Introduction

Cornell University, known for its excellence in research, teaching and extension, is proud to partner with the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC) to offer this Dietetic Internship with a research concentration. This internship provides in-depth, intensive community, clinical, management, and research experiences. These experiences ensure that our graduates are ready for evidence-based dietetics practice as Registered Dietitians (RDs), for leadership in that practice, and for translational research to inform that practice. Interns begin in the fall at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY and the surrounding beautiful Finger Lakes region and transition in January to the URMC, an 800 bed, tertiary and trauma care facility in Rochester, NY. We seek strong candidates with the potential to develop into exceptionally qualified and competent entry-level RDs who are committed to the profession and standards of excellence, successfully employed, able to apply and integrate research, knowledge, theory and enhanced skills to practice, and engaged in professional leadership and research in their practice.

OPEN HOUSE on December 8, 2013
Register at
www.human.cornell.edu/dep/dieteticinternship/index.cfm
Rotation Schedule

The internship begins in mid-August with orientation on the Cornell campus in Ithaca, during which interns visit their community sites and URMC.

Community Nutrition Rotation
During the fall semester on Mondays, the interns complete three courses (Community Nutrition in Action: Theory to Practice, Introduction to Community Nutrition Research and Leadership in Dietetics) and research seminars on Cornell’s campus. To assure an in-depth experience, interns spend the other 4 days per week for 14 weeks at one community site where they participate in the entire program development process. Potential sites in Ithaca, nearby areas (Syracuse, Montour Falls, Owego, Waterloo, Binghamton, etc.) or further away in Rochester or Batavia include Cornell Cooperative Extension county, regional and state nutrition programs for limited resource families, Cornell Wellness Program for employees and retirees, WIC Supplemental Nutrition Program, BOCES School Meals, Wegmans Corporate Nutrition Program for consumers and employees, Foodlink food bank serving limited-resource individuals, Elderly Nutrition Programs, etc. Interns also participate in a counseling workshop to enhance their skills. Each intern conducts a pilot research project to enhance program development and evaluation. Interns contribute meaningfully to their community nutrition programs while they develop the skills needed to be effective community practitioners.

Clinical Nutrition and Management Rotations
Following orientation in mid-December, interns spend 5 days a week from January to June at URMC primarily at its Strong Memorial Hospital, which ranks consistently among “America’s Best Hospitals” in US and News World Report. Interns complete 18 weeks of supervised clinical practice including one week each of staff relief and a select rotation. All interns complete rotations in medicine, surgery, pediatrics, organ transplantation, renal dialysis, endocrinology including diabetes, oncology, intensive care (burn neonatal or pediatric), cardiology, cardiac rehabilitation, long-term care, wellness, and clinical research in the NIH funded General Clinical Research Center. The select rotation is chosen either from the list above for more in-depth experience or from administration, management, lactational counseling, sports medicine, Center for Community Health, etc. The 6-week management rotation includes in-depth experiences in state-of-the-art room service food production, retail, purchasing, marketing, problem-solving research and employee nutrition education. Interns plan, develop, manage, and produce the annual themed Food Fair.

Research Concentration
The community, clinical and management rotations include a key focus on research. The current emphasis in practice accountability, outcomes and evidence-based decision-making requires that dietetic professionals know how to evaluate critically and conduct research to analyze processes and demonstrate program impact. Each intern completes a pilot community research project and presents the results in a poster session at the New York State Dietetic Association Annual Meeting. Interns also participate in a group ‘problem-solving’ research project in their management rotation and in clinical and translational research through the Clinical Nutrition Research Center. Interns gain direct experience in conducting, interpreting and using research in dietetics practice.
Internship Application and Selection Information

**Application Deadline**
- Pre-select - January 2 (midnight) only for Cornell DPD students.

**Apply on-line** at [https://portal.dicas.org](https://portal.dicas.org). Begin your application well in advance of the deadline to ensure that the three references you list submit their recommendations electronically prior to the deadline. Completed applications must include:

- Three references with email contact.
- Personal statement of your goals and how our internship facilitates you achieving your goals.
- DPD verification or declaration of intent statement.
- Official transcripts from all schools sent to DICAS - Transcript Dept., PO Box 9118, Watertown, MA 02472.
- $35 non-refundable application fee payable to Cornell University and mailed to our contact address.

**Rank Internships** on-line with D’n’D Digital at [http://www.dnndigital.com/ada](http://www.dnndigital.com/ada) for computer matching by the D’n’D Digital deadline. Serious candidates should list Cornell as their priority to increase their placement chances.

**Selection** is based on the following, in order of importance:

- Telephone interview
- Quality of references
- Relevance of paid or volunteer work experience in at least one dietetics practice setting
- Quality of personal statement and 'fit' of goals with Cornell Dietetic Internship
- Learning ability as evidenced by academic record (average GPA of 3.5 of 4.0 with range 3.0 to 4.0)

**Combined PhD-RD Program:** To meet the growing needs for translational research expertise in both dietetics practice and policy and to enhance the effectiveness and impact of clinical and public health nutrition, we offer a **combined PhD-RD program to highly qualified applicants from any accredited DPD program**. Accepted students begin their doctoral studies in the Graduate Field of Nutrition in the first year, complete the dietetic internship in their second year, and then continue their doctoral studies. Hallmarks of the Cornell Field of Nutrition include 1) an acclaimed faculty with a wide-variety of research interests, which provide an exceptional range of opportunities for multidisciplinary research and 2) the preeminence of Nutritional Sciences at Cornell globally for nutrition education, research and service. Doctoral students can plan their graduate programs to fit their career goals in one of four specializations: molecular nutrition, human nutrition, community nutrition or international nutrition. Combined PhD-RD students also complete courses in Nutrition in Action: Theory to Practice, Epidemiology, and Translational Research and Evidence-based Practice and Policy and a 4 to 6 month translational ‘field’ experience in national nutrition policy or clinical nutrition research in Washington, DC or Rochester, NY. **Funding support** is available from a graduate training program.

Graduates of this combined PhD-RD program are well-prepared to meet the pressing needs in academic, medicine and policy sectors for translational nutrition researchers. They also are well-positioned because of the limited number of RD’s in the US who also hold a PhD (4%), few of whom have direct translation and evidence-based policy experience.

**Combined PhD-RD Applications** must be submitted by **January 2** on-line separately to both the internship at [https://portal.dicas.org](https://portal.dicas.org) (see above) and the Graduate Field of Nutrition at [http://www.gradschool.cornell.edu](http://www.gradschool.cornell.edu) (see Admissions).

- The GRE is required.
- Additional coursework is helpful for molecular nutrition (molecular/cell biology, genetics, etc.) and community nutrition (statistics, social sciences, etc.); significant experience in a developing country is required for international nutrition.
- Prior research experience is advantageous for all specializations.
- Admission by both the Internship and Graduate Field of Nutrition Admissions committees and funding (providing a stipend and tuition waiver) are decided by early February.
The Cornell Dietetic Internship is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics* from 2001-2015. Completing this internship and receipt of the Verification Statement requires satisfactory performance of the community, clinical and management rotations, presentation of the pilot research project at the New York State Dietetic Association meeting, membership in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, participation in the exit interview, and payment of all internship fees/tuition. The Verification Statement is required to be certified eligible for the registration exam, which must be passed to become a Registered Dietitian. Our graduates’ first time pass rate on the registration exam of our graduates is 100% for the past five years.

*120 South Riverside Plaza
Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606-6995
ph 312-899-0040 ext 5400

Interns must provide their own transportation to their sites (some of which do not have ready access to public transportation) and have access to a computer and printer.

Estimated Costs 2015-2016*:

- Cornell tuition and fees ($7,250)
- Program and other fees ($4,447)
- Professional liability insurance ($35 on line)
- Academy dues ($50)
- Miscellaneous costs, background-check fees & required texts ($564 - $1,096)

Total: $12,346 - $12,878

Not Included:
- Cornell Student Health Insurance ($2,352)

*Subject to change

Information on Housing
For the fall in Ithaca, refer to: http://www.dos.cornell.edu/ocho/
For the spring in Rochester, refer to: http://www.rochester.edu/reslife/non/

Contact:
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Brannon, Ph.D., R.D.
Director

www.human.cornell.edu/dns/dieteticinternship/index.cfm