Ball State University
Dietetic Internship Program

Policy and Procedures Handbook
The goal of this Policy and Procedure Handbook is to protect the rights of enrolled interns. The policies found within this handbook are consistent with the current practices, policies and procedures of Ball State University. Website locations for university policies and procedures are shown within this document to provide access to the most current information.

**Table of Contents**

Program Mission ........................................................................................................................................... 4
Program Goals and Objectives...................................................................................................................... 4
Dietetic Internship Application and Admission ............................................................................................ 4
  Preselect Dietetic Internship Admission Option....................................................................................... 4
  Computer Matching.................................................................................................................................. 7
  Second Match ........................................................................................................................................... 9
Recency of Education.................................................................................................................................. 10
Assessment of Prior Learning and Credit toward Program Requirements ................................................. 11
  Waiver of Graduate Credit Requirements: Master’s Degree ................................................................. 11
  Waiver of Dietetic Internship Rotation Requirements ........................................................................... 12
Withdrawal and Refund of Tuition and Fees .............................................................................................. 12
Scheduling and Program Calendar .............................................................................................................. 13
  Sample of Basic Calendar for Supervised Practice Rotations ................................................................. 15
Integration of Supervised Practice into MS in Nutrition and Dietetics..................................................... 16
Supervised Practice Site Placement ............................................................................................................ 16
Supervised Practice Documentation ............................................................................................................ 16
Protection of privacy of intern information ................................................................................................ 17
Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Policy ....................................................................................... 17
Access to personal files ............................................................................................................................... 17
Access to Intern Support Services ............................................................................................................... 18
Insurance Requirements ............................................................................................................................. 19
  Professional Liability .............................................................................................................................. 19
  Auto Insurance ........................................................................................................................................ 19
  Health Insurance ..................................................................................................................................... 19
Injury or Illness While in the Facility for Supervised Practice ..................................................................... 19
Criminal Background Check ........................................................................................................................ 19
Drug Testing ................................................................................................................................................ 19
Distance Instruction and Technology Requirements .................................................................................. 20
Educational Purpose of the Dietetic Internship.......................................................................................... 20
Filing and Handling Complaints from Interns and Preceptors .......................................................... 20
Formal Assessment on Intern Learning ............................................................................................ 21
Retention and Remission Procedures ............................................................................................... 22
Disciplinary and Termination Procedures ....................................................................................... 22
Dietetic Internship Completion Requirements .................................................................................. 23
Maximum amount of time allowed to complete the Dietetic Internship ........................................ 24
Verification Statement and CDR Submission Procedures ............................................................... 24
Health Care Clearance Procedures .................................................................................................. 24
Pregnancy ......................................................................................................................................... 25
COVID-19 ........................................................................................................................................ 25
  Ball State University Response ...................................................................................................... 25
  Department of Nutrition and Health Science Response ............................................................. 25
  Interns with COVID-19 ................................................................................................................ 26
  Interns Working Remotely ........................................................................................................... 26
  Vaccination for Interns ................................................................................................................ 26
Roles and Responsibilities .................................................................................................................. 26
  Preceptor Role and Responsibilities ............................................................................................ 26
  Intern Role and Responsibilities .................................................................................................. 27
  Internship Director Roles and Responsibilities ......................................................................... 27
Absence/Tardiness Policy .................................................................................................................. 28
Professional Meetings ..................................................................................................................... 28
Employment Policy .......................................................................................................................... 28
Non-Dietetic Internship Graduate Course Enrollment .................................................................... 29
Professional Dress Code .................................................................................................................... 29
Cell Phone Policy ............................................................................................................................. 29
Computer/ Electronic Devises Use Policy ......................................................................................... 29
Selecting and Maintaining Supervised Practice Sites ..................................................................... 29
Ball State University Dietetic Internship Website ............................................................................ 30
Values used when grades are averaged (Appendix A) .................................................................... 31
Program Mission
The mission of the Ball State University Dietetic Internship Program is to prepare entry-level registered dietitian nutritionists who meet or exceed the ACEND-required competencies. The program will foster a culture of collaboration through inter-professional development and community engagement.

Program Goals and Objectives
1. Graduates will become registered dietitian nutritionists that participate in community engagement.
   1.1. “At least 80% of program interns complete program/degree requirements within 24 months (150% of the program length”).
   1.2. “Of graduates who seek employment, 80 percent are employed in nutrition and dietetics or related fields within 12 months of graduation”.
   1.3. “Ninety percent of program graduates take the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists within 12 months of program completion”.
   1.4. “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%”.
   1.5. At least 80% of employer surveys returned will indicate agreement with the statement that “program graduates are prepared for entry-level practice.”
   1.6. At least 80% of the alumni surveys returned will indicate agreement with the statement “I have participated in community engagement”
2. Graduates will participate in interprofessional activities.
   2.1. At least 80% of the alumni surveys returned will indicate agreement with the statement “I have collaborated with members from other professions.”

Program outcomes data is available upon request.

Dietetic Internship Application and Admission

Preselect Dietetic Internship Admission Option
The Preselect Admission Option is to offer qualified Ball State University students the opportunity to apply for admission and be granted direct admission into the program upon completion of the DPD and Bachelor of Science program requirements. This option also applies to current students that have been admitted into the Nutrition and Dietetics Graduate Program but have not been admitted into the Dietetic Internship. Students applying to the Preselect Admission Option will commit to attending Ball State University Dietetic Internship the following school year and bypass the computer matching application process.

Preselect Admission Requirements:
Current BSU Students:
  • A minimum of a 3.5* cumulative GPA** on a 4.0 scale
• Current enrollment or completion of the core upper division nutrition courses (NUTR 455: Lifecycle Nutrition; NUTR 446: Medical Nutrition Therapy I) at Ball State University
  *The cumulative GPA cut-off may be re-determined every year
  **If applicable, Undergraduate and Graduate coursework will be considered in the cumulative GPA

Preselect Application Process:
  1.) **Apply to the Ball State University Graduate School**

All applicants to the Dietetic Internship at Ball State University must be accepted into the Graduate School at Ball State University and the Department of Nutrition and Health Science to be considered an applicant to the Dietetic Internship.

• GREs are NOT REQUIRED
• Select “MS Nutrition and Dietetics” (do NOT select MS Nutrition and Dietetics-Online)
• Ball State must receive transcripts from all colleges and universities you attended (this includes dual credit courses earned while in high school) in order for you to be admitted to your program of interest.
  o You may provide unofficial or official transcripts when you apply.
    ▪ **unofficial transcripts** - Unofficial transcripts are copies of transcripts that you directly upload to your applicant status portal. Each document uploaded must include your name, the institution's name, the degree you have earned/are in the process of completing, and your cumulative GPA. (By choosing to submit unofficial transcripts, you acknowledge that your application is being reviewed based upon the information you provided; an official transcript may be requested if further information is needed; and, after recommended for admission, that you will provide your official transcripts to complete the admission process).
    ▪ **official transcripts** - Official transcripts are transcripts that are sent directly (electronically, by mail, or received in an official sealed envelope) to Ball State University’s Graduate Admissions Office from the issuing institution. You may order official transcripts to include with your application, rather than wait until after you're recommended for admission to provide them. This means any former or current institutions you attended will need to submit the official transcripts to Ball State.
  o **You do not need to submit Ball State transcripts.**
• Email your final transcripts to admissions@bsu.edu
• Your Preselect application materials will be used to select our candidates; you do NOT need to submit a letter of intent or any additional references beyond what were included in your Preselect application materials.
• **Apply at** www.bsu.edu/gradschool -- Look to the top right. “Apply Now”
  o The first time you enter information, click “First Time User”
  o Remember what username/password you used
  o You can return to the application at any time; but when you do, this time click “Returning User”
• Sign up to watch our Virtual Open House and your $60 application fee will be waived. www.bsu.edu/dietetics/graduate Scroll to the bottom of the page.
2.) Apply for Pre-select Admission to the BSU Dietetic Internship no later than fall semester of the senior year for preadmission into the Dietetic Internship class for the following year. Contact the Dietetic Internship Director for the Pre-select application packet. The application packet consists of the following completed information:
   a) BSU Preselect Admission Option Checklist
   b) Supplemental Supervised Practice Selection Form
   c) Preselect Option Admission Application Form
   • Waiver and Recommendation Form
   d) All official transcripts from every college or university attended.

Completed application packets must be scanned in their entirety and submitted in one PDF. The PDF is to be e-mailed to Lydia Ballenger (ljballenger@bsu.edu) by 11:59 pm (Eastern) on December 31*. The application packet materials should be scanned in the following order:
   1) BSU Preselect Admission Option Checklist (Form A-1)
   2) Supplemental Supervised Practice Selection Form (Form B)
   3) Preselect Option Admission Application Form (Form C)
   4) GPA Worksheet (Form D)
   5) Waiver and Recommendation Form**
   6) All official transcripts from every college or university attended.
      a) Both front and back of transcripts should be scanned

In addition, the GPA Worksheet (Form D) should be e-mailed as a separate Excel document with the application packet.

**Official transcripts** can be hand delivered to the Department of Nutrition and Health Science or mailed (postmarked deadline December 31* of every year) to:
   Dietetic Internship Steering Committee c/o Lydia Ballenger
   Department of Nutrition and Health Science
   HB 530
   Ball State University
   Muncie, IN 47306

*Pre-select application due date may vary slightly from year to year.
**If the applicant chooses to waive access to the recommendation letter, the Waiver and Recommendation Form can be mailed directly from the reference to Lydia Ballenger at the address above.

Pre-select applicants will be contacted by the Dietetic Internship Director to set up a virtual interview in January. The interviews will be recorded and available for the Dietetic Internship Steering Committee to review.

**Pre-select Option Selection Process and Notification:**

1. Applications and interview will be reviewed by the Dietetic Internship Steering Committee. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance or rejection into the BSU Dietetic Internship by
the third week in January every year. Those that are not preselected may still participate in computer matching and still designate Ball State as an internship option if they so choose.

2. Selection criteria will include academic performance, faculty recommendations, personal statement, interview, participation in professional or community organizations, extracurricular activities/sports, honors, and awards. Meeting minimum requirements for the Preselect Dietetic Internship Option does not guarantee acceptance into the Dietetic Internship Program.

3. Students are accepted into the Ball State Dietetic Internship for the year immediately following completion of their undergraduate requirements.

4. Written confirmation to the Dietetic Internship Director accepting the internship position is required by January 30th. Students preselected for internship positions are required to notify D&D Digital of their preselection and withdraw from the computer match if they have previous registered to participate in the Dietetic Internship computer match.

5. Admittance into the BSU Dietetic Internship is contingent on maintaining cumulative GPA, a minimum grade of a B in all DPD course requirements, and completion of all DPD requirements.

   ➢ The BSU DI will vary from year-to-year the number of spots filled via the Preselect Admission Option. In any given year, the number of spots filled via the Preselect Admission Option will not exceed 12 out of 24. The remainder of the spots will be filled by computer matching.

Once accepted in the Dietetic Internship, interns must provide the following to the internship director prior to starting the program:

   • Official transcript showing completion of a bachelor’s degree from an accredited university
   • Verification Statement from the ACEND-accredited BSU Didactic Program in Dietetics

Updated 06/02/2021

Computer Matching

Computer Matching Application Preferred GPAs

   • A minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale
   • A minimum 3.0 DPD GPA on a 4.0 scale
   • A minimum 2.75 Science GPA on a 4.0 scale

Computer Matching Application Process:

1.) Apply to the Ball State University Graduate School
All applicants to the Dietetic Internship at Ball State University must be accepted into the Graduate School at Ball State University and the Department of Nutrition and Health Science to be considered an applicant to the Dietetic Internship.

- GREs are NOT REQUIRED
- Select “MS Nutrition and Dietetics” (do NOT select MS Nutrition and Dietetics-Online)
- Ball State must receive transcripts from all colleges and universities you attended (this includes dual credit courses earned while in high school) in order for you to be admitted to your program of interest.
  - You may provide unofficial or official transcripts when you apply.
    - **unofficial transcripts** - Unofficial transcripts are copies of transcripts that you directly upload to your applicant status portal. Each document uploaded must include your name, the institution's name, the degree you have earned/are in the process of completing, and your cumulative GPA. (By choosing to submit unofficial transcripts, you acknowledge that your application is being reviewed based upon the information you provided; an official transcript may be requested if further information is needed; and, after recommended for admission, that you will provide your official transcripts to complete the admission process).
    - **official transcripts** - Official transcripts are transcripts that are sent directly (electronically, by mail, or received in an official sealed envelope) to Ball State University’s Graduate Admissions Office from the issuing institution. You may order official transcripts to include with your application, rather than wait until after you're recommended for admission to provide them. This means any former or current institutions you attended will need to submit the official transcripts to Ball State.

- Email your final transcripts to admissions@bsu.edu
- Apply at [www.bsu.edu/gradschool](http://www.bsu.edu/gradschool) -- Look to the top right. “Apply Now”
  - The first time you enter information, click “First Time User”
  - Remember what username/password you used
  - You can return to the application at any time; but when you do, this time click “Returning User”
- Sign up to watch our Virtual Open House and your $60 application fee will be waived. [www.bsu.edu/dietetics/graduate](http://www.bsu.edu/dietetics/graduate) Scroll to the bottom of the page. (Check viewed an information session on the application.)

2.) The Ball State Dietetic Internship will be using the online dietetic internship centralized application process (DICAS) for the Spring Computer Match.

- As part of the application, official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended should be sent, postmark by February 15, 2022 to the following address:
There is a Supplemental Supervised Practice Selection Form to fill out and can be found on the Ball State Dietetic Internship website. Please submit via DICAS and upload as a supplemental document.

Please contact DICAS at dicasinfo@dicas.org or 617-612-2855 for questions about the application process or fees.

In addition to completing the application, applicants must also register online with D&D Digital to participate in the computer matching process. A list of selected programs must be submitted by 11:59 P.M. (Central) February 15, 2022. Contact D&D Digital about fees.

Refer to the Computer Matching Checklist.

Notification Day is April 3, 2022 at 6:00 pm (Central).

Please note the following:

- Applicants may be interviewed by the Dietetic Internship Director on campus or via virtual conference. The interviews will be recorded and available for the Dietetic Internship Selection Committee to review.
- The BSU DI does not require a separate program application fee.
- The same letters of reference from the DICAS application will be used to determine acceptance into the Graduate School at Ball State University and the Department of Nutrition and Health Science. No need to submit additional letters of reference. The Graduate School will require official transcripts be sent directly to them.
- Once accepted in the Dietetic Internship, interns must provide the following to the internship director prior to starting the program:
  - Official transcript showing completion of a bachelor’s degree from an accredited university or foreign equivalent
  - Verification Statement from an ACEND-accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics

Second Match

If the program enters into second round matching, the BSU DI program will be listed on the D&D Digital website has a program with openings. To be eligible for the second-round application process, you must have received a “No Match” through the D&D Digital computer match process for the 2022 Spring Match and you must also meet the program requirements for application. Individuals who applied to the BSU DI Program during the first round, do not need to re-apply.
If the BSU DI is participating, the 2nd Round DICAS applications will be accepted Wednesday, April 6 at 11:00 am CDT (12:00 pm Eastern) through Friday, April 8 at 4:00 pm CDT (5:00 pm Eastern).

Applicants apply through DICAS and will be reviewed in the order that they are received until the class is full. All applications will be reviewed and scored by the program director & committee according to the selection review process as outlined in the program application materials. GRE scores are NOT required. There is NOT an additional DI application fee. Applicants will be ranked by the program director based on the score received in the review process and appointment offers will begin. There is no need to apply to Ball State University at this time.

If you do not meet the criteria, please do not submit your application to the program in DICAS.

Further Information:
1. Preferred GPAs
   - A minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale
   - A minimum 3.0 DPD GPA on a 4.0 scale
   - A minimum 2.75 Science GPA on a 4.0 scale

2. There is a Supplemental Supervised Practice Selection Form to fill out and can be found on the Ball State Dietetic Internship [website](https://www.ballstate.edu). Please submit via DICAS and upload as a supplemental document.

3. Release your completed DICAS application (via the DICAS system) to Ball State University. You will be contacted via email or telephone if additional information is needed. If you are selected as a second round appointment, you will be notified by phone. At the conclusion of the process, the program director will notify unsuccessful applicants via email that the internship class is complete. Upon appointment to the BSU DI through the second round, you must [apply](https://www.ballstate.edu) to and be accepted into the Ball State University Graduate School.

*Updated 11/23/2021*

**Receency of Education**

I. Purpose

To maintain the quality of education held by individuals who make application to and are accepted by the Dietetic Internship at Ball State University.

To ensure that applicants have an up-to-date knowledge base.

To help ensure individuals who complete the Dietetic Internship at Ball State University are qualified to participate in the internship, for entry-level employment in the dietetics field and to take and pass the Registration Exam for Dietitians
II. Policy

Prior to acceptance into the Dietetic Internship, all students must submit a Verification Statement from an ACEND-accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) program. The DPD Verification Statement must be dated five (5) years immediately prior to the current DI application postmark deadline. In cases where an applicant is currently in school, an “Intent to Complete Statement” is sent with the application packet and the final Verification Statement is sent after acceptance in the program and all coursework is completed.

III. Procedure

A. When the Verification Statement is more than five (5) years old, the applicant must submit documentation of recent education in the application packet.

B. The following guidelines apply:

1. The applicant is expected to submit the documentation of having taken or in the process of taking food and nutrition courses within the past 5 years from a university with an ACEND approved Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) using the criteria below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Years Since DPD Program Completion</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Suggested BSU Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 – 10 years</td>
<td>9 semester hours in addition to completion of DPD requirements</td>
<td>NUTR 345, 445, and 446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 10 years</td>
<td>12 semester hours in addition to completion of DPD requirements</td>
<td>NUTR 345, 363, 445, and 446</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Documentation of successful completion of the coursework must be provided before the start of the program. The student must provide an official transcript from a regionally accredited college or university within the United States of America verifying completion of the courses with a grade of “B” or better.

Reviewed 7/2013; 1/2017; 7/2017; 2/2021

Assessment of Prior Learning and Credit toward Program Requirements

Waiver of Graduate Credit Requirements: Master’s Degree

1. The prospective student must have earned a Master’s Degree in dietetics or a related field.
2. Prior to the start of graduate work at Ball State University, the student must meet with the Dietetic Internship Director and/or Graduate Program Director to discuss the possible waiver.

3. To receive the waiver to decrease the prerequisite hours of 9 graduate credits to 6 graduate credits (courses must be taken in the Department of Nutrition and Health Science); the student must provide an official transcript for evaluation. The graduate grade point average must be a 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

4. The Dietetic Internship Director and/or Graduate Program Director will examine the written documentation and determine if the waiver is to be awarded.

5. The prospective student will receive notification of outcome within 10 days. No appeal is possible.

Waiver of Dietetic Internship Rotation Requirements
The Dietetic Internship does not allow credit for prior learning for supervised practice courses/rotations.

Withdrawal and Refund of Tuition and Fees
Withdrawal Procedures

- To withdraw from the dietetic internship, you must provide written notice to the dietetic internship director. Once withdrawn from the dietetic internship, you forfeit your spot.
- To withdraw from the University, you must contact the Office of Dean of Student Affairs, Administration Building Room 238. Any refunds (i.e. financial aid, registration fees) are based on the date initial contact is made with the Office of Dean of Student Affairs and the appropriate refund schedule. Any refund related to fees paid for on-campus housing and dining will be administered based on the terms of the contract.
- Discontinuance or abandonment of classes does not constitute an official withdrawal from all classes. The only fees that are eligible for a refund are the registration fees which include the general fees, special fees, course fees and short term fee.

*Updated 06/02/2021*
More information is available on the Ball State University website at the following locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawal from All Courses</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/retention-graduation/withdrawal">https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/retention-graduation/withdrawal</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Retention and Graduation</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/retention-graduation">https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/retention-graduation</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scheduling and Program Calendar**

The Dietetic Internship at Ball State University consists of two internship classes, one beginning in January of each year and one beginning in May of each year. The dates each class begins will be determined by the Ball State University Academic Calendar. The January class will begin on the first day of spring semester. The May class will begin on the first day of the summer semester.

Both the January and May class will be made up of:

- Orientation week
- 25 weeks of supervised practice*
- 3-4 days of evaluation activities

Each intern will complete:

- 8 weeks – Hospital Food Systems Management Rotation
- 11 weeks – Hospital Nutrition Therapy Rotation
- 6 weeks (at 1 or 2 sites) – Community/Business Nutrition Rotation
- 1 week – Optional experience (e.g. diabetes camp, dialysis clinical, etc.)
Hours spent in the internship will include:

- Week 1 (Orientation Week) will involve 32 to 40 hours.
- Weeks 2 through 296 will involve 40 hours per week for a total of 1160 hours.
- Week 27 (Evaluation week) will involve 24 to 32 hours.
- Total minimum hours for internship are 1160**.

**ACEND has increased flexibility with supervised practice. Due to the pandemic, through June 30, 2022 ACEND will allow 1000 (instead of 1200) hours of supervised practice. 600 hours must be in a “professional” setting. In addition, 2022 ACEND Guidelines require a minim of 1000 hours of supervised practice.

Interns are expected to work 40-hour weeks, which may include work on the weekends. Days missed for illness and holidays are expected to be made up. Make up work can be completed as weekend hours, hours worked over the 40-hour a week expectation or on projects completed away from the facility. **There are no scheduled breaks or vacation days during the Dietetic Internship.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holiday recognized by Ball State University</th>
<th>Work Expectations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Years Day</td>
<td>Dietetic Internship is not in session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King Day</td>
<td>As directed by facility preceptor(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
<td>As directed by facility preceptor(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4th</td>
<td>As directed by facility preceptor(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Day</td>
<td>As directed by facility preceptor(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
<td>Dietetic Internship is not in session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas</td>
<td>Dietetic Internship is not in session</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sample of Basic Calendar for Supervised Practice Rotations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January Cohort</th>
<th>May Cohort</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNT Orientation Week</td>
<td>MNT Orientation Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
<td>Community Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
<td>Community Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
<td>Community Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 8</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 8</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 9</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 9</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 10</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 10</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 11</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 11</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 12</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 12</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 13</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 13</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 14</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 15</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 16</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 16</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 17</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 17</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 18</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 18</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 19</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 19</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 20</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 20</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Rotation- FSM</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 21</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 21</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Business</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 22</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 22</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Business</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 23</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 23</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Business</td>
<td>Hospital Rotation- MNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 24</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 24</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Business</td>
<td>Community Business</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 25</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 25</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Business</td>
<td>Community Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 26</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 26</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Business</td>
<td>Community Business</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MNT= Medical Nutrition Therapy Rotation; FSM= Food Systems Management Rotation

One-week optional experiences may be available (e.g. diabetes camp, renal clinic, eating disorders). Interns who choose to attend a 1-week optional experience will still complete an 11-week Medical Nutrition Therapy Rotation in the hospital. The Basic Calendar may be adjusted to allow interns assigned to a school system Community/Business Nutrition Rotation during the school year. Please note that supervised practice rotations do not follow the university calendar.

More information is available on the Ball State University website at the following location:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calendar for Ball State University</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/calendar">https://www.bsu.edu/calendar</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Integration of Supervised Practice into MS in Nutrition and Dietetics

An example of how the required Dietetic Internship Courses (18 credits) fit into the Nutrition and Dietetics Graduate Program is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>January Class</th>
<th>May Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer 1</td>
<td>Optional grad classes (up to 9 credits)</td>
<td>Optional grad classes (up to 9 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 1</td>
<td>Required grad classes (9 credits)</td>
<td>Optional grad classes (9-12 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 1</td>
<td>Supervised Practice (6 credits)</td>
<td>Required grad classes (9 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer 2</td>
<td>Supervised Practice (3 credits)</td>
<td>Supervised Practice (3 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2</td>
<td>Finish grad classes part- or full-time (9-18 credits remain)</td>
<td>Supervised Practice (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2</td>
<td>Finish grad classes part- or full-time (0-18 credits remain)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supervised Practice Site Placement

The Program Director places interns at program-affiliated supervised practice sites based on preceptor availability and intern interest. Interns do NOT locate their own supervised practice sites. In general, the site selection occurs in the following way:

- Every summer the Program Director surveys the preceptors for availability the following calendar year.
- Every fall the Program Director surveys the interns to provide preferences on location, and interest in community/business sites. A specific site or location can never be guaranteed.
- Based on preceptor availability and intern feedback, the Program Director creates the supervised practice schedule.
- The supervised practice rotation schedule is revealed to interns at least two months prior to the start of rotations:
  - January Cohort - November 1st
  - May Cohort - March 1st
- About 25% of supervised practice sites are remote (>100 miles from campus). The Program lists all affiliations on the website and their distance from campus. In addition, interns are provided the MS/DI Google map prior to completing the selection survey. If an intern is placed at a site where they must move, then all sites are typically in the same region (within a one-hour commute of the hospital).
- All supervised practice sites are considered “off-campus” and all interns have the same access to university resources. There is no difference in program tuition or fees.

Created 04/01/2021

Supervised Practice Documentation

Each intern will keep track of their supervised practice hours in both their Reflection Log (submitted weekly) and the DI Record of Hours Form. The documents will be submitted to the DI Canvas page. Any alternative practice experiences obtained in General DI Orientation, NUTR
642 Nutrition Assessment, MNT Orientation Week, Evaluation Week and/or monthly virtual meetings will be documented by the Program Director.

Updated 07/05/2021

**Protection of privacy of intern information**

Intern privacy is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Students who are currently enrolled or formerly enrolled regardless of their age are subject to FERPA. Intern records will be stored in a locked cabinet in the office of the DI Director and/or a password-protected university cloud account. Interns must log-in with their secure Ball State University username and password for coursework.

More information is available on the Ball State University website at the following location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act</td>
<td>[<a href="https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffice">https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffice</a> s/registrar/ferpa](<a href="https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffice">https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffice</a> s/registrar/ferpa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball State University Website Privacy Policy</td>
<td>[<a href="https://ballstate.policotech.com/dotNet/docume">https://ballstate.policotech.com/dotNet/docume</a> nts/?docid=1752&amp;public=true](<a href="https://ballstate.policotech.com/dotNet/docume">https://ballstate.policotech.com/dotNet/docume</a> nts/?docid=1752&amp;public=true)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Policy**

Ball State University provides equal opportunity to all students and applicants for admission in its education programs, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, disability, genetic information, ethnicity, national origin or ancestry, age, or protected veteran status.

Reviewed 06/03/2021

More information is available on the Ball State University website at the following location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Access to personal files**

Permanent records will not contain information concerning religion, political or social beliefs, and membership in any organization other than honorary and professional organizations.
directly related to the academic processes, except upon expressed written request of the
member in question (Faculty and Professional Personnel Handbook, Bill of Rights and
Responsibilities, Ball State University; available in the office of or electronically stored on a
password-protected university cloud account by the Director of the Dietetic Internship).

Students have access to their own program files that are maintained in the office of or
electronically stored on a password-protected university cloud account by the director of the
Dietetic Internship.

*Updated 07/03/2021*

**Access to Intern Support Services**

Interns have access to support services provided to all Ball State University Students. In some
cases, services may be limited due to the number of credit hours an individual is enrolled per
semester or summer session and/or current student status.

Ball State University Student Support and Educational Services include but are not limited to
the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Support Service</th>
<th>Website location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Center</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/campuslife/healthcenter">https://www.bsu.edu/campuslife/healthcenter</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counseling Center</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/campuslife/counselingcenter">https://www.bsu.edu/campuslife/counselingcenter</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Services</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/academics/libraries">https://www.bsu.edu/academics/libraries</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for Online Proctored Exams</td>
<td><a href="https://bsu.service-now.com/helpdesk?id=kb_article&amp;sys_id=5e06db65dbe74c14166938f9619c8">https://bsu.service-now.com/helpdesk?id=kb_article&amp;sys_id=5e06db65dbe74c14166938f9619c8</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Writing Center</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/academics/centersandinstitutes/writingcenter">https://www.bsu.edu/academics/centersandinstitutes/writingcenter</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Learning Center</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/academics/collegesanddepartments/universitycollege/learningcenter">https://www.bsu.edu/academics/collegesanddepartments/universitycollege/learningcenter</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Help Desk</td>
<td><a href="https://bsu.service-now.com/helpdesk">https://bsu.service-now.com/helpdesk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball State Technology Store</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/technology-store">https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/technology-store</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MyBSU Student Portal</td>
<td><a href="https://my.bsu.edu/default.aspx">https://my.bsu.edu/default.aspx</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology Services</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/its">https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/its</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career Center</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/careercenter">https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/careercenter</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Legal Services</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/campuslife/studentlife/legalservices">https://www.bsu.edu/campuslife/studentlife/legalservices</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Disability Services</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/disability-services">https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/disability-services</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities</td>
<td>[<a href="https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/studentrights/policies">https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/studentrights/policies</a> andprocedures/studentcode](<a href="https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/studentrights/policies">https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/studentrights/policies</a> andprocedures/studentcode)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Insurance Requirements

Professional Liability
Ball State University presently has in place the following coverage that is available to respond to liability situations that may occur with regard to the activities of students engaged in off-campus activities. United Educators, administered by AIG Brokerage provides coverage in the amount of $1,000,000 for incidents of liability for property damage and personal injury, including bodily injury. Endorsement includes all practicum students. Interns may choose purchase professional liability insurance.

Auto Insurance
Liability for safety in travel is covered by university policy while traveling in a university owned vehicle. If interns travel to and/or from supervised practice sites in a private vehicle, the owner/driver is required to carry individual liability insurance.

Health Insurance
Students assume full responsibility for health insurance coverage and expenses incurred for health care.

Injury or Illness While in the Facility for Supervised Practice
In the event of an accident or an injury, the dietetic intern will receive the same immediate medical attention as an employee of the facility. The expense incurred is the intern’s responsibility. It is required that the intern be covered by personal health insurance.

Criminal Background Check
All interns are required to complete and pay for a background check. Additional criminal background checks are required for some internship site assignments. If an intern is assigned to a site that requires an additional criminal background check, it is the intern’s responsibility to complete the process and to pay any fees associated with the background check. Communications prior to the start of the internship will inform interns which sites are involved and how to complete the process.

Drug Testing
Drug testing is required for some internship site assignments. If an intern is assigned to a site that requires a drug test it is the intern’s responsibility to complete the process and to pay any
fees associated with the test. Communications prior to the start of the internship will inform interns which sites are involved and how to complete the process.

**Distance Instruction and Technology Requirements**

All coursework and supervised practice projects are housed on Ball State University’s Learning Management System, Canvas. In order to verify identity, interns must log-in with their secure Ball State University username and password to access Canvas. Interns will need access to an electronic device that can access the Internet, Internet access, and a webcam.

During high-stakes testing (e.g. mid-term or final exams), Respondus Monitor is used to ensure testing integrity. Respondus Monitor allows the instructor to administer Canvas exams by using an intern’s webcam and facial detection software to deter cheating. It works in conjunction with Respondus Lockdown Browser and a webcam to record and analyze each exam session. After the exam sessions are recorded and analyzed, faculty have the opportunity to review the analysis and can watch the recorded exam sessions.

*Updated 11/23/2021*

**Educational Purpose of the Dietetic Internship**

The educational purpose of the Dietetic Internship is to provide interns with meaningful professional experiences in a variety of work settings typically performed by a Dietetic Practitioner. Given the wide range of employment opportunities in the field of dietetics, a variety of tasks and opportunities should be provided, but **interns should not replace employees**.

It is the intent of the internship to provide pre-professional practice sites and preceptors who are willing to provide experiences that will allow interns to:

1. progress from observation to completion of tasks as the rotation progresses
2. critically think and problem solve
3. apply scientific information and current research to practice
4. develop beliefs, values, attitudes and behaviors appropriate for the dietetics professional
5. perform the Nutrition Care Process
6. provide education to customers, clients, patients, and/or individuals or groups
7. provide positive service to customers, clients, patients, and/or the public
8. apply principles of management and systems

**Filing and Handling Complaints from Interns and Preceptors**

It is the intent of the director to maintain effective informal procedures for responding to intern and preceptor queries and concerns. If external intervention is required the individual seeking a solution to their concern should contact the Chairperson of the Department of Nutrition and Health Science, Ball State University. If the matter is not resolved, contact the Dean of the
College of Health, Ball State University. Students may submit written complaints (about ACEND Standards) directly to ACEND only after all other options with the program and institution have been exhausted.

In the event of a grade dispute, the intern is advised to contact the course instructor. If the matter is not resolved to the intern’s satisfaction, the department chair is contacted, followed by the college dean. The grade appeals process is outlined in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

The program will maintain a record of intern complaints for a period of seven years, including the resolution of complaints.

*Updated 11/23/2021*

More information is available on the Ball State University website at the following location:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Formal Assessment on Intern Learning**

Interns are required to complete (with a B average or higher) a minimum of nine credits (including NUTR 642 Nutrition Assessment) of graduate coursework prior to the start of supervised practice rotations. This allows time for the interns to get to know each other, and work with graduate nutrition faculty as they experience the more rigorous demands of graduate-level coursework.

Competence of the dietetic intern will be determined at specified intervals throughout supervised practice rotations. The intern will be responsible for completing internship-assigned projects that link competencies to supervised practice. Near the completion date of each rotation, the preceptor will complete a final evaluation based on specific competencies.

During the Food Systems Management and Nutrition Therapy rotations a midpoint evaluation form is completed by the preceptor. The two page mid-term evaluation allows preceptors to identify how the intern is adjusting to the work environment. The intern and the preceptor also prepare mutually agreed upon intern goals to be completed prior to the completion of the rotation. These two forms are then sent to the DI director. The intern, the preceptor, and the DI director have the option of contacting the other parties involved should an inconsistency exist in the evaluation process.

Interns are expected to maintain an electronic portfolio throughout the internship showing projects and activities completed that show the interns have achieved the competencies found
within each of the Learning Outcomes. Interns use the Learning Assessment Matrix (found on Canvas) to monitor their progress. Program outcomes data are available on request.

Interns receiving an overall grade of B- or lower in NUTR 642 will not be allowed to continue on to supervised practice rotations. Interns who do not meet a level of “competent” for all ACEND competencies and/or receive a B- or lower in NUTR 680, 681 or 682 will not receive a verification statement.

The grades received from the two community/business 3-week rotations (if applicable) will be averaged to determine the final grade for the rotation. Grades will also be averaged following the completion of any extended experience. The scale used to determine the letter grade when grades are averaged can be found in Appendix A of the handbook.

Retention and Remission Procedures
Interns receiving an overall grade of B- or lower in NUTR 680, 681 or 682 may request an extended experience(s). Arrangements for the extended experience will be completed by the program director, in cooperation with the preceptor and the intern. Grades earned during the initial experience will be recorded as incomplete until the extended experience is complete. The grade earned in NUTR 680, 681 or 682 will be average of the grade earned during the initial experience and grade earned during the extended experience. Since the community/business rotation may be averaged between grades from one or two rotations, the grade will be calculated as follows:

- The extended experience grade will be averaged with the initial experience grade for the 3-week rotation for which the request was made.
- The above described averaged grade will then be averaged with the grade(s) earned in the other 3-week rotation, if applicable.

If needed, the intern will have access to remedial instruction through the internship director or tutorial support. In addition, the Graduate Program Director (advisor) is available to discuss career options, if needed.

Updated 06/03/2021

Disciplinary and Termination Procedures
Interns in the Dietetic Internship at Ball State University are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.

Professional conduct includes but is not limited to:

- Verbal or written abuse of the program, program director, program faculty, preceptor, or any individual served by the facility to which the intern is assigned
- Interference with the completion of the evaluation process
- Consistent inability to work with those individuals served by the facility to which the intern is assigned
• Inability to follow Dietetic Internship Policies as stated in the handbook

If a student's actions are deemed to be outside the realm of the guidelines of these documents the student will be removed from the situation and individually counseled and educated to correct the situation. Following the intern's statement of understanding the intern will be returned to the supervised practice at a time and situation to be determined by the director. If an intern's actions continue in a manner inconsistent with the Ball State University Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities, Academy Code of Ethics or Standard of Practice, or the Standards of Professional Performance the student will be dismissed from the program.

Interns are expected to practice following the Ball State University Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities, Academy Code of Ethics and the Standards of Professional Practice and the Standards of Professional Performance.

*Updated 07/05/2021*

More information is available on the Ball State University website at the following location:

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dietetic Internship Completion Requirements**

Students will be eligible to take the Registration examination after:

- Completing nine Ball State University graduate credit hours earned through the Dietetic Internship supervised practice with a grade point average of B or better
- Completing the prerequisites of nine graduate credit hours (6 of the 9 credit hours need to be from the Department of Nutrition and Health Science) with a grade average of 3.0 (B average) or better.
- Receiving a Verification Statement of successful completion of the Dietetic Internship from the Program director.
Maximum amount of time allowed to complete the Dietetic Internship
Most interns can expect to complete the Dietetic Internship in the 11 months planned to complete the program. In the event that interns have a health related or family emergency and are unable to complete their experience in 11 months, interns will be given the opportunity to complete their experience within the 16.5 months following the planned completion date of the internship class in which the intern was a member. Arrangements for the extended experience will be completed by the program director, in cooperation with the preceptor and the intern. Intern grades for the classes of the Dietetic Internship will remain as incomplete until the work is completed, at which time a grade for the experience will be assigned.

Verification Statement and CDR Submission Procedures
Interns are expected to complete four days of evaluation following the completion of the supervised practice hours. During this time interns will:
- verify the internship program has on file signed evaluation forms for all rotations completed during the weeks of the supervised practice
- verify all BSU-assigned projects meet or exceed minimum requirements
- provide a completed Dietetic Internship electronic portfolio
- work in cooperation with the program director to complete documentation required by CDR
- review RD exam study materials
- complete an on-line exit program evaluation
- participate in activities determined by the program director for use during evaluation week

Verification Statements will be awarded following the completion of evaluation week activities and the following criteria are met:
- meet or exceed minimum ACEND dietetic internship competencies
- meet or exceed minimum number of supervised practice hours

Submission to CDR for eligibility for the RD examination will be completed by the program director within 3 business days following the completion of evaluation week.

Health Care Clearance Procedures
Students need to have a physical examination prior to the start of their internship. The physical exam may be completed at the medical provider of your choice or may be completed at the Ball State Health Center*. Additional items required include:
- 2-Step TB Test
- MMR
- Varicella (chicken pox)
- HepB series
- TdaP
- flu shot (during flu season)
• BSU COVID-19 Vaccination Information Form
  o Must be completed IF site requires COVID-19 vaccination
  o Most all hospitals require the vaccination

Documentation is stored in Complio. It is the student’s responsibility to provide proof of health clearance and vaccinations to preceptors

*Students that have paid the health center fee with their tuition (students taking 7 or more credits hours with at least one on-campus class) have access to the Health Center from 1 week prior to the start of the semester and up to two weeks after classes are over from that same semester.

Updated 11/24/2021

More information is available on the Ball State University website at the following location:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>Health Center</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/campuslife/healthcenter/services">https://www.bsu.edu/campuslife/healthcenter/services</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Pregnancy**

If you are pregnant or think that you are pregnant, please inform your preceptor and the director of the program immediately. Your activities with patients will be monitored more carefully in order to reduce your risk due to possible exposure to communicable, health-related problems.

More information is available on the Ball State University website at the following location:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pregnancy Accommodations</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/associate-dean-of-students/pregnancy-accommodations">https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/associate-dean-of-students/pregnancy-accommodations</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COVID-19**

**Ball State University Response**

Ball State University has continued to update students, faculty, and staff through the pandemic. The most up-to-date information is on the BSU COVID-19 website.

**Department of Nutrition and Health Science Response**

March 6, 2020, the Department of Nutrition and Health Science created a COVID-19 Plan. The “Students (undergraduates and graduates)” Section number 7 states:

- Students at the preceptor/internship/practicum sites will not be assigned a client/patient in negative airflow rooms or in isolation for monitoring or testing of COVID-19.

The entire plan has been shared with preceptors and is available on Canvas.
Interns with COVID-19
If an intern thinks they may have COVID-19, they must contact their local health care provider as rotations are off-campus. The individual’s health care provider will give guidance in regards to symptoms, contact tracing, and/or when they are "cleared" to return to rotations. Interns must also follow the procedures at their rotation site to become "cleared" to return. An intern only needs to self-report to BSU if they plan to be on campus.

Interns Working Remotely
If interns become sick or are unable to be at the supervised practice site, please review the following options until they are back into the field:

- Preceptors may assign projects to be completed remotely. Any time corresponding, speaking, or video conferencing with your preceptor does count towards overall hours.

Vaccination for Interns
During the Phase 1 distribution of the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program, the CDC recommends that paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for exposure to COVID-19 be vaccinated. Interns must follow all health requirements of their rotation sites, including vaccinations.

More information is available on the Ball State University website at the following location:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSU COVID-19 website</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/emergency-preparedness/pandemicfluprep/coronavirus">https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/emergency-preparedness/pandemicfluprep/coronavirus</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana State Department of Health COVID-19 website</td>
<td><a href="https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/">https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Roles and Responsibilities

Preceptor Role and Responsibilities
Preceptors are to teach the intern the skills and knowledge required to function as an entry-level dietitian or manager in the preceptor’s area of specialty. Responsibilities include:

- To orient the intern to the facilities and facility resources available.
- To review the schedule of the rotation with the intern.
- To inform other employees of the dates when the interns will be in his/her area.
- To meet with the intern at least once each week to discuss projects/concerns.
- To complete appropriate intern evaluation forms before the last day of the rotation. Any deviation from this rule must be pre-approved by the Internship Director.
- To provide immediate positive feedback and constructive criticism throughout the rotation to the intern.
- To act as a resource person when the intern has questions.
- To refer the intern to appropriate resources when needed.
• To be aware of internship policies and procedures.
• To enforce policies and procedures when needed.
• To discipline the intern as needed and contact the Internship Director when appropriate.
• To act as a mentor and function as a team player.
• To serve as a role model at all times.

Intern Role and Responsibilities
Interns are to acquire the skills and knowledge to function as an entry-level dietitian or manager in each area of dietetics. Failure to follow these rules might result in termination from the program. Responsibilities include:
• To be punctual and available throughout the rotation.
• To present himself/herself in a professional manner and appearance at all times.
• To represent Ball State University in an appropriate manner and appearance.
• To complete objectives, learning experiences, and projects by due dates.
• To follow hospital, department, and program policies and procedures.
• To maintain confidentiality of all information discussed within the program affiliates and department.
• To ask for the preceptor’s approval to leave his/her area of responsibility.
• To communicate to the instructor when attending meeting or conferences away from the assigned facility.
• To inform the preceptor of any change in his/her schedule in a timely manner. To accept any change in the preceptor’s schedule that may arise.
• To maintain respect for positions of authority.
• To function as a team player.
• To seek guidance when needed.
• To graciously accept corrective criticism
• To research and look up information as needed.

Internship Director Roles and Responsibilities
The Internship Director is to direct and coordinate the Internship Program at Ball State University. Responsibilities include:
• To orient the intern to the program.
• To organize the rotations throughout the year.
• To coordinate with the preceptor learning experiences and projects for the intern for that rotation.
• To monitor and evaluate the intern’s progress in each rotation throughout the year.
• To communicate with the preceptors.
• To counsel and guide the intern.
• To serve as a role model and mentor.
• To act as a liaison between the preceptor and the intern as needed.
• To serve as an advocate for the intern when appropriate and justified.
• To enforce policies and procedures.
• To direct the selection and procession of new Dietetic Interns.
• To evaluate and revise the program as needed to improve quality and meet accreditation standards.
• To enforce the role and responsibilities of both the intern and the preceptor.
• To recruit adequate and appropriate preceptors.
• To recruit members of the Dietetic Internship Steering Committee.

**Absence/Tardiness Policy**
Attendance is vital to the success of the internship program and the individual intern. Unscheduled absences are disruptive to the learning experience. Absences for any reason are discouraged. All absences are required to be made up. Interns are required to attend all scheduled supervised practice rotations in a punctual manner. Please arrive 5 to 10 minutes prior to the start of the rotation.

Interns who experience illness or family emergency that requires multiple week absence from the internship will be given the opportunity to complete the internship. The time and location of the experience will be determined by the program director and will be based on the number of weeks the intern completed in the internship and the availability of internship sites.

**Professional Meetings**
Interns are strongly encouraged to attend meetings at the Indiana Association of Nutrition and Dietetics and their Local/District Dietetic Association, as well as other pertinent seminars. The intern must seek prior approval from **Program Director and the preceptor** to count a seminar occurring during normally scheduled supervised practice time as part of their internship hours. In general, up to one seminar day per month will be permitted to count towards supervised practice. Seminar tuition is a student responsibility. (During staff relief, a maximum of one seminar day will be allowed.)

**Employment Policy**
Intern employment during the internship is discouraged due to the required 40-hour week needed to fulfill the program requirements. If employment is necessary it should be arranged in such a way as to not interfere with the internship requirements and must be discussed with the director or coordinator. No paid employment is to be arranged in the facility to which the student has been assigned during the weeks the student is assigned to that facility. Should a student be paid for work completed during the time assigned to a facility, a grade and credit for the completion of that rotation will not be awarded.
Non-Dietetic Internship Graduate Course Enrollment
Dietetic interns are allowed to enroll in one additional graduate dietetic elective (not core) course while they are in rotations. Interns must obtain approval from the department graduate program director and the dietetic internship director prior to enrolling.

Professional Dress Code
Interns engaged in the Dietetic Internship supervised practice represent Ball State University and will dress professionally as determined by the facility in which the student is assigned. For food service experiences, dressing professionally may be demonstrated by wearing clean, pressed uniforms or clean, white, pressed laboratory coat or jacket, appropriate hair restraints and footwear that provides comfort and safety. Sandals and high heels are not appropriate for food service activities. Supervised practice in nutrition related areas might require business attire with a clean, white, pressed laboratory coat or jacket and appropriate footwear.

Interns are expected to have no visible body piercing jewelry other than moderate earrings. No visible tattoos or body paint. Tattoos must not show through clothing.

Interns are subject to follow the dress code and related regulations of the institutions to which they have been assigned.

Cell Phone Policy
Interns are not to use cell phones to send or receive calls, or for texting during internship work hours. Cell phones should be silenced during internship work hours.

Computer/ Electronic Devises Use Policy
Use of the computer and other portable electronic devises should be limited to work purposes only. Interns are not to use computers or the Internet for social networking, shopping, visiting websites that do not pertain to work assignments, or for gaming. If an intern chooses to carry their personal laptop or other portable electronic devise, to the internship work site, the use of that item during internship work hours will be limited to work tasks only.

Selecting and Maintaining Supervised Practice Sites
Supervised practice facilities are selected and periodically evaluated for adequacy and appropriateness to ensure the facilities are able to provide supervised practice learning experiences compatible with the competencies that interns are expected to achieve. Written affiliation agreements are maintained with outside institutions, organizations, and/or agencies (i.e., facilities) providing supervised practice experiences to meet intern competencies.

Procedure
Selecting and Evaluating Supervised Practice Sites
- Supervised practice sites are selected based on the following criteria:
- Ability to adequately and appropriately provide experiences needed to achieve intern competencies
- Presence of a preceptor qualified as per current ACEND accreditation standards
- Ability to establish an Affiliation Agreement as described in this policy

- Supervised practice facilities and preceptors are evaluated by interns after each rotation experience.
- The Internship Director reviews supervised practice facilities and preceptors continually as they are used, but at minimum annually. The Internship Director reviews interns’ evaluations of supervised practice facilities and preceptors as they are received throughout the year, periodically visits supervised practice facilities, identifies issues needing improvement, and takes appropriate steps to encourage the facility and preceptor to make improvements. If the Internship Director determines that the supervised practice facility and/or preceptor is not capable of or not compliant with making needed improvements and/or is no longer able to adequately and appropriately provide experiences needed to achieve intern competencies, the Internship Director will terminate the relationship with that supervised practice facility.

Affiliation Agreements
- Affiliation agreements are required with institutions, organizations, and/or agencies (i.e., sites) where interns are placed for supervised practice that meet intern competencies.
- Affiliation agreements are not required for short experiences of shadowing or observation.
- The process of establishing affiliation agreements begins well in advance of placing interns at a supervised practice facility to account for the time needed for review of the agreement by both parties.
- Affiliation agreements delineate the rights and responsibilities of both the Ball State University (sponsoring organization) and the supervised practice site (affiliating institution, organization, and/or agency).
- Affiliation agreements are signed by University’s authorized signatory and appropriate supervised practice site administrator who has appropriate authority.
- Affiliation agreements are finalized and signed prior to placing interns at the supervised practice facility.
- Maintenance of affiliation agreements includes annual review by the Internship Director or designee to ensure they have not expired and the content is current.

Ball State University Dietetic Internship Website
Additional information such as Program Expenses and the classes associated within the Nutrition and Dietetics Graduate Program are located at: www.bsu.edu/dietetics/internship.
Values used when grades are averaged (Appendix A)

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