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) to offer a Dietetic Internship with a research concentration, which provides in-depth, intensive community, clinical, management, and research experiences. These experiences ensure that our graduates are ready for evidence-based practice as Registered Dietitians, for leadership in that practice, and for translational research to inform that practice. The internship begins in the fall in the beautiful Finger Lakes region at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY and surrounding areas, and transitions 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 Registered Dietitians who are committed to the profession and standards of excellence, successfully employed and who critically apply research, knowledge and enhanced skills to dietetics practice.

OPEN HOUSE on December 3, 2012
To register, go to www.human.cornell.edu/dns/dieteticinternship/index.cfm.
Rotation Schedule

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

Community Nutrition Rotation
From late-August through mid-December on Mondays, the interns engage in two courses (Community Nutrition in Action: Theory to Practice and Introduction to Community Nutrition Research) 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, NY 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 a food bank serving limited-resource individuals, Elderly Nutrition Programs, etc. Interns also participate in counseling and leadership workshops to enhance their skills. Each intern conducts a pilot research project to enhance program development and evaluation. Interns, thus, contribute meaningfully to a community nutrition program while they develop the skills needed to be effective community practitioners.

Clinical Nutrition and Management Rotations
From January to June, the interns spend five days a week at URMC primarily at its Strong Memorial Hospital, which ranks consistently among “America’s Best Hospitals” in a US and News World Report. Interns complete 18 weeks of supervised practice including 1 week in an intern select rotation and 1 week of staff relief. Every intern completes supervised practice in Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, Organ transplantation, Renal dialysis, Endocrinology including diabetes, Oncology, Intensive care including burn neonatal or pediatric, Cardiology, Cardiac rehabilitation, Long-term care, Wellness, and Clinical research in the NIH-funded General Clinical Research Center. Interns select 1 week from the above for more in-depth experience or in Administration, Management, Lactational Counseling, Sports Medicine, Center for Community Health, etc. The six-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.

Excellence Founded in Dietetics Research
The community, clinical and management rotations include a key focus on research because the current emphasis in practice accountability, outcomes and evidence-based decision-making requires that dietetic professionals evaluate critically nutrition research and conduct research analyzing processes and demonstrating program impact. Each intern completes a pilot research project in her or his community rotation and presents the results of his or her project in a poster session at the New York State Dietetic Association Annual Meeting. Each intern also participates 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.
New! Combined PhD-RD Program: To meet the growing needs for translational expertise in both dietetics practice and research and to enhance the effectiveness and impact of clinical and public health nutrition, we now offer a combined PhD-RD program to highly qualified applicants. Accepted students/interns will begin their doctoral studies in the first year, complete the Cornell Dietetic Internship in their second year, and then continue their doctoral studies in the Field of Nutrition in the Division of Nutritional Sciences. Hallmarks of the Field of Nutrition at Cornell University include 1) the variety of faculty research interests, which provide an exceptional range of opportunities for graduate students to do multidisciplinary research and 2) the preeminence of the Division of Nutritional Sciences 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/interns will also complete courses in Epidemiology and Translational Research and Evidence-based Practice and Policy as well as 4 to 6 month translational ‘field’ experience in national nutrition policy or clinical nutrition research in Washington, DC or Rochester, NY.

Funding support through a graduate training program is available. Graduates of this combined PhD-RD program will be well-prepared to meet the pressing needs in academic, medicine and policy sectors for translational nutrition researchers. They also will be 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.
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, 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. The 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

Necessary Resources

Applicants must have a car and access to a computer and printer during the internship.

Estimated Costs 2012-2013:

- Cornell tuition and coursework ($5250)
- Program and other fees ($4772)
- Professional liability insurance ($35 on line)
- Academy dues ($50)
- Miscellaneous costs & required texts ($280 - $712)

Total: $10,387 - $10,819

Not Included:
- Cornell Student Health Insurance ($2182)
- Travel/lodging costs for FNCE meeting

Subject to change

Information on Housing

For the fall in Ithaca, refer to: http://
www.offcampushousing.cornell.edu/docs/cms/ochol

For the spring in Rochester, refer to: http://
ochousing.reslife.rochester.edu/

Contact:
Division of Nutritional Sciences
114 Savage Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853
(607)-255-8443

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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, breadth & excellent health care team”
“In-depth community experiences”
“Community research experience– greater appreciation of research and why it’s needed”
“Automatic respect”
“Professors go above and beyond to help intern”
“Great preceptors-allow independence/autonomy/self-learning/opportunities to contribute”
“More personal with individual attention”

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