN 4372	3
		FSCN 4374	3
	12		15
Total Hours: 120			

Application to Dietetic Internship Programs

Students who are pursuing the RDN credential will apply to DICAS for all dietetic internship appointments, except when the program enrolls only students of the sponsoring institution. Information on the application process is found at:

<https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/students-and-advancing-education/application-process-for-students>

<https://dicas.liasoncas.com/applicant-ux>

In the Spring of the junior year, students interested in applying for a dietetic internship will work with the FSN-DP Director to discuss the necessary components of the DICAS application. Please note that dietetic internships may participate in Fall and/or Spring application cycles.

How important are my grades, volunteer work or employment for my Dietetic Internship application?

The overall picture of your record (grades, work experience, volunteer activities, GRE score and recommendation letters) are important. In today's employment environment, anything you can do to enhance your resume is important. Many dietetic intern applicants who have been employed during at least one summer in a dietetic related job (foodservice, wellness camps, healthcare, foods/nutrition research, and international work) and active in all the student organizations for service and honor societies stand out among many applicants.

Opportunities to volunteer for food and nutrition related organizations is encouraged. Opportunities will be announced via email and at meetings as they become available. Students should discuss plans for volunteerism when being advised. To keep track of your activities, a volunteer log can be found in Appendix B.

APPROVED BY:

Michael T. Stephenson, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice President
for Academic Affairs

Date

Appendix A



**Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) Course List
Required Document for those in a DPD Program
To Be Completed by the DPD Program Director and Uploaded by Applicant in DICAS**

DPD Program Institution Name:	Sam Houston State University
DPD Director name and email:	Linda Fergus, PhD RD LDN; lgf011@shsu.edu
Catalog Year and Website for Course Catalog:	2024 - 2025 https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/colleges-academic-departments/health-sciences/human-sciences/bs-food-science-nutrition/#text
Date Completed by DPD Director:	6/25/2024

DPD Professional Courses	DPD Science Courses
FSCN 1441 Food Preparation and Selection	CHEM 1411 General Chemistry I
FSCN 2362 Nutrition	CHEM 1412 General Chemistry II
FSCN 3329 Nutrition through the Lifespan	CHEM 2323 Organic Chemistry I: Lecture
FSCN 3330 Professionalism in Dietetics	CHEM 2123 Organic Chemistry I: Lab
FSCN 3339 Community Nutrition	BIOL 2403 Human Anatomy
FSCN 3445 Quantity Food Pur, Prep, Serv	BIOL 2404 Human Physiology
FSCN 3367 Food Science	BIOL 2420 Intro. Applied Microbiology
FSCN 3370 Nutritional Pathways	
FSCN 3380 Advanced Nutrition	
FSCN 4360 Clinical Dietetics I	
FSCN 4361 Clinical Dietetics II	
FSCN 4370 Adv Food Sys Org & Mgmt.	
FSCN 4371 Nutrition Assessment	
FSCN 4372 Nutrition Counseling and Education	
FSCN 4373 Cultural Food Practices	
FSCN 4374 Research in Nutrition Science	
MATH 1370 Intro to Biomedical Statistics	
PSYC 1301 Introduction to Psychology	
PSYC 3374 Developmental Psychology	
COMS 3385 Communication	
MGMT 3310 Principles of Management	

Appendix B



Food Science and Nutrition Program Volunteer Service Log

Date	Organization	Details of your activities	Required Yes/No	Total # of hours	Site Supervisor Signature

Student: _____

Appendix C

Statement of Student Accountability - 2024 Didactic Program in Dietetics at SHSU

Please sign below to acknowledge that you understand and will abide by the policies and procedures in the Student Handbook for the Didactic Program in Dietetics and the SHSU Undergraduate catalog for Food Science and Nutrition.

I acknowledge that I am responsible for understanding and abiding by the policies and procedures described in the 2024-2025 Student Handbook for the Didactic Program in Dietetics and the Sam Houston State University Undergraduate Catalog for my declared major in Food Science and Nutrition. I agree to comply with these policies and procedures and accept the consequences that could result in the dismissal at any time from the Didactic Program in Dietetics. The handbook is available for download on the program website. This form will be placed in the student file maintained by the FSN-DP Director. Any question regarding the content of the handbook should be discussed with the FSN-DP Director.

All students must access and sign this form using this link. It requires your SHSU account sign-in. We look forward to working with you in the SHSU Food Science and Nutrition - Didactic Program in Dietetics.

[Click to sign here.](#)