Cornell Dietetic Internship

Introduction
Cornell University, known for its excellence in research, teaching and extension, is proud to partner with The University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC) in Rochester, NY, to offer a Dietetic Internship with a research concentration. This internship provides in-depth, intensive community, clinical, management, and research experiences. These experiences ensure 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 (the mission of our internship). 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 Strong Memorial Hospital, 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 engage in professional leadership and research in their evidence-based practice (the goals of our program). Our key objectives for our graduates are to pass the registration exam the first time, to conduct and apply research critically to their practice and to lead in their jobs and profession.

OPEN HOUSE on December 7, 2015
Register at
www.human.cornell.edu/dnv/dieteticinternship/index.cfm

Cornell University
Division of Nutritional Sciences
Rotation Schedule

The internship begins in mid-August with an orientation on the Cornell Campus, during which interns visit their community sites and URMC and continues through mid-June when they complete their clinical and management supervised practice.

Community Nutrition Rotation
During the fall semester on Mondays, the interns complete three graduate courses [NS 6250 Community Nutrition in Action: Theory to Practice (3 cr); NS 6350 Introduction to Community Nutrition Research (3 cr) and NS 5550 Leadership in Dietetics (2 cr)] and attend research seminars on Cornell’s campus. Interns participate in a counseling workshop to enhance their skills. To assure an in-depth experience, interns participate in the entire program development process 3 days per week for 14 weeks at one community site, culminating in 3 days of advanced level staff relief near the end of the rotation. Potential community sites in or near Ithaca (less than a one-hour drive in Syracuse, Montour Falls, Owego, Waterloo, Binghamton, etc.) or further away in Rochester or Batavia, NY (a two hour drive) include: Cornell Cooperative Extension county, regional and state nutrition programs for limited resource families; Wellness programs at Cornell for employees and retirees and at Wegmans Corporate Nutrition Program for consumers and employees; Nutrition Assistance Programs serving limited resource individuals at Central NY Department of Health, WIC Supplemental Nutrition Programs and food banks (Foodlink, Southern Tier and Central NY); BOCES and East High nutrition and school meal programs; and Elderly Nutrition Programs, serving seniors.

Clinical Nutrition and Management Rotations
Following orientation in mid-December, interns spend 5 days per week from January to mid-June at URMC Strong Memorial Hospital, ranked among "America's Best Hospitals" in a US and News World Report. Interns complete 18 weeks of beginning, intermediate and advanced supervised clinical practice. All interns complete beginning levels in General Medicine, Psychiatric Disorders, Wellness and Long Term Care. Interns then move to intermediate levels in Organ transplant including renal; Cardiac rehab, Endocrine (adult and pediatric), Pediatrics, and Clinical Research Center. Finally, they complete advanced levels in Pediatric nutrition support, Outpatient pediatrics, Critical Care (ICU, PICU & NICU) and Oncology. Interns choose 1 week each of select and advanced ‘capstone’ staff relief from one of the above for additional experience or from Administration, Management, Lactational Counseling, Sports Medicine, Eating Disorders or Center for Community Health. Interns begin the 6 week management rotation in the Food and Nutrition Services by rotating through production, purchasing, Café 601, and patient meal service. They move to intermediate level with more complex projects in the Culinary Lab, and for National Nutrition Month under close supervision and finally complete advanced level with the more autonomous and comprehensive ‘capstone’ Food Fair and 1 day of staff relief.

Research Concentration
The community, clinical and management rotations include 6 weeks of supervised research because practice requires outcomes research and evidence-based decision-making. Each intern completes a pilot research project to enhance their community placement program and presents it in a poster session at the New York State Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics meeting. Interns engage in research in the Clinical Research Center. They also plan and conduct more autonomously a ‘problem-solving’ management research project. In this concentration, interns develop the critical thinking and research skills needed for practice.
**Combined PhD-RD Program:** To meet the growing needs for translational research expertise in 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 preeminent Graduate Field of Nutrition in the first year, complete the dietetic internship in their second year, and then continue their doctoral studies. The acclaimed faculty in the Field of Nutrition have a wide variety of research interests, which provide an exceptional range of opportunities for multidisciplinary research. Doctoral students plan their graduate programs to fit their career goals in molecular, human, community or international nutrition. Combined PhD-RD students also complete courses in Nutrition in Action: Theory to Practice, Epidemiology, and Translation-al Research and Evidence-based Practice and Policy and a 4 to 6 month translational ‘field’ experience in national nutrition policy or clinical nutrition research. **Funding support** is available from a graduate training program. Graduates of this program are well-prepared to meet the pressing needs in academic, medicine and policy sectors for translational nutrition researchers and well-positioned because of the limited number of PhD-RD’s (4%).

**Combined PhD-RD Applications** must be submitted by January 2 on-line separately to both the internship at https://portal.dicas.org (see above) and the Graduate Field of Nutrition at 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.
Becoming a Registered Dietitian

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 including >1450 hours of supervised practice, three graduate courses and other didactic sessions; presentation of the pilot research project at the New York State Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics meeting; membership in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics; participation in the exit interview; and payment of all internship fees/tuition. This Verification Statement is required for eligibility certification to take the registration exam, which must be passed to become an RD. The first time pass rate on the registration exam of our graduates is 98% for the past five years**.

*120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606-6995; phone 312-899-0040 ext. 5400
**Other outcome data for our internship available upon request.

Necessary Resources

Interns must provide their own transportation to their sites and have access to a computer and printer.

Estimated Costs 2015-2016*
- Cornell tuition and related fees ($7,250)
- Program and other fees ($4,447 - 4,797**)
- Professional liability insurance ($35 online)
- Academy dues ($50)
- Miscellaneous costs (including text & background-check fees) ($564 - $1,096)

Total $12,346- $13,228

Not Included: Cornell Student Health Insurance ($2,560) and Housing costs (variable).

*Subject to change  ** Includes new mandatory health fee if SHIP not selected.

Information on Housing
Ithaca: http://www.dos.cornell.edu/ocho/
Rochester: http://www.rochester.edu/reslife/non/

Financial Aid
Interns may be eligible for and are responsible for applying for private student loans up to the total cost of attendance. Cornell encourages comparison of lenders/loan terms for selection of one that best meets your needs. For deferment of existing loans, contact your loan provider for forms and Perlie Johnson at the Commission on Dietetic Registration (pjohnson@eatrigt.org) for necessary information.

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

What Graduates Say...

“Rich and enriching experiences that link research, theory, and self-reflective learning”
“A high quality, well-rounded dietetic internship”
“Excellent clinical experiences with great depth & readth”
“Greater appreciation of research & why it’s needed”
“In-depth community experiences”
“Great preceptors-allow independence/autonomy/self-learning/ opportunities to contribute”
“More personal with individual attention”

What Employers Say...

“My employee very well-prepared…able to work independently within weeks”
“Very patient-focused, current on nutrition research and practice”

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