The field of dietetics involves an exciting blend of scientific knowledge and people skills. Registered Dietitians (RDs) apply their knowledge of nutrition, foods, management, counseling, and chemical and biological sciences in a wide variety of settings.

Registered Dietitians are found working in hospitals, outpatient clinics, food service operations, community agencies such as WIC, food companies, schools, consulting and more. The job market for RDs is projected to grow faster than average in the coming years, according to the 2012-13 Occupational Outlook Handbook. RDs often secure starting salaries in the $35,000-$55,000 range. Dietetics is a continuously challenging field due to new scientific developments and the public’s need for up-to-date, science-based information.

**ACCREDITATION STATUS**

Both the OSU Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) and the OSU Dietetic Internship Program (postgraduate) are currently granted Continuing Accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606, (312) 899-0040 x 5400.

**AFTER BACHELOR’S DEGREE**

The undergraduate program prepares students to apply for competitive postgraduate dietetic internships (DI). ACEND-accredited Dietetic Internships include 1200 hours of supervised practice in clinical, management, and community settings. A DI may or may not require graduate studies. After completing a DI and passing the national registration exam, RDs may practice as credentialed professionals and are able to provide patient care. Graduates who do not complete the DI may pursue jobs in food and nutrition which do not require the RD credential and/or take the Dietetic Technician, Registered (DTR) Exam.

**RESOURCES**

- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
  - www.eatright.org
- NSCI Didactic Program in Dietetics
  - http://humansciences.okstate.edu/dpd
- Occupational Outlook Handbook

**SPECIALIZED COURSES**

- Nutrition Assessment and Counseling Skills
- Science of Food Preparation
- Professional Careers in Dietetics
- Nutrition Across the Life Span
- Human Nutrition and Metabolism 1 and 2
- Community Nutrition
- Management in Dietetics
- Medical Nutrition Therapy I and II
- Nutrition and Evidence-Based Practice

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

- Hospitals and Clinics
- Food Service Management
- Community Nutrition Programs
- Corporate Health Programs
- Mass Media (TV, magazines, web)
- Cooperative Extension Services
- Sales and Food Companies
- Schools - Child Nutrition
- Private Practice and Consulting
- Diabetes and Obesity Prevention Programs

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Patricia Kain Knaub Center for Student Success
Human Sciences 101
Stillwater, OK 74078-6114
405.744.5053 (phone) / 405.744.7113 (fax)