

---

# Bachelor of Science in Dietetics Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) 2025-2026 Handbook

Kansas State University  
College of Health and Human Sciences  
School of Health Sciences  
1324 Lovers Lane, 147 Justin Hall  
Manhattan, KS 66506

<https://www.hhs.k-state.edu/health-sciences/academics/undergraduate/dietetics/>



## Contents

Welcome.....	3
General Information .....	4
Accreditation (University and Program).....	4
The Profession of Dietetics.....	5
Path to Dietetic Registration .....	5
DPD Verification Statement.....	6
Application to ACEND-accredited Supervised Practice Programs .....	7
Options When Not Accepted into a Supervised Practice Program .....	7
Background Checks, Drug Tests, and Vaccination Status.....	8
State Licensure.....	8
International Students.....	8
KSU Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD).....	9
Program Philosophy .....	9
DPD Mission .....	9
DPD Goals and Objectives .....	9
Student and Program Assessment .....	10
Student Assessment (ACEND Core Knowledge Requirements) .....	10
Program Assessment Related to ACEND Standards .....	11
Student Input on DPD Program Quality .....	12
Program Assessment Related to University Requirements .....	12
BS in Dietetics (120 credit hours, including 71 DPD credit hours) .....	13
DPD Program Details .....	16
Tuition, Fees, Additional Expenses .....	16
A-Z Policies and Procedures .....	18
Student Support Services List .....	23
Admission to Dietetics Major and DPD Program Progression.....	24
DPD Verification Statement Consideration.....	25
Final Steps to Program Completion .....	27
Dietetic Supervised Practice Program Information.....	30
Registration Examination for Dietitians Information .....	36
Appendix.....	37

## Welcome

Welcome to the Kansas State University (KSU) Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD). Our program, with a history of over 100 years, is one of the oldest and most prestigious in the country, providing the required didactic coursework to become a dietitian. In 1996, we became the first ACEND-accredited DPD in the country to offer our program in an online format, extending our well-known campus DPD to those unable to relocate to Kansas. Our online DPD is one of only a few online DPD programs in America. Our strong legacy is evident in the fact that our graduates consistently secure admission to supervised practice programs at a rate between 90-100%, well above the national average.

The DPD at K-State is currently granted full accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Students completing the DPD can apply to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs. This handbook includes information not only about the DPD, but also about the profession of dietetics and application to supervised practice programs. The DPD program requirements outlined in this document are in addition to the student responsibilities outlined in the KSU Undergraduate Catalog.

Students majoring in dietetics at K-State are provided multiple resources supporting student success. They have easy access to the resources on the *Dietetics Information* Canvas site. In addition, students have access to multiple faculty members who are credentialed dietitians. Students are part of our Wildcat Family, and we will do everything possible to help them succeed. Student success is our success.



Heidi Oberrieder, MS, RDN, LD  
Program Director, Didactic Program in Dietetics  
785-532-0169 | [heidio@ksu.edu](mailto:heidio@ksu.edu)

The DPD Director role will change to Sydney Cochran ([ssydney@ksu.edu](mailto:ssydney@ksu.edu)) effective January 1, 2026.

### Academic Advisors

- Campus Dietetics Students
  - Lindsay Larson | (785) 532-1754 | [lswl@ksu.edu](mailto:lswl@ksu.edu)
- Online Dietetic Students
  - Karla Girard | [kgirard@ksu.edu](mailto:kgirard@ksu.edu) (Dietetics Coordinator)
  - Jacob Fleming | [jacobfleming@ksu.edu](mailto:jacobfleming@ksu.edu)

### Director, School of Health Sciences

Dr. Craig Harms | (785) 532-6765 | [caharms@ksu.edu](mailto:caharms@ksu.edu)

### Assistant Director, School of Health Sciences

Dr. Brian Lindshield | (785) 532-5508 | [blindsh@ksu.edu](mailto:blindsh@ksu.edu)

Links within this document were active at the time of publication (Aug 2025).  
Report broken links to the DPD Director ([heidio@ksu.edu](mailto:heidio@ksu.edu))

## General Information

K-State's ACEND-accredited undergraduate Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) provides the academic requirements for eligibility to apply to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs, which leads to eligibility to sit for the Registration Examination for Dietitians offered by the Commission for Dietetic Registration (CDR). With a passing score on the RDN Exam, you will earn the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) credential. DPD graduates earn a BS in Dietetics and a DPD Verification Statement, making them eligible to apply to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs, choosing between a stand-alone program (supervised practice hours only) or one combined with a graduate degree.

### Equal Opportunity

<https://www.k-state.edu/civil-rights/discrim-harass/equal/>

### Accreditation (University and Program)

The Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) is housed in the School of Health Sciences (SHS) within the College of Health and Human Sciences (HHS) on the Manhattan campus of Kansas State University (KSU).

[Kansas State University has been continuously accredited by the Higher Learning Commission \(HLC\)](#) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools since 1916. K-State participates through the Open Pathway reaffirmation of accreditation process and underwent a comprehensive self-study and site visit in 2021-2022 with HLC reaffirming K-State's accreditation status. The next reaffirmation will take place in 2031-2032.

K-State's Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. ACEND establishes standards for dietitian education programs, requiring programs to pass reaccreditation every seven years. The DPD underwent a successful full review (self-study and site visit) in 2019 and is fully accredited through 2027. Current program accreditation is based on the [2022 Standards](#). K-State's DPD will undergo reaccreditation during the 2026-2027 Academic Year with results released in Fall 2027.

ACEND  
120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190  
Chicago, IL 60606-6995  
312/899-0040 ext 5400  
<https://www.eatrightPRO.org/ACEND>

## The Profession of Dietetics

Public interest in nutrition and wellness is growing rapidly. Consumers are eager for guidance on applying basic nutrition principles to lifestyle management. The Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) is uniquely qualified to support consumers in distinguishing between nutrition fact and fallacy. The medical profession recognizes RDNs as nutrition experts.

As nutrition experts, RDNs offer expertise to individuals and groups desiring to maintain, improve, or restore health. These services are provided in various settings, from acute care hospitals to military food service operations to unique settings such as journalism, sports medicine, consulting, information technology specialties, sales, and research/development. The broad range of opportunities for practice within the profession provides RDNs with maximum flexibility as they move through their professional careers.

Kansas State has produced outstanding dietetics professionals for over 100 years and is one of the country's oldest and most prestigious programs. In 1996, K-State was the first ACEND-accredited DPD to begin offering our program online in addition to the campus format. We remain one of the few online ACEND-accredited undergraduate programs granting verification statements. Our success is evident in an acceptance rate into supervised practice consistently between 90-100%, well above the national average.

### Path to Dietetic Registration

The Commission on Dietetics Registration (CDR) administers the national registration examination for earning the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) credential and monitors the continuing education process completed by dietitians for credential maintenance. There are three steps to earning the RDN credential.

1. Effective 1/1/2024, students must complete a minimum of a master's degree and the ACEND Core Knowledge Requirements (KRDNs). K-State's Bachelor of Science in Dietetics includes coursework that meets the ACEND Core Knowledge Requirements. Graduates earn both a bachelor's degree and a DPD Verification Statement. To continue on the pathway to earning the RDN credential, graduates apply to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs.
2. Students must complete an ACEND-accredited supervised practice program to earn eligibility to sit for the RDN Exam. Some programs offer supervised practice without a degree for students with a master's degree, while other programs provide a combined supervised practice + master's degree. The supervised practice program must be ACEND-accredited, including the ACEND Core Competency Requirements (CRDNs). All supervised practice programs offer hands-on experience in clinical nutrition, community nutrition, and nutrition services management. Graduates of the K-State DPD apply to supervised practice programs during their final year of coursework (or after graduation) through a competitive application process.
3. Students must pass the National Registration Examination for Dietitians offered by the Commission on Dietetics Registration (CDR). Passing the RDN Exam allows the individual to use the credentials RD or RDN after their name, indicating that they are credentialed as a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist. We recommend that DPD students keep essential textbooks from their DPD courses and supervised practice programs for use when studying for the RDN Exam. Once credentialed, RDNs must complete regular continuing education to maintain their RDN credential. Many states recognize the RDN credential for eligibility for dietetic licensure within that state. State licensure requirements vary by state.

## DPD Verification Statement

Verification statements are issued upon completing the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD). The DPD verification statement verifies that you have completed an ACEND-accredited DPD and are eligible to apply to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs. After completing the supervised practice program, you will receive a second verification statement required for eligibility to sit for the Registration Examination for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists offered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR).

The DPD program director will issue your DPD Verification Statement once you complete all program requirements, as confirmed through the Office of the Registrar. Program requirements for earning a DPD Verification Statement at K-State include the following:

- Admission to K-State as an undergraduate student majoring in dietetics
- Approved application for DPD Verification Statement Consideration midway through curriculum
- Completion of the BS in Dietetics (120 credit hours, 71 of which are DPD courses)
  - Grade of “B or better” in DPD professional courses (or transfer equivalent), 46 credit hours
  - Grade of “C or better” in DPD major support courses (or transfer equivalent), 28 credit hours
  - Earn 70% or higher on KRDN learning assessments within DPD professional courses
  - Verification of identity with a government-issued photo ID matching KSU student profile

Upon completing the requirements, you will receive an electronic copy of a signed DPD Verification Statement with an authenticated electronic signature. The document will be “locked” to prevent editing after signing. Verification statements will be emailed within 4-6 weeks of program completion.

If you apply to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs during your last year of coursework, the DPD Director will complete a *Declaration of Intent to Complete Degree*, which is needed during the supervised practice program application process since verification statements will not be issued until 4-6 weeks after graduation.

### **Signed Verification Statements must be kept in a secure location as they are essential to:**

- include in your permanent file
- apply to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs
- apply for state licensure/certification
- apply for CDR specialty practice certifications

Once you receive your electronically signed verification statement, you must keep it safe for easy access. An official digital copy of your DPD Verification Statement will be kept on file permanently by the DPD director and/or dietetics coordinator at Kansas State University.

## Application to ACEND-accredited Supervised Practice Programs

As a DPD student, you will apply to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs during your final year of coursework. Several supervised practice program types exist, but most DPD students apply to a Dietetic Internship (DI) or an MS-DI (DI combined with a master's).

- **Dietetic Internships (DI):** This program offers the required supervised practice hours.
- **Dietetic Internship with a Master's (MS-DI):** This program offers a master's degree in addition to supervised practice hours.
- **Dietetics Graduate Program (GP):** This program is accredited under a different set of ACEND standards than the DI, MS-DI, and MS-CP. The GP standards are being piloted as the potential new format for dietetics education. GP programs include a master's degree (or doctorate) and the required supervised practice. GPs that require a DPD Verification Statement are a great option for DPD graduates. GPs that do not require a DPD Verification Statement are an option; however, the DPD coursework may not align perfectly with the list of prerequisites required by the GP. Thus, GPs not requiring a DPD Verification Statement are usually not a good option for DPD graduates unless the program is within driving distance.
- **Master's Coordinated Program (MS-CP):** Like GPs, this program offers a master's degree in addition to the supervised practice hours. The transfer of DPD dietetics courses may not align perfectly with the required MS-CP courses; thus, MS-CPs are usually not a good option for DPD graduates unless the program is within driving distance.
- **Individualized Supervised Practice Program (ISPP):** This program offers supervised practice hours to individuals earning or holding a PhD without the need to earn a DPD Verification Statement.

The DPD Director will assist you with your application to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs; however, it is your responsibility to initiate and complete the process. Various resources are available on the *Dietetic Information* Canvas site, which is regularly updated. You can apply to multiple programs and receive multiple offers.

You may delay your application beyond your last semester of DPD coursework; however, it is best to keep the delay as short as possible. If the delay is extended to multiple years, be aware that some supervised practice programs may require you to retake select courses. Typically, programs prefer that your clinical nutrition courses are “recent”, usually defined as taken within last 3-5 years.

It should be noted that successful completion of the DPD and receipt of a DPD Verification Statement does not guarantee acceptance into an ACEND-accredited supervised practice program. It is in your best interest to begin researching supervised practice programs early and take steps to be a strong candidate. Details about the application process can be found in this handbook. In addition, resources are posted on the *Dietetic Information* Canvas site. A complete listing of ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs may be found in the [ACEND Program Directory](#).

## Options When Not Accepted into a Supervised Practice Program

K-State has an acceptance rate into supervised practice programs between 90-100%, well above the national average. If not accepted on your first application, you may try again. There is no limit on how many times you can apply. Eligibility to apply does not expire. If you are not accepted into a program,



the DPD Director can assist with decision-making. DPD graduates will retain eligibility for application support from the DPD Director beyond graduation from K-State.

### *Pathway III – Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered (NDTR)*

Earning a DPD Verification Statement provides immediate eligibility to sit for the National Registration Examination for Dietetic Technicians without completing supervised practice hours. Upon passing the exam you will earn the dietetic credential, Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered (NDTR). This credential is one of the strategies for strengthening your application to supervised practice programs in subsequent cycles since it allows you to secure employment as a dietetics professional. [This CDR webpage has details about the NDTR Exam](#). The DPD Director will assist you in proving eligibility to take the NDTR Exam. [An interactive, online study guide is available from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Store \(\\$164.99\)](#).

### Background Checks, Drug Tests, and Vaccination Status

A few things may impact an individual's ability to complete ACEND-accredited supervised practice hours. Most supervised practice programs require a background check, drug test, and proof of up-to-date vaccinations since students/interns will work in a healthcare environment. Policies related to these things are program-specific.

### State Licensure

In most states, credentialed RDNs must obtain a license to practice within that state. Individuals completing the K-State DPD who go on to earn the RDN credential can apply for a license to practice. As of August 2025, Arizona is the only state that does not require licensing for dietitians. Credentialed RDNs should research licensing requirements in their state of residence. With the advent of telehealth, dietitians must be licensed in the state where the client resides. In 2025, the Dietitian Licensure Compact became effective. As of August 2025, 14 states have joined the compact, including Kansas. The licensure compact offers a cost-effective, uniform solution for licensed registered dietitian nutritionists seeking to practice across state lines.

- <https://www.eatrightpro.org/advocacy/licensure/licensure-map>
- <https://www.cdrnet.org/LicensureMap>
- <https://www.eatrightpro.org/advocacy/licensure/dietitian-licensure-compact>

### International Students

International students completing the online DPD must apply for a visa to come to the United States to complete a supervised practice program. [This ACEND webpage has more information for international students](#).



## KSU Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD)

### Program Philosophy

K-State's DPD is based on the belief that dietitians are uniquely qualified to provide evidence-based nutrition services, as the training includes not only clinical nutrition but also health promotion, food system concepts, and management skills.

We strive to prepare students for employment in today's fast-paced, information-hungry society. We emphasize the importance of quality and service, as the needs and expectations of clients must be the central focus of dietetics practice. Dietitians must engage in ongoing self-evaluation, embark on lifelong learning, and adhere to a personal and professional code of ethics.

Our mission, as seen below, aligns with the missions of [Kansas State University](#), the [College of Health and Human Sciences](#), and the [School of Health Sciences](#).

### DPD Mission

The Kansas State University Didactic Program in Dietetics prepares graduates for entry into graduate programs, leading to eligibility for the CDR credentialing exam to become registered dietitian nutritionists (RDN) who can deliver food and nutrition services to the people of Kansas and beyond.

### DPD Goals and Objectives

**Goal 1:** Graduates will be prepared for successful application to accredited supervised practice programs, graduate school, or a career in food/nutrition.

- **Objective 1:** At least 70% of program graduates apply for admission to a supervised practice program prior to or within 12 months of graduation. [ACEND required wording, program identified target]
- **Objective 2:** Of program graduates who apply to a supervised practice program, at least 70% are admitted within 12 months of graduation. [ACEND required wording, program identified target]
- **Objective 3:** The acceptance rate of graduates applying to supervised practice programs is at least 85% in each annual application cycle. [program identified wording and target]

**Goal 2:** Graduates will be prepared with the knowledge and skills necessary for completion of an accredited supervised practice program and/or a career delivering food and nutrition services to the people of Kansas and beyond.

- **Objective 4:** At least 80% of students complete program requirements within 3 years for the campus track or 4.5 years for the online track (150% of program length). [ACEND required wording and target; program length begins semester after admission to DPD and ends at graduation]
- **Objective 5:** 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%. [ACEND required wording and target]
- **Objective 6:** At least 95% of program graduates completing supervised practice will rate satisfaction with the program at 3.0 or higher on a five-point scale. [program identified wording and target]
- **Objective 7:** At least 95% of supervised practice program directors will rate preparedness of K-State DPD graduates at 3.0 or above on a five-point scale. [ACEND required, program identified wording and target]

## Student and Program Assessment

### Student Assessment (ACEND Core Knowledge Requirements)

To earn a DPD Verification Statement, you must earn a “B or better” in required DPD Professional courses and a “C or better” in required DPD Major Support courses. In addition, you are expected to achieve proficiency in the following ACEND Core Knowledge requirements (KRDNs).

KRDN proficiency is defined as earning 70% or higher on a learning activity designed to measure student achievement of a particular KRDN. Learning activity formats vary - assignment, quiz, or verbal activity – and are spread over multiple DPD professional courses. Courses containing a KRDN learning activity will include a statement in the syllabus alerting you which KRDNs will be measured in the course. In addition, you can access a *KRDN by Course* document posted on the *Dietetics Information* Canvas site.

Individual instructors involved with measuring student achievement of KRDN statements monitor individual students and remediate when needed to ensure DPD students are proficient on each KRDN learning activity. Instructors provide the DPD Director with data on individual student’s KRDN proficiency.

*Domain 1 - Scientific and Evidence Base of Practice: Integration of scientific information and translation of research into practice.*

- KRDN 1.1 Demonstrate how to locate, interpret, evaluate and use professional literature to make ethical, evidence-based practice decisions.
- KRDN 1.2 Select and use appropriate current information technologies to locate and apply evidence-based guidelines and protocols.
- KRDN 1.3 Apply critical thinking skills.

*Domain 2 - Professional Practice Expectations: Beliefs, values, attitudes and behaviors for the nutrition and dietetics practitioner level of practice.*

- KRDN 2.1 Demonstrate effective and professional oral and written communication and documentation.
- KRDN 2.2 Describe the governance of nutrition and dietetics practice, such as the Scope of Practice for the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist and the Code of Ethics for the Profession of Nutrition and Dietetics.
- KRDN 2.3 Assess the impact of a public policy position on the nutrition and dietetic profession.
- KRDN 2.4 Discuss the impact of health care policy and different health care delivery systems on food and nutrition services.
- KRDN 2.5 Identify and describe the work of interprofessional teams and the roles of others with whom the registered dietitian nutritionist collaborates.
- KRDN 2.6 Demonstrate cultural humility, awareness of personal biases and an understanding of cultural differences as they contribute to diversity, equity and inclusion.
- KRDN 2.7 Describe contributing factors to health inequity in nutrition and dietetics including structural bias, social inequities, health disparities and discrimination.
- KRDN 2.8 Participate in a nutrition and dietetics professional organization and explain the significant role of the organization.
- KRDN 2.9 Defend a position on issues impacting the nutrition and dietetics profession.

*Domain 3 - Clinical and Client Services: Development and delivery of information, products and services to individuals, groups and populations.*

- KRDN 3.1 Use the Nutrition Care Process and clinical workflow elements to assess nutritional parameters, diagnose nutrition-related problems, determine appropriate nutrition interventions and develop plans to monitor the effectiveness of these interventions.
- KRDN 3.2 Develop an educational session or program/educational strategy for a target population.
- KRDN 3.3 Demonstrate counseling and education methods to facilitate behavior change and enhance wellness for diverse individuals and groups.
- KRDN 3.4 Practice routine health screening assessments, including measuring blood pressure and conducting waived point-of-care laboratory testing (such as blood glucose or cholesterol).
- KRDN 3.5 Describe concepts of nutritional genomics and how they relate to medical nutrition therapy, health and disease.
- KRDN 3.6 Develop nutritionally sound meals, menus and meal plans that promote health and disease management and meet client's/patient's needs.

*Domain 4 - Practice Management and Use of Resources: Strategic application of principles of management and systems in the provision of services to individuals and organizations.*

- KRDN 4.1 Apply management theories to the development of programs or services.
- KRDN 4.2 Evaluate a budget/financial management plan and interpret financial data.
- KRDN 4.3 Demonstrate an understanding of the regulation system related to billing and coding, what services are reimbursable by third-party payers, and how reimbursement may be obtained.
- KRDN 4.4 Apply the principles of human resource management to different situations.
- KRDN 4.5 Apply safety and sanitation principles related to food, personnel and consumers.
- KRDN 4.6 Explain the processes involved in delivering quality food and nutrition services.
- KRDN 4.7 Evaluate data to be used in decision-making for continuous quality improvement.

*Domain 5 - Leadership and Career Management: Skills, strengths, knowledge and experience relevant to leadership potential and professional growth for the nutrition and dietetics practitioner.*

- KRDN 5.1 Perform self-assessment that includes awareness in terms of learning and leadership styles and cultural orientation and develop goals for self-improvement.
- KRDN 5.2 Identify and articulate one's skills, strengths, knowledge and experiences relevant to the position desired and career goals.
- KRDN 5.3 Practice how to self-advocate for opportunities in a variety of settings (such as asking for needed support, presenting an elevator pitch).
- KRDN 5.4 Practice resolving differences or dealing with conflict.
- KRDN 5.5 Promote team involvement and recognize the skills of each member.
- KRDN 5.6 Demonstrate an understanding of the importance and expectations of a professional in mentoring and precepting others.

### **Program Assessment Related to ACEND Standards**

As an ACEND-accredited program, the achievement of program goals and objectives is continually monitored according to a Program Evaluation Plan (PEP). Program outcomes data are available upon request from the DPD Director, Heidi Oberrieder [heidio@ksu.edu](mailto:heidio@ksu.edu)

## Student Input on DPD Program Quality

There are several ways you can share input that supports continuous quality improvement in K-State's DPD.

- **Course Evaluations (TEVAL):** You will complete an **anonymous** survey after every KSU course. The questions are about the course design and delivery, and the instructor's performance.
- **Senior Exit Survey:** You will receive an **anonymous** survey during your last semester of coursework. The survey allows you to provide input on specific courses, faculty/staff, program communications, and K-State. You will have the opportunity to provide additional comments within the survey.
- **One-year Post-Graduation Survey:** Twelve months after graduation, you will receive a survey asking for an update on your progress toward earning the RDN credential and/or employment in a nutrition-related position. This survey is **not anonymous** and is conducted to gather data required for compliance with ACEND Standards.

## Program Assessment Related to University Requirements

The DPD participates in the annual university-wide student learning assessment under the guidance of the College of Health and Human Sciences Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Relevant KRDN learning activities are used for submission of an annual report of student learning to the University Office of Assessment as part of the university-wide assessment process in support of the University's accreditation.

## BS in Dietetics (120 credit hours, including 71 DPD credit hours)

The DPD is a collection of courses within the BS in Dietetics that meet ACEND accreditation requirements for a Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD). Completing the degree requirements earns a BS in Dietetics. For eligibility to earn a DPD Verification Statement, you will apply midway through the curriculum by applying for Didactic Program Verification Statement Consideration. Details on the application process are available in this handbook.

### BS in Dietetics

The BS in Dietetics curriculum can be viewed in the Appendix section of this handbook or [via this link](#). For course descriptions and course offering frequency, [view the current University Catalog](#). Prerequisites listed in the catalog must be met for eligibility to enroll in a course. Concurrent enrollment in a course and its prerequisites is not allowed unless expressly indicated or with instructor approval. **You should be aware that some courses are offered only once a year.** Because of this, it is important for you to work with your academic advisor to design a long-range plan allowing you to graduate on time.

With careful planning, a full-time campus student can complete the degree requirements within four years. For online students, the time varies based on the number of transfer courses accepted and the number of courses taken each semester. For both campus and online students, time to graduation may be extended if you take extra electives, change majors, participate in study abroad opportunities, or retake a class to earn a better grade. Of the 120 credit hours in the BS in Dietetics, **71 credit hours are considered DPD courses**. The program length for the DPD portion of the degree is typically 2 years for full-time campus students (junior & senior year) and 3 years for part-time online students.

### Curriculum Plan Year

Degree programs experience changes over time. When you are admitted to K-State and choose dietetics as your major (or change to the dietetics major while enrolled at K-State), you are assigned the curriculum plan in place at that time. You may continue with that plan even if the curriculum changes during your time at K-State; however, you can opt to change to an updated curriculum. The credits you have taken up to that point will be re-evaluated against the revised curriculum. You may need to take additional courses or find that a course you previously took became an elective instead of meeting a requirement. You can talk with your advisor about which curriculum plan year you are on.

If you elect to interrupt your academic program, you may need to meet the program/degree requirements in place when you restart if there was a curriculum change during your absence. Decisions about this situation are made on a case-by-case basis.

**You are required to meet with your academic advisor each semester before enrollment. If you are an online dietetic student, you can communicate with your academic advisor by Zoom and email.**

## Nutrition Majors

In addition to the BS in Dietetics, K-State offers degree options in Nutrition and Health (NHLTH); Nutritional Sciences (NUTSC); and Sports Nutrition (SN). These three bachelor's degrees require many of the same nutrition courses; however, none of them meet the academic requirements of ACEND. Thus, if you want to work towards earning the RDN credential, you will need to dual major in your degree of choice plus the BS in Dietetics. At this time, only two majors are offered in the online format: Sports Nutrition, and Nutrition and Health.

Advisors in the College of Health and Human Sciences will assist you in finding the degree option best aligned with your career goals. Nutritional Sciences is designed as a pre-medicine degree, preparing students to enter a medical school program after graduation. The Nutrition and Health degree and the Sports Nutrition degree prepare students to apply to health programs, such as nursing, or for various careers, including nutrition research, education, health promotion, food/nutrition advocacy, and public health. **If you want to do medical nutrition therapy, to work in a clinical setting, or to receive health insurance reimbursement as a dietitian, you must choose the BS in Dietetics and complete the steps to become an RDN, as the credential is required for those types of positions.**

Although all four of K-State's nutrition degrees focus on nutrition, the required academic rigor varies. The BS in Dietetics requires a "B or better" in DPD professional courses and a "C or better" in DPD Major Support Courses. The other three nutrition degrees require a "C or better" in the professional and major support courses.

You may choose to dual (or triple) major, such as majoring in both Dietetics and Sports Nutrition. Although this may seem like a good idea, having two majors will not increase your chances of being accepted into a dietetic supervised practice program. Also, being a dual (or triple) major may extend the time it takes to graduate. If you choose to dual (or triple) major, work with your academic advisor to complete the necessary paperwork. You may be assigned a separate advisor for each of your majors.

## Advanced Standing Credit

The DPD abides by the University policy on academic credit for prior learning and advanced credit through scores from Advanced Placement (AP), College Level Examination Program (CLEP), and DANTES Subject Standardized Test (DSST). [Additional information is available on this K-State webpage.](#)

## Transferring Courses from Other Schools to K-State

The four DPD professional courses listed below must be taken through K-State, even if equivalent courses have been taken elsewhere.

- FNDH 400 Human Nutrition (3 credits)
- FNDH 631 Clinical Nutrition 1 (3 credits)
- FNDH 632 Clinical Nutrition 2 (3 credits)
- FNDH 645 Capstone in Dietetics (1 credit)

The most efficient way to determine if your previous courses will transfer is to use the [Transfer Equivalency Tool](#) to check if earlier courses have already been evaluated for equivalency. If a course is not listed in the tool, you can submit the course syllabus for that course for review even before you are

admitted to K-State. **The syllabus must be from the semester and year that the course was taken or will be taken.**

The K-State instructor of record will evaluate the course for equivalency to a DPD professional course requirement through a process initiated by the Dean's Office. Upon admission, consult with your academic advisor as soon as possible to facilitate any additional transfer course review.

In addition to being deemed equivalent, transfer work must meet the following criteria to be accepted to fulfill a DPD requirement. Transfer courses not meeting these criteria will not be accepted.

- Grade of "B or better" on DPD Professional course equivalents
- Grade of "C or better" on DPD Major Support Courses
- Courses that must include a lab
  - Major Support Courses
    - BIOL 198 Principles of Biology
    - KIN 360 Anatomy & Physiology (or BIOL 441 + BIOL 442 or KIN 361 + KIN 362)
    - BIOL 255 General Microbiology
    - CHM 210 Chemistry 1
  - Professional Courses
    - FNDH 313 Science of Food
    - FNDH 442 Management in Dietetics 1

If you are considering taking a required course from another school, it is best to first confirm that the course will be deemed equivalent to a DPD course by checking the [Transfer Equivalency Tool](#) and consulting your advisor. You will be required to have an official transcript showing the course grade sent directly to the K-State Office of Admissions.

**Limit on transfer credits for students seeking a bachelor's degree at K-State:**

- **up to 75 credits from an accredited 2-year institution**
- **at least 30 credits must be completed through K-State**
- **at least 15 of the last 30 upper-level credits earned must be earned at K-State**

Source: <https://www.k-state.edu/provost/policies-resources/university-handbook/fhsecf.html#F121>



## DPD Program Details

### Tuition, Fees, Additional Expenses

#### ***Tuition and Campus Fees***

The cost of tuition and fees depends on your residency status and program format (campus vs online). A campus student will pay the same tuition whether they take the course online or in person. Up-to-date information about tuition and fees is found on the K-State [Office of Student Financial Assistance](#).

#### ***Cost of Books and Materials***

Textbooks for your classes are available from the [K-State Campus Store](#) or from a variety of online retailers. It isn't easy to estimate the cost of textbooks and course materials, as the amount can vary significantly from one semester to the next. Some courses use online resources only, such as an Open Education Resources book, which reduces student cost to just a \$10 OER fee instead of requiring expensive textbooks. An estimate for a full-time student is \$300-500 per semester. You are encouraged to shop around for textbooks to obtain them at the lowest price possible.

You are encouraged to save the critical dietetics-related textbooks for use during your supervised practice program and when studying for the RDN Exam after completing your supervised practice program. Check with each professor or contact the DPD Director about the value of keeping a particular course textbook in preparation for supervised practice and the RDN Exam.

#### ***Other Costs You May Incur***

1) K-State utilizes Canvas as the Learning Management System (LMS). This is how you will access course-specific webpages where you interact with the instructor/classmates, submit assignments, and possibly take online quizzes or tests. It is your responsibility to secure access to the required technology.

- [Information on what type of personal technology is needed](#)
- [Information on software available to students](#)
- [Location of computers available to students on campus](#)
- [Additional information for online students regarding technology](#)

2) You will incur costs when taking some of the required courses.

\* FNDH 442 Management in Dietetics 1 (Dr. Kelly Whitehair, [stirtz@ksu.edu](mailto:stirtz@ksu.edu))

\*requires you to be [ServSafe Manager](#) Approximate cost: ~\$53 for book, ~\$38 for exam voucher, ~\$72 for book + voucher. Dr. Whitehair can serve as an exam proctor for campus students and will assist online students in securing an online exam proctor.

\*requires you to find a foodservice operation where you complete weekly labs (<4 hours). Dr. Whitehair will provide criteria for choosing and contacting the facility.

\* FNDH 313 Science of Food: If you are an online student, you will incur costs to purchase food to complete at-home labs. The cost for campus students is included within the semester campus fee.

\* FNDH 442, FNDH 450, and FNDH 600: These courses will ask you to contact professionals in your area. You may incur costs to travel to those professionals' workplaces or other places to meet. Course instructors offer alternatives for students having difficulty locating a professional.

- 3) [K-State utilizes HonorLock for online testing integrity](#); however, you may come across online proctoring fees if taking classes from other universities.
- 4) You are encouraged to participate in these **optional** activities:
- Join the appropriate student group:
    - Student Dietetic Association - contact Dr. Kelly Whitehair [stirtz@ksu.edu](mailto:stirtz@ksu.edu)
    - Distance Student Dietetic Association - contact Sydney Cochran [ssydney@ksu.edu](mailto:ssydney@ksu.edu)
  - [Join the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics](#) as a student member (currently \$58/year)
    - Student membership is restricted to individuals enrolled in an ACEND-accredited program. Our BS in Dietetics is an ACEND-accredited program; thus, you are eligible to be a student member of the Academy upon selection of dietetics as your major.
    - Academy membership includes free membership in a state affiliate of the Academy, which means you can interact with local dietetics professionals.
    - The Academy and most affiliate groups offer scholarship opportunities.
- 5) Attending local and national professional meetings is a great way to learn about the profession and network with dietetics professionals. Registration and lodging costs vary. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' annual [Food and Nutrition Conference \(FNCE\)](#) takes place each October. Early each spring, you can apply to volunteer at FNCE, which can substantially reduce the registration cost. Travel grants are available from the [College of Health and Human Sciences](#).
- 6) In your last year of coursework, you can apply to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs. The process will involve application fees, which vary for each program. You must order official transcripts from any college institution you have attended, which can cost between \$10-20 per transcript. K-State transcripts are free to enrolled students. Read on for information on the cost of supervised practice programs.

### ***Costs Incurred After Graduating from K-State***

On the pathway to earning the RDN credential, your next steps after completing K-State's DPD are to complete an ACEND-accredited supervised practice (SP) program and earn a master's degree before being eligible to take the RDN credentialing exam. The cost for SP programs varies greatly depending on whether they are a stand-alone SP program or if they are combined with a master's degree. The average price of a stand-alone supervised practice program (without a master's) is \$10,000; however, lower-cost options are available. Some programs do not have a program fee, and some programs pay you a stipend. Programs that include a master's degree will likely provide access to federal financial aid.

Starting in your first semester with K-State, you should begin researching SP programs to plan wisely for upcoming costs. During an orientation program, you will learn about how to research SP programs. One of the main tools is the [ACEND Program Directory](#). The DPD Director is available to answer any questions and provide support as you work on identifying the best SP programs for your situation.

Once you have completed an ACEND-accredited supervised practice program and hold a master's degree, you will be eligible to take the Registration Examination for Dietitians offered by the [Commission on Dietetic Registration \(CDR\)](#) (scroll to "RD Examination"). Currently, exam cost is \$200.

After earning the RDN credential, you must secure a license to practice in the state where you are working. Licensure costs vary by state, ranging from \$50-100 annually. If you see clients across state lines, you must be licensed in the state where the client resides. [Click here to find information about a state's licensing policy.](#) In 2025, the [Dietetics Licensure Compact](#) became a reality and will reduce the costs of being licensed in multiple states. Kansas is one of 14 states currently participating in the Compact.

### ***Financial Aid & K-State Scholarships***

The [Office of Student Financial Assistance](#) oversees federal financial aid and K-State's Scholarship Application. Whether you are a campus or online student, you will have a financial aid advisor assigned to you. You are invited to complete the annual scholarship application through the [K-State Scholarship Network](#) (KSN) by the priority date. In addition to KSN, [scholarships specific to online students are available.](#)

### ***Scholarships from Professional Organizations***

Scholarships are available from the [Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation](#) (application due dates are typically in Spring). Scholarships are also available from Academy Affiliate organizations and Academy DPGs and MIGs.

### ***K-State Tuition Drop/Refund Policy***

[The policy is the same for both campus and online students.](#) It is important to consult your advisor as early as possible if you are considering dropping a course, since that may impact your long-range plan and expected graduation date.

### ***Housing Costs***

Students can obtain information about on-campus housing from [Housing and Dining Services](#) or by calling 785-532-6453 or 1-888-568-5027. Any student taking at least one credit hour is eligible to secure housing on campus.

## **A-Z Policies and Procedures**

Dietetics majors are expected to abide by the [All-University Regulations as listed in the current Catalog.](#)

**Academic Calendar** The DPD follows the [University Academic Calendar.](#)

**Accommodations** At K-State it is important that every student has access to course content and the means to demonstrate course mastery. Students with disabilities may benefit from services, including securing accommodation validation by the Student Access Center. Disabilities can include physical, learning, executive functions, and mental health. You may register at the [Student Access Center](#) or contact the center at [accesscenter@k-state.edu](mailto:accesscenter@k-state.edu) or 785-532-6441.

**Assessment of Prior Learning** The DPD does not evaluate prior work experience to fulfill DPD course requirements.

**Assessment of Student Learning** Throughout the DPD, faculty assess student learning through a variety of exams, case studies, projects, presentations, and group activities. Students can view grades for active courses within Canvas and grades for completed courses and cumulative GPAs within KSIS.

Learning activities used to measure student achievement of the ACEND Core Knowledge Statements (KRDN) are administered by the faculty teaching specific courses, with the data provided to the DPD Director for use in documenting student eligibility for a DPD Verification Statement. To earn a DPD Verification Statement, they must earn 70% or higher on all KRDN learning activities, a “B or better” in DPD Professional courses, and a “C or better” in DPD Major Support Courses. When a student does not earn 70% or higher on a KRDN learning activity, the course instructor will offer remediation to ensure the student learns the material; however, the original score will remain for calculating the course grade. Scores earned on a KRDN learning activity are not reported on a student’s transcript or verification statement.

Students are required to meet with their academic advisors each semester, which allows advisors to monitor and discuss student achievement of DPD grade requirements. Advisors will assist students who are struggling to find the best pathway forward.

**DPD Handbook** This DPD Handbook is available to the public on program webpages and to dietetics majors on the *Dietetic Information* Canvas site. Students are formally alerted to the presence of the handbook during orientation and upon approval to continue to upper-level professional courses through a mid-curriculum DPD Verification Statement Consideration process. The handbook is updated annually between June and August.

**Dress Code** There is no specific dress code for campus or online students participating in class lectures or labs; however, dietetic students are encouraged to dress professionally when participating in experiential learning activities for a course, attending a professional meeting, or participating in any volunteer or shadowing experiences set up in preparation for the DPD Verification Statement Consideration process or application to dietetic supervised practice programs. It is important to note that some clinical settings have specific dress codes, including certain body piercings. [This Career Center webpage has information about appropriate business attire.](#)

**Dropping a Course** [This Registrar’s webpage has details about dropping a course.](#)

**Experiential Learning Opportunities (ELO)** Experiential learning activities include items such as shadowing of dietitians, service-learning activities, and observation. Although ACEND does not require experiential learning, these activities are essential to many K-State DPD Professional courses. Affiliation agreements (legal documents) are not needed for the ELO experiences since the student chooses the facility, and the University is limited to faculty setting the learning objectives for the course and grading activity-based assignments.

**Grievance Procedures** The DPD follows K-State’s student grievance procedures as outlined in the current [University Undergraduate Catalog](#). When the complaint is about a particular course and/or instructor, students should start by communicating with that instructor directly. For complaints or concerns about the DPD, students should start by communicating with the DPD Director, listed below. If

unable to resolve the course/instructor/DPD issue, students can contact the Assistant Director, School of Health Sciences, as listed below.

- **DPD Director** [through December 2025]  
Heidi Oberrieder (785-532-0169, [heidio@ksu.edu](mailto:heidio@ksu.edu))
- **DPD Director** [Starting January 2026]  
Sydney Cochran (785-532-0169, [ssydney@ksu.edu](mailto:ssydney@ksu.edu))
- **Director, School of Health Sciences**  
Dr. Craig Harms (785-532-6765, [caharms@ksu.edu](mailto:caharms@ksu.edu))
- **Assistant Director, School of Health Sciences**  
Dr. Brian Lindshield (785-532-5508, [blindsh@ksu.edu](mailto:blindsh@ksu.edu))
- **Dean, College of Health and Human Sciences**  
Dr. Brad Behnke (785-532-5500, [bjbehnke@ksu.edu](mailto:bjbehnke@ksu.edu))

DPD students can file a complaint with the Accrediting Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). ACEND does not intervene on behalf of the individual filing the complaint or act as a court of appeal for individuals in matters of admissions, appointment, promotion or dismissal of faculty or students. **ACEND acts only upon a signed allegation that the DPD program may not be in compliance with the Accreditation Standards or policies.** Anonymous complaints are not considered. [Submit complaints to ACEND through this link.](#)

**Health (Campus Students)** Campus students are not required to have proof of health insurance before admission to the university. Still, they must show proof of up-to-date MMR and meningococcal vaccination, and TB screening. [A list of specific requirements is found on this Lafene webpage.](#) Enrolled students are encouraged to take advantage of the Student Success Resources Canvas course, which includes a [“Health and Safety” module](#). Students choosing to live on campus may have additional immunization requirements (785-532-6453, <http://housing.k-state.edu/>).

**Health (Online Students)** Online students are not required to show proof of immunizations nor proof of health insurance for admission. Enrolled online students are encouraged to take advantage of the Student Success Resources Canvas course, which includes a module on [“Health and Safety” module](#).

**Honor System and Student Code of Conduct** DPD students must abide by K-State’s [Honor and Integrity System](#) and [Student Code of Conduct](#). These policies are also posted in the current [University Undergraduate Catalog](#).

In addition, dietetics students are asked to follow the [Code of Ethics for the Nutrition and Dietetics Profession](#) and the [Pledge of Civility](#). These documents are explored in several DPD Professional courses. Students are educated on the importance of following the code to maintain the RDN credential and dietetic license and continue as members of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

**Retention, Remediation, and Termination Procedures** To help retain students in the program, dietetics students must meet with their academic advisor each semester. Advisors guide students in finding the course sequence that best supports high academic achievement. Meeting with students

each semester allows advisors to monitor students' academic achievement. Advisors will highlight for students the strategies for success in maintaining strong academic performance and building a strong resume in preparation for the mid-curriculum application for DPD Verification Statement Consideration and the application to dietetic supervised practice programs during or beyond their last year at K-State.

Midway through the dietetics curriculum, students apply for DPD Verification Statement Consideration. Approval of the application means the student is eligible to earn a DPD Verification Statement upon graduation. Once a student's application is approved, the student cannot have an enrollment gap greater than one calendar year. If that student is readmitted to K-State, they would need to complete a second DPD Verification Statement Consideration application.

Below are the eligibility criteria for application for DPD Verification Statement Consideration.

- Completion of or enrollment in FNDH 400
  - Earned "B or better" in completed DPD Professional courses
  - Earned "C or better" in completed DPD Major Support courses
  - GPA of 3.0 or higher (includes all collegiate courses from all institutions)\*
- \*Waivers of the 3.0 GPA eligibility criteria are approved on a case-by-case basis. The individual's educational history and current K-State GPA are taken into consideration when deciding to extend a waiver.

Below are the criteria for earning a DPD Verification Statement.

- Approval of DPD Verification Statement Consideration application
- Documented proficiency in all KRDNs
- Earned "B or better" in required DPD Professional courses
- Earned "C or better" in required DPD Major Support courses
- Earned bachelor's degree

Below are the graduation criteria for earning the BS in Dietetics.

- Earned "B or better" in DPD Professional courses
- Earned "C or better" in DPD Major Support courses
- K-State Cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher

Students who are struggling to meet any criteria are identified through the required advisor visits and interaction with faculty who measure and remediate KRDN achievement. Advisors and faculty can guide students to tutoring and academic assistance services available to both campus and online students (see *Student Support Services List* page of handbook). Students are encouraged to self-initiate communication with faculty, advisors, or DPD Director if they find themselves with a grade or proficiency requirement, to avoid needing to repeat a course for a better grade or demonstrate KRDN proficiency.

Remediation for KRDN proficiency is conducted by the instructor of the course in which the KRDN proficiency is measured. Students choosing not to participate in remediation will be unable to earn a DPD Verification Statement. For a student not meeting proficiency in one or more KRDNs, advisors and/or the DPD Director may direct the student to consider application to an ACEND-accredited Graduate Program (GP), as most GPs do not require a DPD Verification Statement for admission. More details about documenting KRDN proficiency is located in the *Assessment of Student Learning* entry earlier in the A-Z Policy & Procedure section.

For students unable to meet the grade requirements for the BS in Dietetics, advisors may inform the student about the option to graduate on time with the BS in Nutrition and Health, which has a “C or better” grade requirement for all required courses.

**Student Records** The DPD abides by the [University’s regulations regarding student records](#). The DPD Director and dietetics coordinator maintain student files, which may include the student’s DPD Verification Statement Consideration application materials, copies of transfer work transcripts, program-related correspondence, student-signed documents required for program administration (such as the Transcript Release form), copies of unofficial and official KSU Transcripts, and original copies of digitally signed DPD Verification Statements. Students may view the contents of their file at any time, except those items for which the right to view has been waived by the student (such as with some faculty letters of recommendation). Signed and dated DPD Verification Statements will be maintained on file indefinitely per ACEND policy.

### **Technology Requirements**

- [Welcome to IT at K-State \(include Quick Guide PDF\)](#)
- [Information on what type of personal technology is needed](#)
- [Information on software available to students](#)
- [Location of computers available to students on campus](#)
- [Additional information for online students regarding technology](#)

**Transferring Previous Coursework** The [Office of Admissions maintains a Transfer Equivalency Tool](#). See additional information specific to the DPD earlier in the handbook.

**Withdrawals from Courses and/or the University** The [Registrar’s Office maintains information regarding withdrawing from the University](#), including relevant links to the University Handbook.



## Student Support Services List

Resources listed are available to both campus and online students.			
K-State Online	Resources specific to online students – a great start point for online students looking for information	<a href="https://online.k-state.edu/">https://online.k-state.edu/</a>	785-532-1521 <a href="mailto:online@ksu.edu">online@ksu.edu</a>
Academic Achievement Center	Tutoring, academic coaching, supplemental instruction	<a href="http://www.k-state.edu/aac/">http://www.k-state.edu/aac/</a>	785-532-6492 <a href="mailto:achievement@ksu.edu">achievement@ksu.edu</a> Tutoring: 785-532-5703
Advanced Standing Credit	Advanced Placement (AP); College Level Examination Program (CLEP); DANTES Subject Standardized Test (DSST); International Baccalaureate (IB); and Military credit evaluations	<a href="http://www.k-state.edu/undergradadmit/advancedstandingcredit.html">http://www.k-state.edu/undergradadmit/advancedstandingcredit.html</a>	785-532-1521 <a href="mailto:apply@ksu.edu">apply@ksu.edu</a>
Career Center	Resume critiques; job search; resume posting (Handshake)	<a href="http://www.k-state.edu/careercenter/">http://www.k-state.edu/careercenter/</a>	785-532-6506 <a href="mailto:careercenter@ksu.edu">careercenter@ksu.edu</a>
College of HHS Student Services	Awards, professional mentoring program, clubs and organizations, advising and academic resources	<a href="https://www.hhs.k-state.edu/students/">https://www.hhs.k-state.edu/students/</a>	785-532-5500 <a href="mailto:hhs@ksu.edu">hhs@ksu.edu</a>
IT Help Desk	eID and passwords; email and Office 365; network access; free/discounted software	<a href="http://www.k-state.edu/its/helpdesk/">http://www.k-state.edu/its/helpdesk/</a>  Available on this page is Live Chat (certain hours) + “Submit a Ticket” is a way to ask for help.	785-532-7722 800-865-6143
K-State First	A variety of opportunities to help freshmen transition to college life on campus	<a href="http://www.k-state.edu/first/">http://www.k-state.edu/first/</a>	785-532-1501 <a href="mailto:kstatefirst@ksu.edu">kstatefirst@ksu.edu</a>
K-State Libraries	Access to resources, including “Ask a Librarian” chat/email/appointments	<a href="http://www.lib.k-state.edu/">http://www.lib.k-state.edu/</a>  Cindy Logan is the librarian assigned to the School of Health Sciences <a href="#">CLICK HERE to message her.</a>	785-532-3014 <a href="mailto:libhelp@k-state.edu">libhelp@k-state.edu</a>
K-State Writing Center	One-to-one consultations about writing projects	<a href="https://www.k-state.edu/english/writingcenter/">https://www.k-state.edu/english/writingcenter/</a>	785-532-6716 <a href="mailto:english@ksu.edu">english@ksu.edu</a>
Military-affiliated Resource Center	A variety of helpful resources	<a href="http://www.k-state.edu/nontrad/">http://www.k-state.edu/nontrad/</a>	785-395-8387 <a href="mailto:military@ksu.edu">military@ksu.edu</a>
Student Support & Accountability	SSA’s mission is to enhance the student experience and promote student success in the classroom and life. Helps students dealing with a crisis affecting learning.	<a href="https://www.k-state.edu/student-support/">https://www.k-state.edu/student-support/</a>	785-532-6432 <a href="mailto:studentsupport@ksu.edu">studentsupport@ksu.edu</a>
Registrar’s Office	Student records, transcripts, and academic calendars	<a href="http://www.k-state.edu/registrar/">http://www.k-state.edu/registrar/</a>	785-532-3552 <a href="mailto:registrar@ksu.edu">registrar@ksu.edu</a>
Student Access Center	Disability resources to ensure equal access to all	<a href="http://www.k-state.edu/accesscenter/">http://www.k-state.edu/accesscenter/</a>	785-532-6441 <a href="mailto:accesscenter@ksu.edu">accesscenter@ksu.edu</a>  Video phone: 785-370-0431

## Admission to Dietetics Major and DPD Program Progression

The Bachelor of Science in Dietetics is offered in two formats – online and on campus.

### Campus Undergraduate Students

1. [Apply and be admitted to K-State](#) as a degree-seeking undergraduate student, declaring dietetics as your major.
2. Upon notification of your admission by the Office of Admissions, the College of Health and Human Sciences Dean's Office will assign you an academic advisor.
3. Your dietetics academic advisor will give you access to the *Dietetics Information* Canvas site, which connects you to vital information related to the dietetics pathway at K-State.
4. Midway through your long-range plan, you will apply for Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) Verification Statement Consideration. Your application must be approved to be eligible for a DPD Verification Statement. This process will be explained later in this handbook.

### Online Undergraduate Students

1. [Apply and be admitted through K-State Online](#) as a degree-seeking undergraduate student, declaring dietetic as your major.  
**Hard Deadlines:** June 1 for fall start, Nov 1 for spring start, April 1 for summer start
2. Upon notification of your admission by the Office of Admissions, the College of Health and Human Sciences' Dean's Office will assign you an academic advisor.
3. Your dietetics academic advisor will grant you access to the *Dietetics Information* Canvas site, which connects you to vital information related to the dietetics pathway at K-State.
4. Midway through your long-range plan, you will apply for Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) Verification Statement Consideration. Your application must be approved to be eligible for a DPD Verification Statement. This process will be explained later in this handbook.

**See the next page to learn the purpose of the mid-curriculum application  
for DPD Verification Statement Consideration.**

## DPD Verification Statement Consideration

Most students pursuing K-State's BS in Dietetics are working towards becoming a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). As explained on page 5 of the handbook, the eligibility requirements for taking the RDN Exam are to hold a master's degree and complete ACEND-accredited coursework and supervised practice. To reach RDN Exam eligibility through K-State, students earn the BS in Dietetics, which includes ACEND-accredited coursework, referred to as a Didactic Program in Dietetics, or DPD for short. During the last year of coursework, students apply to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs (stand-alone or combined with a master's degree). A DPD Verification Statement is required to apply to most ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs.

Midway through the dietetics curriculum, you will apply for DPD Verification Statement Consideration (DPD VS Consideration). This mid-curriculum process has three purposes:

- Encourage you to take steps to gain dietetics-related experiences
- Assess your achievement of KRDN 2.1 (oral and written communication skills)
- Enable K-State's DPD to stay within its ACEND-accredited maximum number of 115 DPD students

Upon approval of your application, you are eligible to earn a DPD Verification Statement upon graduation from K-State. The DPD VS Consideration application approval rate is between 90-100%. Students whose applications are denied are eligible to apply again but are limited to a total of two application attempts.

Students are encouraged to prepare for this application process by maintaining a high GPA and gaining experience relevant to dietetics. Information about what is considered 'relevant to dietetics' experience is posted in the DT Info Canvas site you are given access to at the beginning of your first semester at K-State. Gaining these experiences will make you a strong candidate when applying to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs.

Below are the eligibility criteria for applying for DPD Verification Statement Consideration.

- Completion of or enrollment in FNDH 400
- Earned "B or better" in completed DPD Professional courses
- Earned "C or better" in completed DPD Major Support courses
- GPA of 3.0 or higher (includes all collegiate courses from all institutions)\*

\*Waivers of the 3.0 GPA eligibility criteria are approved on a case-by-case basis. The individual's educational history and current K-State GPA are taken into consideration when deciding to extend a waiver.

Below are the criteria for earning a DPD Verification Statement.

- Approval of DPD Verification Statement Consideration application
- Documented proficiency in all KRDNs
- Earned "B or better" in required DPD Professional courses
- Earned "C or better" in required DPD Major Support courses
- Earned bachelor's degree

Below are the graduation criteria for earning the BS in Dietetics.

- Complete the required courses (120 credit hours)
- Earned "B or better" in DPD Professional courses
- Earned "C or better" in DPD Major Support courses

**See the next page for a description of the  
application process for DPD Verification Statement Consideration.**

### DPD Verification Statement Consideration - Application Process

1. Your academic advisor will note in your long-range plan when to complete this process.
    - a. **You cannot apply in the same semester you will graduate, so you must apply in your next to last semester (not counting summers).**
  2. At the beginning of the semester identified by your advisor, request access to the *DPD Application Portal*.
  3. Within the *DPD Application Portal*, reserve a DPD Interview time.
  4. Submit all requested materials in the *DPD Application Portal* by the posted deadline.
    - a. DPD Application form
    - b. Current resume (1-2 pages) which includes:
      - i. education with location and completion dates
      - ii. paid work experience\* with location, inclusive dates, indication of total hours
      - iii. volunteer/shadowing experience\* with location, inclusive dates, total hours
      - iv. significant honors/awards/certifications

\* experiences that are dietetics-related or show evidence of transferable skills
    - c. Personal statement (max 1000 words) outlining interest in dietetics, professional goals, strengths and weaknesses, and reasons behind choosing K-State's DPD.
- NOTE:** Resources about resumes and personal statements are posted on the *Dietetics Information Canvas* site and the *DPD Application Portal*
5. Participate in a 15-minute interview with two DPD faculty via ZOOM
  6. Results of the process are sent to applicants by email in 1-2 weeks

If your application is not accepted, you have two options:

- Reapply in a future application cycle. Talk with the DPD director about strategies for strengthening the chance of acceptance. You are limited to a maximum of two application attempts.
- Change your major to one of the other nutrition bachelor's degrees, allowing you to graduate on time as planned. Your academic advisor can help you make this decision. You can continue the dietetics pathway by applying to ACEND-accredited Graduate Programs (GP) that do not require a DPD Verification Statement. A list of GPs can be viewed in the [ACEND-accredited Program Directory](#).

**See the next page for the Final Steps to Program Completion**

## Final Steps to Program Completion

Once your application for DPD Verification Statement Consideration is approved, you are officially counted as a DPD student. The time you spend in the DPD varies. Most campus students apply in the Spring of their junior year, graduating in May one year later. For online students, you may be “in the DPD” for 0.5-3 years, depending on how many courses you take each semester and how many transfer credits were applied for DPD-required courses. Read on for details about the final steps for program completion.

### Criteria for earning a DPD Verification Statement

- Approval of DPD Verification Statement Consideration application
- Documented proficiency in all KRDNs
- Earned “B or better” in required DPD Professional courses
- Earned “C or better” in required DPD Major Support courses
- Earned bachelor’s degree

### Criteria for earning the BS in Dietetics

- Complete the required courses (120 credit hours)
- Earned “B or better” in DPD Professional courses
- Earned “C or better” in DPD Major Support

Below are the final steps you will take for program completion. Remember, you cannot apply for DPD Verification Statement Consideration in the same semester you graduate (DPD VS applications are only accepted in the Fall and Spring semesters).

- 1. Continue research into supervised practice (SP) programs of interest.**
- 2. Complete the remaining degree requirements**
  - a. Earn a “B or better” in DPD Professional courses
  - b. Earn a “C or better” in DPD Major Support courses
  - c. Earn proficiency in all KRDNs (70% or higher on select assignments in select courses)
- 3. Plan to attend the Summer SP Application Prep Course the summer before you graduate.**
  - a. This is an optional activity; however, it is encouraged as it prepares you for applying to SP programs in your final semesters at K-State or beyond.
- 4. In your last year of coursework, you will apply to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs**
  - a. Information regarding the process of researching and applying to SP programs appears in this handbook and is posted on the *DT Info Canvas* site.
  - b. You can apply to multiple programs and receive multiple offers.
  - c. Each SP program sets a unique application deadline, which can be anywhere between 3-12 months before that program’s start date.
  - d. Earning a DPD Verification Statement does not guarantee acceptance into a supervised practice program.
  - e. The DPD director will be available to assist you with SP applications; however, you are responsible for initiating and completing the steps.
  - f. You can delay application to SP programs if needed, although applying within three years of graduation from the DPD is best. Some SP programs require the clinical nutrition course(s) to have been taken within 3-5 years.

## 5. In your final semester of coursework (not counting summers)

- a. Apply for graduation in KSIS. Your academic advisor can assist you with this process. Summer session graduates should apply for Summer graduation during the Spring semester. If desired, summer graduates can participate in the Spring commencement ceremony or the following Fall commencement ceremony.
- b. Download and save items you want to retain. Below is an image from the linked page showing what access you will retain and what you will lose access to.

Retain* Access To:	Lose Access To:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• eProfile</li><li>• Lafene Health Center Patient Portal</li><li>• Personnel records in HRIS Employee Self Service</li><li>• Student records in KSIS</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Email &amp; Calendar (after 2 years)</li><li>• Canvas (after 1 year)</li><li>• Duo Two-Factor Authentication (after 2 years )</li><li>• Office 365 apps (after 1 year)</li><li>• OneDrive (after 1 year)</li><li>• Online library journals &amp; databases</li><li>• Free credit printing at walk up printers</li><li>• Zoom</li><li>• GlobalProtect VPN</li></ul>

- c. Complete “DPD Exit Paperwork”. **This paperwork is needed to process your DPD Verification Statement.** Karla Girard, the dietetics coordinator, will grant you access to the DPD Exit Paperwork site in Canvas, where you will access documents to complete and submit in Canvas. The things you will submit include:
  - i. Completed *DPD Graduate Information Form* (provided in the Canvas site)
  - ii. A copy of a government-issued photo ID matching your student profile
  - iii. Signed *Permission to Release Official Transcript* (provided in Canvas site)

## 6. After graduation

- a. DPD Verification Statements are issued within 4 weeks after your degree is posted in KSIS. See page 6 for more information on Verification Statements.
- b. If you were accepted into a supervised practice program, congratulations! If your program begins within six weeks of graduation, you may need us to send a letter to your program director since verification statements are issued within 4 weeks beyond graduation. You can request this letter from the DPD director.
- c. If you were not accepted into a supervised practice program or elected to delay your application, we will stay by your side until you reach your next goal. There is no limit to the number of times you can apply to SP. Many students who are not accepted on the first attempt succeed on the second attempt.
  - i. We encourage you to consider taking the NDTR Exam. Passing this national exam will strengthen your application in future match cycles and provide you with a NDTR dietetics credential. Information about the NDTR Exam will be in the *DPD Exit Paperwork* course in Canvas.
  - ii. **You must keep your eID active to continue accessing the DT Info Canvas site for up to 1 year beyond graduation. Beyond that, you can contact the DPD Director who can request that you are given special access to the DT Info Canvas site for a limited time.** Information on how to do this will be included in the *DPD Exit Paperwork*.
- d. Stay in contact with KSU. It is vital that we can contact you over the next two years. As an ACEND-accredited program, we collect data on the career progress of our graduates. We will contact you using the contact information you provide on the DPD Exit paperwork. Please inform us of any changes to your email, phone, or mailing address. You are part of the KSU Family, and we would like to stay in touch with you as you continue your educational or career journey. Stop by, email, or call anytime!

**7. Final steps to earning the RDN credential after graduating with the BS in Dietetics...**

- a. Complete an ACEND-accredited dietetic supervised practice program, which will provide you with a second verification statement proving eligibility to take the RDN Exam. Information on this process appears later in this handbook.
- b. Take the Registered Dietitian Nutrition Exam. Information about the RDN Exam appears later in this handbook.

**8. After earning your RDN credential...**

- a. You will apply for a dietetics license in the states where you work.
- b. To maintain your credential, you will complete the required continuing education units (75 CPEUs every five years).

As a graduate of the Didactic Program in Dietetics at Kansas State University, you will always be part of the Wildcat Family. Please stay in contact with us, checking in to let us know of your challenges and accomplishments. You are a role model and inspiration to the next generation of DPD students at KSU!

DPD Director (through December 2025): Heidi Oberrieder, MS, RDN, LD  
785-532-0169 | [heidio@ksu.edu](mailto:heidio@ksu.edu)

DPD Director (beginning January 2026): Sydney Cochran, MS, RDN, LD  
785-532-0169 | [ssydney@ksu.edu](mailto:ssydney@ksu.edu)

Dietetics Coordinator: Karla Girard  
[kgirard@ksu.edu](mailto:kgirard@ksu.edu)



## Dietetic Supervised Practice Program Information

Students graduating from the DPD at Kansas State can apply to ACEND-accredited supervised practice programs (SP) during their last year of coursework. SP programs include the required hours of supervised practice and may or may not include a graduate degree. Completing an SP program and holding a graduate degree is required for eligibility to take the RDN Exam. Upon completion of the SP program, individuals will receive a second verification statement from the SP program, proving eligibility to take the RDN Exam.

There are several different types of supervised practice programs, with most DPD graduates choosing either a DI or MS-DI.

- **Dietetic Internships (DI):** This program type is perfect for students who already hold a master's degree or are working on a master's degree. The program will include the supervised practice hours needed for RDN Exam eligibility.
- **Dietetic Internship with a Master's (MS-DI):** This program type offers a master's degree in addition to the supervised practice hours.
- **Dietetics Graduate Programs (GP):** This program type is accredited under a different set of ACEND standards than the DI, MS-DI, and MS-CP. The GP standards are being piloted as the new format of dietetics education. GP programs include a master's degree (or doctorate) and the required ACEND coursework and supervised practice hours. **GPs that require a DPD Verification Statement are an excellent option for DPD graduates.** GPs that do not require a DPD Verification Statement are an option; however, the DPD coursework may not align perfectly with the list of prerequisites required by the GP. Thus, this option might not be good unless the program is within driving distance.
- **Master's Coordinated Program (MS-CP):** Like GPs, this program type offers a master's degree in addition to the supervised practice hours. The transfer of DPD dietetics courses may not align perfectly with the required MS-CP courses; thus, this option might not be good for DPD graduates unless the program is within driving distance.
- **Individualized Supervised Practice Program (ISPP):** This program type offers supervised practice hours to individuals holding or earning a PhD without the need to earn a DPD Verification Statement.

The DPD Director will assist with your application to supervised practice (SP) programs; however, you are responsible for initiating and completing all required steps. We recommend preparing for these applications early by researching program options and narrowing them down to a short list of programs to which you will apply. Then you can build a strong resume full of dietetic-related experiences that align with those programs. Information about researching supervised practice programs and the SP application process is posted on the *Dietetics Information* Canvas site.

There are over 390 supervised practice programs to choose from. The programs may be...

- On-site (you move to that location) or Distance (complete rotations where you currently live)
- Stand-alone (only internship hours) or Combo (internship hours and graduate credit/degree)
- Full-time or Part-time

Nationally, the acceptance rate into supervised practice programs (DI, MS-DI, GP) is around 75% on the first attempt. **We are proud that the K-State DPD consistently has an acceptance rate well above the national average.**

Campus and Online Tracks	Number of Students Accepted/Applied (%)
2021	49/49 (100%)
2022	86/89 (97%)
2023	51/53 (96%)
Spring 2024*	36/37 (97%)

\* Computer matching with fall and spring cycles up through Spring 2024

Beginning in F24, application cycles will be reported on annual basis mirroring academic year (Aug-Jul)

It is best to begin exploring supervised practice programs (SP) options from your first semester at K-State so that you fully understand the time and financial commitment required to complete an SP program. Detailed information about researching SP programs is posted on the DT Info Canvas site. The main list of SP programs can be found in the [ACEND Program Directory](#).

**Earning a DPD Verification Statement does not guarantee  
acceptance into supervised practice programs.**

ACEND-accredited supervised practice (SP) programs utilize the DICAS online application portal, which allows you to create one application to send to multiple programs. The annual application cycle runs from August to the following July. SP programs must abide by the two notification/decision windows as described below, which provide applicants the opportunity for a two week window to choose between multiple offers. [Full application details are available on this ACEND webpage](#).

- Each SP program sets a unique application deadline. Expect deadlines to fall between 2-10 months before the program start date. Thus, if you apply to multiple programs, the deadlines may be spread over many months.
- Applicants can apply to multiple programs and receive multiple offers.
- Applicants and programs must abide by the traffic rules (see above link).
- Notification/decision Windows
  - November 1-15
    - Programs must notify applicants of results on or before November 1
    - Applicants must accept or decline offers on or before November 15
    - Programs using this window likely have a program start date between January-March or fall start programs may use this window to select priority applicants.
  - March 1-15
    - Programs must notify applicants of results on or before March 1
    - Applicants must accept or decline offers on or before March 15
    - Programs using this window most likely have a program start date between June-September.

As you research SP programs, your goal is to gradually narrow it down to a “short list” of programs you will apply to. Typically, this is between 1-4 programs. There is no limit on how many you can apply to; however, consider that application costs add up quickly. One strategy for narrowing your options to a “short list” is to attend available “Open House” events held by the SP programs. The website for each

program is the best place to identify information on available “Open House” events and details about the program. Typically, October through January is the “Open House” season! Open houses may be on-site or virtual events. You can also contact an SP program and schedule an individual in-person or virtual visit.

Once you have your short list, thoroughly research the specific application deadlines and processes that must be followed for each program. **The program's specific webpage is the best place to confirm a program's application deadline.**

### ***Preparing for Application to Dietetic Supervised Practice (SP) Programs***

The four pillars of being a strong applicant are...

- Overall GPA of at least 3.0 (the higher, the better) [includes all collegiate coursework ever taken]
- Strong resume showing dietetic-related experience and transferrable skills
- Well-written personal statement highlighting your unique strengths and strong writing skills
- Relationships with possible authors of letters of recommendation (faculty, supervisors, mentors)

Most SP programs require an overall GPA of at least 3.0; however, the higher the GPA, the better. Some SP programs look for the DPD Science GPA and DPD Professional GPA to be closer to 3.5. Despite that, remember that GPA is only one criterion from which program selection committees make decisions. For example, some programs value experience over GPA.

Equally crucial as GPA is a resume showing dietetic-related experience. This experience can be paid, unpaid, or part of an academic class. Unpaid experience can include volunteer work or shadowing experiences. Whether paid or unpaid, these experiences can be in any major dietetics practice area – community, clinical, food service, or management. SP programs look for **strength** of experiences, **length** of experiences, and **variety** of experiences. Information about how to find dietetic-related experience is posted on the *Dietetics Information Canvas* site. Non-dietetic experiences can be valuable if they show transferrable skills, such as management, leadership, patient-contact, medical billing, and customer service skills.

Most SP programs ask applicants to submit a personal statement that brings their resume to life by explaining the applicant’s career goals, strengths, weaknesses, and reason for entering dietetics. Each SP program may have specific points to be addressed in the personal statement, which will be outlined on the program’s webpage. Information on crafting a personal statement is posted on the *Dietetics Information Canvas* site.

The application process will require you to have letters of recommendation from several individuals, including faculty members, work supervisors, or mentors. Building rapport with these people is essential so they can write a positive letter that is personalized to you. Information on how to build rapport and ask for a recommendation letter is posted on the *Dietetics Information Canvas* site.

### ***Strategies for Building a “Short List” of Supervised Practice (SP) Programs***

- Consider your ability to relocate for an SP program. This will impact your choice between onsite programs vs remote (distance) programs. If relocation is not an option, think about how far you are willing to commute, then search for onsite SP programs within that area. You could consider

applying to programs in cities where you have family or friends with whom you could live temporarily.

- Consider your need for access to financial aid. Not all SP programs are eligible for federal financial aid. In that case, you must secure outside funding to cover program fees and living costs. There are a few programs that do not charge tuition/fees, and there are programs that pay a stipend or even a salary. Research is key!
- Consider your primary area of interest in dietetics practice (clinical, community/public health, food service, management, or specialty areas, such as oncology, diabetes, or entrepreneurship). SP programs often have an emphasis area, so you may want to look for programs emphasizing your area of interest. **All SP programs will prepare you for all dietetics practice areas and the RDN exam. This means that practical things such as location, tuition, and program length can lead to your choice of programs over the presence of emphasis areas.**
- Consider the timing of graduation from the DPD compared to the start date of the SP programs on your “short list”. Some SP programs accept applications once a year, whereas others have multiple application due dates and start dates. Be aware that some SP programs may have an application deadline that is up to 10 months prior to the program start date.
- Build a spreadsheet of the various program deadlines and information. An Excel file template is available on the *DT Info* Canvas site.

### ***General Timeline for Application to SP Programs***

1. Right away
  - a. Research supervised practice programs, creating a spreadsheet of those that interest you. A spreadsheet template is available on the *Dietetics Information* site. Important information to track for each program includes:
    - i. Program name
    - ii. Program type (DI, MS-DI, GP, MS-CP)
    - iii. Cost
    - iv. Program length
    - v. Start and end date
    - vi. Program director name and contact information
    - vii. Application deadlines
    - viii. Application process
    - ix. Dates of upcoming Open House events
    - x. If an on-site program, location & living options
    - xi. If a distance program, preceptor requirements (# and type)
    - xii. If includes degree, degree type and focus
    - xiii. Acceptance of Credit for Prior Learning (work experience) (if applicable)
  - b. Work on gaining dietetics-related experiences, including those non-dietetics experiences where you learn(ed) transferrable skills. For each experience, document the following information:
    - i. Name of position
    - ii. Experience type: paid, volunteer, shadowing, member, leadership, etc.
    - iii. Name of employer/organization
    - iv. Name of the contact person

- v. Email/phone of contact person
    - vi. Inclusive dates of experience
    - vii. Total hours of experience
    - viii. Brief description of role/tasks completed
    - ix. Ah-ha moments: eye-opening moments, influence on career choices, the connection of experience with characteristics/skills needed in dietitians, names of any dietetics-related software experience (EMR, nutrition analysis, staffing/management, etc.). These notes will provide specific things to use within your personal statement.
  - c. Work on creating a well-formatted resume
  - d. Work on building rapport with faculty, supervisors, and mentors
  - e. Join either the Student Dietetics Association (SDA, campus) or Distance Student Dietetic Association (DSDA, online)
  - f. Become a student member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics for access to scholarships and networking opportunities with dietitians
2. During your last year of coursework
- a. If you plan to delay or forego the SP application, please inform the DPD Director, who can provide information on alternative routes.
  - b. Attend the free *SP Application Prep Course* offered each summer by the DPD Director
  - c. Create a spreadsheet of application deadlines, noting programs that fall in your “medium” and “short” list. An Excel file template is available in the *DT Info* site.
    - i. “Long list” = all programs you have researched
    - ii. “Medium list” = programs that would work for you (backup programs)
    - iii. “Short list” = programs you will apply to (typically 1-4)
  - d. Decide who you will ask to write letters of recommendation. Reach out to these people well before the application deadline. It is best to give authors a minimum of 4 weeks to write their letter. Provide the person with...
    - i. Your resume and possibly your personal statement
    - ii. A list of letters you will need (ie, one for DICAS and one for graduate school). Authors can write the letter in a way that can be used for multiple programs.
    - iii. Deadlines for each letter
    - iv. Process to complete each letter (if different from DICAS process)
    - v. FYI: Within DICAS, the same reference letter can be used for all programs, or the writer can choose to personalize letters for each program. A document to share with those writing you a letter of recommendation is posted on the *DT Info* Canvas site.
  - e. Begin crafting program-specific personal statements. Check each program’s website for specific things to address in the statement.
  - f. Plan to submit applications 1-2 weeks before the deadline. This allows for computer issues and tracking down missing documents.
  - g. Each SP application cycle runs for 12 months, from August to July.
    - i. DICAS will open for applications in August. You can begin working on your application at any time, even prior to the year you will apply. For DICAS, creating an application is **FREE** until you hit submit. In DICAS, the application fee is \$50 for

the first application and \$25 per additional program. Thoroughly read the DICAS instructions posted on the *DT* Canvas site.

- h. Tips for navigating your applications.
  - i. Use your program spreadsheet to stay on top of all deadlines, especially note which notification/decision window the programs are using
  - ii. Be aware of whether the program holds phone or zoom interviews so that you can prepare for those.
  - iii. Thoroughly read the [Application Traffic Rules and Code of Conduct to understand your responsibilities](#).
  - iv. Keep in touch with the DPD Director about your decisions. As an ACEND-accredited program, we must track student progress towards the credential for one year after graduation.

3. If you are not accepted to an SP program

You can reapply in the next application cycle. It may be beneficial to contact the programs to inquire what specific things in your application need improvement. The DPD director is available to students beyond graduation to assist with future application cycles. It will help to keep your eID up to date, so you have continued access to the *Dietetics Information* Canvas site for up to one year beyond graduation. For access beyond that, contact the DPD Director. Information about keeping an eID up to date will be in the “DPD Exit Paperwork” course in Canvas which you will have access to during your last semester of coursework.

## Registration Examination for Dietitians Information

To earn the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) credential, you must pass the Registration Examination for Dietitians offered by the Commission on Dietetics Registration (CDR).

To be eligible to take the RDN Exam, you must have:

- a master's degree (effective 1/1/2024)
- completed ACEND-accredited didactic coursework (included in K-State's BS in Dietetics)
- completed ACEND-accredited supervised practice program (DI, MS-DI, GP, MS-CP)

The RDN Exam is administered by computer at a Pearson VUE test center. There are over 250 test centers nationwide. Currently, the cost for the exam is \$200. There is no limit to the number of times you may attempt the exam, but you will pay the fee each time. Plan for a 3-hour window to complete the 120-145 question exam, which utilizes computer-adaptive-testing (CAT).

- [Testing site information visit](#)
- [RDN Exam information](#)

DPD students are encouraged to keep textbooks required in DPD courses for use during supervised practice and exam preparations. Many supervised practice programs provide interns/students with RDN Exam preparation materials or workshops. [The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics offers an interactive, online study tool \(\\$199 for 3-month subscription\)](#). Many other commercial study guides and seminars are available.



## Appendix

These documents are specific to students starting the dietetics major in the 2025-2026 academic year. Students who joined before that will have different documents specific to their start date, which can be obtained from their academic advisor.

Page 38: BS in Dietetics Curriculum

Page 39: BS in Dietetics Typical Course Sequence – CAMPUS

Page 40: BS in Dietetics Typical Course Sequence – ONLINE

Page 41: DPD Course List (courses fulfilling the ACEND-accreditation standards)

## BS in Dietetics Curriculum (2025-2026)

See your academic advisor for the curriculum from the year you began dietetics.

Available at <https://www.hhs.k-state.edu/students/services/programs/hltsc-dt-cg.pdf>

Name: _____ ID: _____	<b>DIETETICS</b> <b>DT</b> <b>Bachelor of Science</b>	College of Health and Human Sciences Kansas State University <b>CURRICULUM GUIDE</b>
--------------------------	---	--

---

**K-STATE CORE (34 HOURS)**

\*K-State Core Course List: <https://www.k-state.edu/provost/kstate-core/>

English (6 hours)

ENGL 100 (3) Expos Writing I  
 ENGL 200 (3) Expos Writing II

Communications (3 hours) One of the following courses

COMM 106 (3) Public Speaking 1  
 COMM 109 (3) Public Speaking 1A, Honors

Math and Statistics (3 hours)

Math Pathway Course: STAT 225 Intro to Statistics

\_\_\_\_\_

Natural and Physical Sciences (4-5 hours)

One Subject area only, must include a lab

\_\_\_\_\_

Social Science (6 hours)

At least 2 courses in 2 subject areas

\_\_\_\_\_

Arts and Humanities (6 hours)

At least 2 courses in 2 subject areas

\_\_\_\_\_

Free Electives (6 hours)

Any 100 or 200 level courses may apply.

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ K-STATE CORE MET

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (77 HOURS)**

If any of the following courses are applied to K-State Core requirements, please consult your advisor on additional courses to meet the 120 hours.

HHS Courses (3 Hours)

HHS 100 (1) WB 1: You & Community  
 HHS 200 (1) WB 2: Mind & Body  
 HHS 300 (1) WB 3: Money & Meaning

>Major Support Courses (28 Hours)

BIOL 198 (4) Prin of Biology  
 BIOL 255 (4) Gen Microbiology  
 BIOL 441 (4) Human Body I  
 AND  
 BIOL 442 (4) Human Body II  
 OR  
 KIN 360 (8) Anatomy & Physiology  
 CHM 210 (4) Chemistry 1  
 BIOCH 265 (5) Intro Organic/Biochem  
 MATH 100 (3) College Algebra  
 STAT 225 (3) Intro to Statistics\*\*

#Professional Studies - Dietetics Courses (46 Hours)

\*Grades of B or better required for Professional Studies courses. \*FNDH 400, FNDH 631, FNDH 632, FNDH 645 must be taken at K-State.

FNDH 115 (3) Intro Hlt & Nutr Prof  
 FNDH 132 (3) Basic Nutrition  
 FNDH 313 (4) Science of Food  
 FNDH 321 (2) Medical Documentation  
 FNDH 400 (3) Human Nutrition\*  
 FNDH 442 (4) Management in DT I  
 FNDH 450 (2) Nutr Assessment  
 FNDH 510 (2) Life Span Nutrition  
 FNDH 515 (3) Counsel Strat/DT Prac  
 FNDH 540 (2) Nutr Ed Program Plan  
 FNDH 542 (2) Management in DT II  
 FNDH 543 (2) Management in DT III  
 FNDH 575 (1) Research Health Science  
 FNDH 600 (3) Public Health Nutr  
 FNDH 620 (3) Nutr Metabolism  
 FNDH 631 (3) Clinical Nutrition I\*  
 FNDH 632 (3) Clinical Nutrition II\*  
 FNDH 645 (1) Capstone in Dietetics\*

**ACEND Didactic Program Verification Statement**

Graduates of the Dietetics program are eligible to receive an ACEND Didactic Program Verification statement. This verification statement allows the student to apply to accredited supervised practice programs, which is a required step in the pathway to becoming eligible to sit for the RDN credentialing exam. The verification statement also immediately qualifies a student to take the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) credentialing exam to become a Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered (NDTR). Students interested in receiving the ACEND Didactic Program Verification Statement must indicate their interest midway through the curriculum. For additional information please visit: <https://www.hhs-k-state.edu/fndh/academics/undergraduate/dietetics/>

**UNRESTRICTED ELECTIVES (9 HOURS)**

Only 100-799 level undergraduate courses may be applied

Course Number	Hours	Grade

Additional URE Available \_\_\_\_\_

#Grades of B or higher are required.  
 >Grades of C or higher are required.

**120 Hours Required to Graduate**

Gr Chk ☐ Initial ☐

**Fall 2025**

\*Please refer to the DARS audit for official application of credits.  
 \*\*If not met through K-State Core requirements, STAT 225 is required

**University Degree Requirements**

Please refer to the University Handbook (Section F121) for Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) and university requirements that all undergraduate students must meet: <https://www.k-state.edu/provost/universityhb/fhsecf.html#undergraduatedegreerequirements>

## Typical Course Sequence for BS in Dietetics Student - CAMPUS

See your academic advisor for the curriculum from the year you began dietetics.

Available at <https://www.hhs.k-state.edu/academics/program-guides/dietetics.pdf>

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN DIETETICS DIETETICS			
<i>Sample course sequence guide</i>			
<b>Fall</b> Basic Nutrition Introduction to Health & Nutrition Professions Expository Writing I Chemistry I Math & Statistics Course	<b>1</b>	<b>Spring</b> Well-being I: You & Community Public Speaking I Arts & Humanities Course Unrestricted Elective Course Social & Behavioral Science Course Free Elective Course (100- or 200-level)	
<b>16 hours</b>		<b>16 hours</b>	
<b>Fall</b> Principles of Biology Well-being 2: Mind & Body Social & Behavioral Science Course Free Elective Course (100- or 200-level) Unrestricted Elective Course	<b>2</b>	<b>Spring</b> Human Body I & II OR Anatomy & Physiology Science of Food Unrestricted Elective Course	
<b>15 hours</b>		<b>15 hours</b>	
<b>Fall</b> Expository Writing II Research in Health Sciences General Microbiology Well-being 3: Money & Meaning Unrestricted Elective Course Arts & Humanities Course	<b>3</b>	<b>Spring</b> Nutritional Assessment Management in Dietetics I* Human Nutrition Nutrition Education & Program Planning Introduction to Organic Chemistry & Biochemistry	
<b>15 hours</b>		<b>16 hours</b>	
<b>Fall</b> Public Health Nutrition Nutrient Metabolism Clinical Nutrition I Management in Dietetics II Unrestricted Elective Course	<b>4</b>	<b>Spring</b> Life Span Nutrition Clinical Nutrition II Counseling Strategies in Dietetic Practice Capstone in Dietetics Management in Dietetics III Medical Terminology Unrestricted Elective Course	
<b>14 hours</b>		<b>13 hours</b>	
120 hours are required for degree completion. The College of Health and Human Sciences requires a "B" or higher in professional studies and science courses. *Servsafe certification must be earned before enrolling in this course.			

## Typical Course Sequence for BS in Dietetics Student - ONLINE

See your academic advisor for the curriculum from the year you began dietetics.

### Recommended Course Sequence for Online Dietetics Program

This sequence is for a full-time student with no prior credits. The advisor will adjust it for students with prior credits and to meet student needs. The dietetics program requires a "C" or higher in science courses and a "B" or higher in professional studies courses. Dietetics students apply to the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) mid-way through the curriculum.

Didactic Program in Dietetics includes approximately 12-22 elective hours for a total of 120 credit hours for BS in Dietetics. To pursue the RDN credential, students must apply to external supervised practice programs to be completed after graduation. A master's degree in any area also must be earned in order to take the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist exam.

YEAR 1 (Freshman)									
Fall		credits	Spring		credits	Summer		credits	
BIOL	198 Principles of Biology	4	CHM	210 Chemistry I	4	_____	_____	Arts & Humanities Course	3
ENGL	100 Expository Writing I	3	COMM	106 Public Speaking I	3	_____	_____	Elective credits	3
FNDH	132 Basic Nutrition	3	FNDH	115 Intro to Hlth & Nutr Professions	3				6
	Math Pathways Course	3		Elective credits	3				
		13			13				
YEAR 2 (Sophomore)									
Fall		credits	Spring		credits	Summer		credits	
ENGL	200 Expository Writing II	3	BIOCH	265 Intro to Organic & Biochemistry*	5	BIOL	255 General Microbiology*		4
_____	Arts & Humanities Course	3	_____	Social Science	3	_____	_____	Elective credits	3
_____	Social Science	3	_____	Elective credits	3				7
_____	Elective credits	3	HHS	200 Well-being 2: Mind & Body	1				
HHS	100 Well-being 1: You & Community	1			12				
		13							
*Alternative courses are CHM 350 (3 cr) and BIOCH 521 (5 cr) *Course not available online through KSU-consult advisor									
YEAR 3 (Junior) APPLY to DPD in Junior year (contact advisor at beginning of Spring semester)									
Fall		credits	Spring		credits	Summer		credits	
KIN	361 Anatomy & Physiology I	4	KIN	362 Anatomy & Physiology II	4	FNDH	515 Counseling Strat in DT Pract		3
FNDH	313 Science of Food	4	FNDH	321 Medical Documentation	2	_____	_____	Elective credits	4
FNDH	450 Nutritional Assessment*	2	FNDH	442 Management in Dietetics I*	4				7
FNDH	540 Nutr Education & Prog Plng	2	FNDH	400 Human Nutrition	3				
		12			13				
*Recommend working with RDN in healthcare for some assignments • Requires ServSafe Certification & finding large foodservice facility									
YEAR 4 (Senior)									
Fall		credits	Spring		credits	Summer		credits	
FNDH	542 Management in Dietetics II	2	FNDH	543 Management in Dietetics III	2				
FNDH	510 Life Span Nutrition	2	FNDH	600 Public Health Nutrition	3				
FNDH	575 Research in Health Sciences	1	FNDH	632 Clinical Nutrition II	3				
FNDH	620 Nutrient Metabolism	3	FNDH	645 Capstone in Dietetics	1				
FNDH	631 Clinical Nutrition I	3	_____	Elective credits	3				
HHS	300 Well-being 3: Money & Meaning	1			12				
		12							

Fall 2025 degree requirements

## DPD Course List

ACEND-accredited courses included within BS in Dietetics

See your academic advisor for the curriculum from the year you began dietetics.



Dietetic Internship Centralized Application Services

### DPD Course List

**Directions to DPD Program Director:** Complete this form listing the program requirements for the catalog year on which the applicant's degree is evaluated by categorizing the courses as either DPD Professional Courses or DPD Science Courses. Provide a copy of the completed form to the applicant. They must use it to correctly enter all of their completed or in-progress DPD courses in the Coursework section of the application as either DPD Professional or DPD Science courses. The form should NOT be specific to the exact courses an individual applicant has completed; it should only list requirements in place for the catalog year on which the applicant's degree is evaluated.

**Directions to the Applicant:** Obtain this completed form from your DPD Program Director. This completed form MUST be uploaded to the "DPD Course List Form" section of your DICAS application before the application can be submitted; it should not be amended or changed. Before uploading the form, it must be used to correctly enter your completed or in-progress DPD courses as either DPD Professional or DPD Science courses into the Coursework section of your application. If you completed an alternate or substitute course or you transferred in a course from a different institution to fulfill one or more of your course requirements, enter the alternate course into the Coursework section of the application.

<b>DPD Program Institution:</b>	Kansas State University
<b>DPD Director Name:</b>	Heidi Oberrieder, MS, RDN, LD
<b>Catalog Year for Applicant:</b>	Fall 2025
<b>Website for Course Catalog:</b>	<a href="http://catalog.k-state.edu/">http://catalog.k-state.edu/</a>

DPD Professional Courses	DPD Science Courses
FNDH 132 Basic Nutrition	BIOL 198 Principles of Biology
FNDH 313 Science of Food	BIOL 255 General Microbiology
FNDH 321 Medical Documentation	BIOL 441 Human Body I <u>and</u>
FNDH 400 Human Nutrition	BIOL 442 Human Body II
FNDH 442 Management in Dietetics I	<b>or</b>
FNDH 450 Nutritional Assessment	KIN 360 Anatomy & Physiology
FNDH 510 Life Span Nutrition	<b>or</b>
FNDH 515 Counseling Strategies in Dietetic Practice	KIN 361 Anatomy & Physiology I <u>and</u>
FNDH 540 Nutrition Education & Program Planning	KIN 362 Anatomy & Physiology II
FNDH 542 Management in Dietetics II	CHM 210 Chemistry I
FNDH 543 Management in Dietetics III	BIOCH 265 Intro Organic & Biochemistry
FNDH 575 Research in Health Sciences	
FNDH 600 Public Health Nutrition	
FNDH 620 Nutrient Metabolism	
FNDH 631 Clinical Nutrition I	
FNDH 632 Clinical Nutrition II	
FNDH 645 Capstone in Dietetics	