

Dietetic Internship: Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How long will it take me to complete the Cedar Crest College [CCC] Dietetic Internship [DI]?

A: The CCC DI program is a full-time program that begins with an on-campus orientation in August* and graduation the first week of May. This internship includes a three-week holiday break in December and three-weeks of optional Individualized Professional Skills Development [IPSD].

*Note: There are pre-internship requirements that include background & medical clearances that must be completed prior to July.

Q: Will Cedar Crest College provide me with facilities and preceptors?

A: That depends on the track to you apply to! Onsite Track: DI-determined placement. The DI will schedule interns at facilities within 50 miles of campus based on intern preferences (discussed after acceptance).

Distance Track: Intern-identified placement. The distance applicant will locate and arrange all facilities and preceptors for supervised practice experiences in clinical, community, and food service management rotations in locations of his/her choosing. Upon acceptance, the DI will finalize the placements. Distance applicants have additional forms to complete which can be downloaded on our website:  www.cedarc Crest.edu/di

Q: Are there any opportunities to specialize?

A: Yes, the Cedar Crest DI offers a choice of two concentrations: *Advanced Community Nutrition* or *Diabetes in Community Nutrition*. Both concentrations focus on nutrition and dietetics from a community health perspective. Additionally, the DI allows for three weeks of Individualized Professional Skills Development in specialty areas of practice that may not have been an option for a core rotation.

Q: What are the qualities of successful CCC Dietetic Intern?

Receptive
Pro-active

Honest
Motivated

Positive
Hard-working

Self-directed
Flexible

Q: How can I strengthen my application for the CCC DI?

A: The CCC DI program and its constituents value interns who are well-rounded; therefore, we value all aspects of the application. At CCC, our mission is founded on principles tied to the community and leadership. We seek interns who demonstrate an innate sense of giving back to their communities and will serve in this role as CCC dietetic interns and eventually RDs. The minimum DPD GPA of 3.0 enables applicants to demonstrate their ability to thrive in our program. Applicants should emphasize their strengths through their work & volunteer experiences in the following ways:

- Highlight nutrition-focused experiences and leadership roles.
- Provide a well-written personal statement unique to your experiences as well as references that speak to your character and skills evidenced in class or on a project.

Q: Does the application process require an interview?

A: Applicants who are being considered for a position in the Cedar Crest College DI will be invited to schedule a virtual interview as the second step in the application process. A web camera and audio capabilities are required for the interview.

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Q: What virtual graduate courses will I take during the dietetic internship?

A: All interns who complete the program will earn 12 graduate credits which can be applied to our fully online Master in Nutrition or Modular Master in Science. All DI graduate courses are also fully online and may include synchronous class time through a webinar platform. The DI-required courses run simultaneously with supervised practice rotations and include: Clinical Nutrition, Food Service Management, Community Nutrition and Advanced Community Nutrition or Advanced Diabetes in Community Nutrition. All onsite interns are required to enroll in the Fast Track Masters option (details below).

Q: What is the Fast Track Masters option?

A: The Fast Track Masters option enables interns to dual enroll in the Dietetic Internship program and one of Cedar Crest's fully online graduate programs including the Master in Nutrition and the Modular Master of Science with focus areas in Strategic Leadership, Information Systems, or Human Resources. To learn more about the graduate programs:

 www.cedarcrest.edu/sage/mhs/  www.cedarcrest.edu/sage/mms

Q: Do I need to wait until after I complete a graduate degree program to sit the RD Exam?

A: No, you will be able to sit for the CDR credentialing exam after successful completion of the dietetic internship*. Obtaining your Masters can be completed at your own pace after taking the RD credentialing exam.

*Effective January 1, 2024, the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) will require a minimum of a master's degree to be eligible to take the credentialing exam to become a registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN). In addition to RDN credentialing, many states have regulatory laws for dietitians and nutrition practitioners. Frequently these state requirements are met through the same education and training required to become an RDN.

Q: If enrolled in the Fast Track Masters option, how will the additional classes work with the internship?

A: Interns will register for one additional Fall course and one additional Spring course (a total of 6 credits) with guidance from the graduate program director. These classes are virtual and completed outside of supervised practice time.

Q: Does the DI qualify for financial aid?

A: Financial aid is available through grants, scholarships, loans (federal and private) and institutional financing plans. Contact the CCC Student Financial Services (SFS) team with questions.

 www.cedarcrest.edu/stufinserv/index.shtm  financialservices@cedarcrest.edu  610-606-4602

Q: Where can I find more information about the CCC DI?

A: We offer a variety of on-campus and virtual Open House options in November, December, and January. We also welcome individual appointments to meet with members of the DI Team. We look forward to hearing from you soon!



dietetic.internship@cedarcrest.edu



www.cedarcrest.edu/di



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