

Dietetics MS

G - Dietetic Professional Preparation

Goal Description:

To prepare graduates who are competent to practice as entry-level dietitians upon completion.

Providing Department: Dietetics MS

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Completion of Professional Competencies

Learning Objective Description:

Dietetic interns will successfully complete all professionalism competencies including resume, mock interview, and Linked In profile.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Professional employment

Indicator Description:

Of graduates who seek employment, 70% percent are employed in nutrition and dietetics or related fields within 12 months of graduation". (RE 3.3.b.2)

Findings Description:

The target measure was set at 70% (2021-6/6 100%) of graduates who sought employment will be employed within 12 months based on previous objectives. This objective has been met by the interns who completed surveys or provided employer information. This targeted measure serves the graduates' interest in that they are not only eligible but well qualified to enter the workforce. This targeted measure serves the public's interest by providing qualified dietitians as a community health promotion resource.

Attached Files

 [2021 Graduate Survey \(Class of 2020\).pdf](#)

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Improve the ability to assess the employment of new graduates.

Action Description:

The program director is building an alumni network and Advisory Board. This will improve alumni responses to surveys, therefore improve the information provided about employers. The DI Director will work to collect this data starting in December each year.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

MS/DI Program Completion

Learning Objective Description:

Dietetic Internship students will successfully complete 32 credit hours of courses and 1200 internship hours of clinical, foodservice, community, research and professionalism. Students will demonstrate knowledge and skills as they participate in internship/field activities that prepare them for entry-level positions as dietitians.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Employed Graduates' Satisfaction

Indicator Description:

Eighty percent (80%) or more of employed graduates will rate themselves as prepared or well prepared for their first dietetics related position.

Findings Description:

Based on the previous objective, the target measure was set at 80% graduate satisfaction. It is a rigorous yet realistic objective. This measure only has data for the 2015, 2016, 2019, and 2020 cohorts. In the 2015-2016 cohorts, 69% rated themselves prepared or well prepared for their first dietetic-related position. In 2019 and 2020, 100% rated themselves prepared or well prepared for their first entry-level dietetics position. This targeted measure serves the graduates' interest in that the DI has successfully developed the skills and knowledge necessary to enter the workforce as competent, entry-level dietitians. This targeted measure serves the interests of the public by providing qualified dietitians as a resource for health promotion within the community. The wording of this measure will provide a clear ranking scale for employers and will be used going forward.

2021- 7/7 100%

Attached Files

 [2021 Graduate Survey_\(Class of 2020\).pdf](#)

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3**Graduates Preparation for employment****Action Description:**

This program is actively working to prepare interns for employment by preparing their resumes, interview skills, and cover letters. With the changes at the University level with the career center the program is working with the graduate school to provide these resources to the interns.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2**Employers Satisfaction****Indicator Description:**

During the first year of employment, 85% or more of graduates will be ranked by employers as satisfactory or more than satisfactory with the entry-level preparation of graduates.

Findings Description:

The target measure was set at 90% of employers believing graduates can work through nutrition-related problems based on previous objectives. The 2020 cohort provided information for four employers, all were sent emails by the DI director. Only three of the four responded responses, 100% stated the graduates were satisfactory or more than satisfactory with their ability to work through nutrition-related problems and ideas. There was one employer who responded in 2015, the employer ranked the previous interns as extremely dissatisfied with their level of preparedness and ability to work through nutrition-related problems. However, I think it is important to note the employer also ranked the graduate as superior for professional skills and knowledge, interpersonal relationships, and ability to work within the institution. As well as, they would definitely hire additional graduates from SHSU MS/DI. I wonder if this employer selected the incorrect category for the first question. The survey is provided in the onsite documents.

This targeted measure serves the graduates' interest in that employers report they have the critical thinking skills and knowledge necessary to enter the workforce as competent, entry-level dietitians. This targeted measure serves the interests of the public by providing qualified dietitians as a resource for health promotion in the community. This measure was updated for the SHSU MS/DI assessment plan for the 2022-2023 year. We will update the wording of the question in the Employer Survey. This will be assessed in December, one-year post-graduation, each year.

Attached Files

 [Employer Review Dec 2021-1.pdf](#)

 [Employer Review Dec 2021-3.pdf](#)

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Employers satisfaction

Action Description:

The program director is building an alumni network and Advisory Board. This will improve alumni responses to surveys, therefore improve the information provided about employers. The DI Director will work to collect this data starting in December each year.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Employers satisfaction

Action Description:

The program director is building an alumni network and Advisory Board. This will improve alumni responses to surveys, therefore improve the information provided about employers. The DI Director will work to collect this data starting in December each year.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Program completion within 24 months

Indicator Description:

At least 80% of program interns complete program/degree requirements within 24 months (150% of the program length)". (RE 3.3.b.1)

Findings Description:

This objective has consistently been met by the program since 2015. For interns, it ensures a realistic time frame in which they can complete the program. For the public, the program supplies competent future RDs who can serve the southern Texas communities in a timely manner.

Findings are in Degree Works

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Graduation Rates

Action Description:

This has been met every year of the program. We will continue meeting this objective by providing quality educational courses and multiple opportunities for internship hours. We will also continue to identify interns struggling early to intervene early.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Practice Registered Dietitian Exam

Learning Objective Description:

Dietetic interns will take a practice Registered Dietitian exam, three times, successfully passing it at minimum of one time with a 70% or greater.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

5 Year Pass Rate for RD Exam

Indicator Description:

Over a five-year, at least 80% of graduates will pass the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionist within one year following first attempt

Criterion Description:

The one-year pass rate for the past seven years has been 92%, so this is a realistic target measure for graduates and indicated that the DI program prepares graduates to pass the RD exam successfully. For the public, the program supplies competent entry-level dietitians who are prepared to serve southern Texas communities.

2019-2021-30/31 97%

2018-2020- 29/31 94%
2017-2019 – 26/30 87%

2016-2018 – 26/29 90%
2015-2017 – 26/28 93%

Attached Files

 [RD 2021-Acend 5yr Summary-2328 InternPgm.pdf](#)

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Five year pass rate of the RD Exam

Action Description:

The program's five-year pass rate has been 96% for the past five years. The program continues to provide review courses throughout the 17-month training program. This year will implement a 2 day review course to further improve the pass rate and confidence of the graduating interns.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

CDR Credentialing Exam

Indicator Description:

90% percent of program graduates take the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists within 12 months of program completion”.

Criterion Description:

The 90% target measure was set because it is an achievable yet rigorous measure based on previous program data regarding the timeframe in which graduates took the RDN exam. From 2015 – 2021, 98% of graduates took the RDN exam within one year of completing the DI program, suggesting that graduates are prepared and confident in their knowledge to pass the exam successfully. For the public, the program supplies competent RDs who can serve the community in a timely manner.

2021-9/9 100%

2020 – 10/ 100%

2019 – 10/ 100%

2018 – 10/ 100%

2017 – 10/ 100%

2016 – 10/ 100%

2015 – 9/9 100%

Attached Files

 [RD 2021-Acend 1yr Summary-2328 InternPgm.pdf](#)

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

One year pass rate of RD Exam

Action Description:

The program's one-year pass rate has been 92% for the past seven years. The program continues to provide review courses through out the 17 month training program. This year will implement a 2 day review course to further improve the pass rate and confidence of the graduating interns.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Practice Registered Dietitian Examinations

Indicator Description:

Dietetic Interns are given multiple opportunities to take practice Registration exams. In the Fall and the Spring the take FACS 5079, in the Fall semester they have the opportunity to take the practice exam three times. They are offered another attempt during the Spring semester.

Criterion Description:

In the Fall of 2020, 87.5% of the class (14 of 16) passed at least one attempt of the Registration exam (results on Blackboard).

Findings Description:

In the Fall of 2021, 100% of the class (16 of 16) passed at least one attempt of the Registration exam (results on Blackboard).

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Practice Registered Dietitian exam

Action Description:

The program's one-year pass rate has been 92% for the past seven years. The program continues to provide review courses through out the 17 month training program. This year will implement a 2 day review course to further improve the pass rate and confidence of the graduating interns.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Program's One Year Pass Rate

Indicator Description:

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%

Findings Description:

The one-year pass rate for the past seven years has been 92%, so this is a realistic target measure for graduates and indicated that the DI program prepares graduates to pass the RD exam successfully. For the public, the program supplies competent entry-level dietitians who are prepared to serve southern Texas communities.

Attached Files

 [RD 2021-Acend 1yr Summary-2328 InternPgm.pdf](#)

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Action - Program's One Year Pass Rate

Action Description:

The program's one-year pass rate has been 92% for the past seven years. The program continues to provide review courses through out the 17 month training program. This year will implement a 2 day review course to further improve the pass rate and confidence of the graduating interns.

G - Graduate Competency

Goal Description:

To prepare dietetic professional who will develop and implement evidence based nutrition to enhance the health and wellness and quality of life of individuals in the community, the nation, and the world

Providing Department: Dietetics MS

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

MS/DI Program Completion

Learning Objective Description:

Dietetic Internship students will successful complete 32 credit hours of courses and 1200 internship hours of clinical, foodservice, community, research and professionalism. Dietetic interns will practice in course work and internship to apply evidence based practice in all settings.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Employers review on abilities

Indicator Description:

Ninety percent (90%) of employers will indicate that graduates can work through nutrition-related problems and ideas (e.g. can think critically) with a rating of satisfactory or more than satisfactory

Findings Description:

The target measure was set at 80% employer satisfaction for graduates based on previous objectives. Due to the above reasons, there is only data for the 2015 and 2020 cohorts. The 2020 cohort provided information for four employers, all were sent emails by the DI director. Only three of the four responded; 100% stated the graduates were satisfactory or more than satisfactory with entry-level preparedness. In 2015, one employer responded the graduate was more than satisfactory with entry-level preparedness.

This targeted measure serves the graduates' interest in that employers report they have the skills and knowledge necessary to enter the workforce as competent, entry-level dietitians. This targeted measure serves the interests of the public by providing qualified dietitians as a resource for health promotion in the community. The wording of this measure has been updated to provide a clear ranking scale to employers. The wording stated in the objective above will be used going forward.

Attached Files

 [Employer Review Dec 2021-3.pdf](#)

 [Employer Review Dec 2021-2.pdf](#)

 [Employer Review Dec 2021-1.pdf](#)

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Action - Employers review on abilities

Action Description:

The program director is building an alumni network and Advisory Board. This will improve alumni responses to surveys, therefore improve the information provided about employers. The DI Director will work to collect this data starting in December each year.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Use of Evidence-based Medicine

Indicator Description:

At least eighty percent (80%) of graduates will agree or strongly agree they use evidence based nutrition to improve the health and wellness of individuals.

Findings Description:

The target measure was set at 80% (2021-7/7 100%) graduate use of evidence-based nutrition based on the previous objective; it is a rigorous yet realistic objective. Due to the above reasons, this measure only has data for the 2015, 2016, 2019, and 2020 cohorts. All cohorts (100%) reported they agree or strongly agree with their use of evidence-based nutrition. This targeted measure serves the graduates' interest in that the DI has successfully developed the skills and knowledge necessary to enter the workforce as competent, entry-level dietitians. This targeted measure serves the interests of the public by providing qualified dietitians who utilize evidence-based practice for health promotion within the community.

Attached Files

 [2021 Graduate Survey \(Class of 2020\).pdf](#)

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Graduates use of evidence based medicine

Action Description:

With the help of the FACS Department Assessment Coordinator, this objective was reworded to be aligned with the 2022 ACEND standards and a more accurate measure of graduates' use of evidence-based nutrition. This will be assessed in December, one-year post-graduation, each year. The target measure was set at 80% graduate use of evidence-based nutrition based on the previous objective, it is a rigorous yet realistic objective. Due to the above reasons, this measure only has data for the 2015, 2016, 2019, and 2020 cohorts. All cohorts (100%) reported they agree or strongly agree with their use of evidence-based nutrition. This targeted measure serves the interest of the graduates in that the DI has been successful in developing the skills and knowledge necessary to enter the workforce as competent, entry-level dietitians. This targeted measure serves the interests of the public by providing qualified dietitians who utilize evidence-based practice for health promotion within the community.

New Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify):

Closing Summary

- Meet with preceptors to survey their needs to accept interns
- Continue to meet with potential preceptors for rotation sites, and survey their needs for accepting dietetic interns
- The DI Director and dietetic interns will attend local and state-level dietetic association meetings to represent SHSU and network with other RD professionals to build new preceptor relationships
- Design at least one lecture for each content area of the RDN exam
- Purchase RDN Review course to use with graduating cohort of dietetic interns
- Invite members to be part of the Dietetic Internship Advisory Board
- Set date to meet with the Dietetic Internship Advisory Board this fall
- ACEND self-study will be due July - December 2022
- Update to 2022 ACEND Standards
- ACEND in-person visit will be July - December 2022
- Create Alumni DI Group - to improve follow up with Alumni DI.

We have made tremendous steps to ensure the assessment will be completed in a complete and timely manner. Our data collection for the alumni will begin in the Fall of 2021 and graduation data will be entered in December of 2021. RD Exam data will be tracked in December and July of each year.

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

- Meet with preceptors to survey their needs to accept interns - this is an on going process. We have also completed our first training session for Preceptors and Faculty 8/31/2022.
- Continue to meet with potential preceptors for rotation sites, and survey their needs for accepting dietetic interns - this is on going
- The DI Director and dietetic interns will attend local and state-level dietetic association meetings to represent SHSU and network with other RD professionals to build new preceptor relationships. - This Spring 2022, the DI students attended the Texas AND conference in San Antonio.
- Design at least one lecture for each content area of the RDN exam - this is on going, majority of the MNT sections have completed power points.
- Purchase RDN Review course to use with graduating cohort of dietetic interns - we are currently scheduling this for Fall 2022
- Invite members to be part of the Dietetic Internship Advisory Board - this will be initiated Fall 2022
- Set date to meet with the Dietetic Internship Advisory Board this fall - this will be initiated Fall 2022
- ACEND self-study will be due July - December 2022 - Self study is submitted 8/6/22, and site visit is scheduled for 11/13-15
- Update to 2022 ACEND Standards - this has been completed and initiated Fall 2022.
- ACEND in-person visit will be November 2022

- Create Alumni DI Group - to improve follow up with Alumni DI. - This is set, we hope to plan future events with this group.

New Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

Closing Summary:

- Continue to meet with preceptors to survey their needs to accept interns
- Continue to meet with potential preceptors for rotation sites, and survey their needs for accepting dietetic interns
- The DI Director and dietetic interns will attend local and state-level dietetic association meetings to represent SHSU and network with other RD professionals to build new preceptor relationships.
- Design at least one lecture for each content area of the RDN exam
- Purchase RDN Review course to use with graduating cohort of dietetic interns
- Invite members to be part of the Dietetic Internship Advisory Board - this will be initiated Fall 2022
- Set date to meet with the Dietetic Internship Advisory Board this fall - this will be initiated Fall 2022
- ACEND self-study will be due July - December 2022 - Self study is submitted 8/6/22, and site visit is scheduled for 11/13-15
- ACEND in-person visit will be November 2022
- Create Alumni DI Group - to improve follow up with Alumni DI. - This is set, we hope to plan future events with this group.