

# PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITION (M.S.) WITH DIETETIC INTERNSHIP

## This program is on Administrative Hold and is not admitting any new students as of Fall 2024.

The Keene State College combined Master of Science in Public Health Nutrition with Dietetic Internship cultivates leaders as Public Health Dietitian Nutritionists to inform, educate, and empower the public about health and nutrition issues. Through a policy, systems, and environmental focus, graduates will form community, state and national partnerships and collaborate to identify and solve pressing health and nutrition concerns.

The Dietetic Internship was granted provisional accreditation through the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) in 1998 with the first full accreditation occurring in 2003. In 2010, the Dietetic Internship applied for and received approval for a second track for distance clinical. In the past 15 years the Dietetic Internship has earned a fully accredited status without recommendations through ACEND. In conjunction with the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR), ACEND is working towards the new education model for practice in nutrition and dietetics requiring a master's degree to qualify for the national registration exam to be credentialed as a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist. The combined Masters in Public Health Nutrition and Dietetic Internship will meet all requirements established by ACEND and CDR.

In the combined Master in Public Health Nutrition and Dietetic Internship, graduate students will complete a minimum of 1,200 hours of supervised practice in clinical, food service management, community, and specialty rotations (14 credits) in addition to 24 credit hours of online graduate coursework. The 1,200 hours of supervised practice will be completed in New Hampshire. Dietetic Interns will primarily practice within a county-based model where they will complete a majority of their rotations. Individualized specialty rotations may take dietetic interns outside of their assigned county.

The 13-month Accelerated MSDI will begin in Mid-July and conclude the following August.

The Master of Science in Public Health Nutrition with Dietetic Internship accepts 10 graduate students/interns annually. There are two ways to apply to the MSDI program:

- Pre-Select Program#**— The pre-select program is open to all MSDI applicants who have graduated from an ACEND-accredited DPD program. Applicants admitted and committed to the Keene State College pre-select program are not eligible to apply to another supervised practice option through the Dietetic Internship Centralized Application Services (DICAS). To apply, please follow the MSDI: Pre-Select Application Instructions below.
- DICAS/DI Match Program** — After the pre-select application phase, prospective students can apply for any remaining openings to the MSDI program using the Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics national computer matching process through the Dietetic Internship Centralized Application Services (DICAS) system and through D&D Digital. For detailed information about the DICAS computer matching process, visit the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' Dietetic

Internship Match website. To apply, please follow the MSDI: DICAS Match Application Instructions below.

## MSDI: Pre-Select Application Instructions

Pre-select applicants should apply online using the Keene State College Graduate School Application ([https://kscportal.force.com/TX\\_SiteLogin/?startURL=%2FTargetX\\_Portal\\_\\_PB%20](https://kscportal.force.com/TX_SiteLogin/?startURL=%2FTargetX_Portal__PB%20)).

- Transcripts
- Professional Resume
- Letters of Recommendation

Three (3) letters of recommendation are required and should be completed by individuals familiar with your academic ability and professional work experience. Letters of recommendation must be submitted online through the Keene State College Application.

## Statement of Professional and Career Goals

Specific questions we want you to address in your personal statement for KSC:

- Why do you want to enter the dietetics profession?
- What are some experiences that have helped to prepare you for your career? Give a specific example of how you have demonstrated each of the following characteristics#(if possible, relate your examples to work you have done within the community or in public health settings):
  - Flexibility
  - Teamwork
  - Self-direction
  - Organizational skills
  - Communication skills
- What are your short- and long-term goals?
- What are your strengths and weaknesses/areas needing improvement? What have you learned from your successes? Your mistakes?
- Because we consider leadership skills important, describe a situation or project in which you took a leadership role. How did you move the project forward? What roadblocks did you encounter and how did you overcome them?
- What other information do you consider important for the selection decision?

## Application Fee

Application Fees have been waived for the 2023-2024 academic year.

## Interview

Once applications are received and reviewed, candidates will be asked to participate in a brief virtual interview with the MSDI Director.

## DPD Verification Statement

MSDI applicants should be currently working towards their DPD Verification Statement or already have one. While the DPD Verification Statement does not need to be submitted when applying, it must be completed and sent to the MSDI Director prior to the start of the academic program.

Pre-select applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis through January 15th. Pre-select applicants will be notified of their admission decision by January 26th. A non-refundable \$500 deposit is due upon receipt of your acceptance.

## MSDI DICAS Match Application Instructions:

Applying to the program is a multi-step process completed through the Dietetic Internship Computerized Application Services (<https://portal.dicas.org/>), D&D Digital (<https://www.dnddigital.com/>), and the College.

### Dietetic Internship Computerized Application Services (DICAS)

We will be participating in the online centralized internship application, DICAS, which may be found here, for any remaining openings in the MSDI program. DICAS will be available in early December for the Spring match. The online application must be completed for our program by 11:59 p.m. central time on February 15. These dates may vary; please make sure to check the DICAS website to verify. The DICAS fee is \$50 for the first application you submit and \$25 for each additional application.

### The following are components of your application that will be done in DICAS:

- Complete the sections for personal and academic information.
- Personal statement: In DICAS you have the ability to write multiple personal statements so that each one is tailored to the specific program for which you are applying (maximum 1,000 words per statement).
- Send Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended should be sent to:

DICAS - Transcript Dept.

PO Box 9118

Watertown, MA 02472

Be sure to follow the DICAS instructions for mailing in your transcripts so DICAS receives them in a timely fashion.

### Specific questions we want you to address in your personal statement for KSC:

- Why do you want to enter the dietetics profession?
- What are some experiences that have helped to prepare you for your career? Give a specific example of how you have demonstrated each of the following characteristics (if possible, relate your examples to work you have done within the community or in public health settings):
  - Flexibility
  - Teamwork
  - Self-direction
  - Organizational skills
  - Communication skills
- What are your short- and long-term goals?
- What are your strengths and weaknesses/areas needing improvement? What have you learned from your successes? Your mistakes?
- Because we consider leadership skills important, describe a situation or project in which you took a leadership role. How did you move the project forward? What roadblocks did you encounter and how did you overcome them?
- What other information do you consider important for the selection decision?

**References#** - When completing the application form, applicants must include the name and email address for each reference. An email will

be sent to the reference requesting the completion of a reference form. The form will be completed online. Students applying to more than one program will need to use the same individuals as references for each application. Include three references in your DICAS application; of those three, one should be from a teacher/professor, one from a work or volunteer supervisor, and one other reference of your choice.

For any questions regarding DICAS, please email [DICASinfo@DICAS.org](mailto:DICASinfo@DICAS.org)

## D&D Digital

The KSC MSDI selects applicants through a computer matching process. Applicants must register on the D&D Digital website, pay the \$55.00 computer matching fee with a credit card and submit their prioritized list of selected programs online to D&D Digital before the designated deadline dates. You can obtain the instruction packet from your Didactic Program advisor or by contacting D&D Digital at [dnd@sigler.com](mailto:dnd@sigler.com). Applicants should call D&D Digital prior to the deadline if they do not receive an e-mail with login information.

D&D Digital Program Code - 245

### Application fee

The application fee has been waived for the 2023-2024 academic year.

### Virtual Interviews

Once applicants are screened, some of you will be called to schedule a telephone interview. Current interns conduct and record the interviews for the selection committee to listen to them later.