Are you looking for ways to enhance your career and critical thinking skills? The Master’s in Dietetics program through SD State Online will develop your research skills, stimulate independent thought and provide up-to-date knowledge in foods, nutrition and food service/business management. Students successfully completing the program learn to think independently and critically to evaluate and apply new research concepts and theories to advance their profession practice. With flexible schedules and plenty of electives, you can design a program that fits your life, career goals and interests.

**PERSONALIZING YOUR PROGRAM**

The dietetics program is offered through the Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (GPIDEA). GPIDEA is an academic alliance that offers fully-online graduate and undergraduate program options in high-demand professional fields.

Tailored for credentialed, practicing professionals who seek to enhance their knowledge in a specific area or retool for new career opportunities, the Master’s in Dietetics program addresses advanced concepts. The online, 36-credit-hour curriculum equips you to integrate and apply dietetics principles in the biomedical sciences, human behavior and program management in order to design and lead effective food and nutrition programs. Whether you choose to pursue a thesis, research paper or written exam, your studies will conclude with an oral defense before a supervisory committee covering everything that you have learned.

To be admitted to the program, you must have either the RD or RDN credential.

**NOTE:** The M.S. in Dietetics does not prepare you to be a registered dietitian. If you desire information on how to become a registered dietitian, check out our undergraduate dietetics program at www.sdstate.edu/hns/undergrad-program/dietetics.cfm.

**CONSIDERING YOUR FINANCES**

Courses in Dietetics cost $530.00 per credit hour for 2015-16. Costs may change on an annual basis. This price includes all tuition and fees. Books and other course materials are not included. No other course fees are charged. Financial aid is available for qualified students. Make sure to complete your FAFSA to determine your grant and loan opportunities. Call SDSU’s Financial Aid Office for additional inquiries: 605-688-4695 or 800-952-3541.

**Statistics:**

U.S. Census Bureau

*With a Bachelor’s Degree*

Avg. Lifetime Earnings: $2.1 million

*With a Master’s Degree*

Avg. Lifetime Earnings: $2.5 million
Let Your Master's Be Your Guide

Serve—There are many contexts in which you can put your graduate degree to use.

- Industry
- Hospital
- Clinic
- Long-term care facility
- Government program
- Private practice
- Community nutrition education interventions
- Public health nutrition
- Nonprofit agency

Specialize—Your advanced knowledge equips you to play a greater role on teams to provide more effective individual and group treatment.

- Healthcare administration
- Pediatrics
- Critical care

Educate—There are multiple levels of teaching available to you with a master's degree.

- University
- Wellness counseling
- Community or corporate health program

Why did you choose to further your education online?
I always knew I wanted to obtain a master's degree to stay competitive in the field of nutrition. The online program offered a wider variety of courses and allowed me to work full time in a location lacking a university. By working full time in the field while attending graduate school, I was able to directly apply what I learned in my online classes—which helped me retain more knowledge and skills.

What has been your most interesting class? What about it did you enjoy?
My classes have been so diverse—from learning about molecular aspects of vitamins and minerals to financial management and marketing—I enjoyed them all and was able to customize my education to my interests and career choices.

What is your favorite or most memorable SDSU experience?
I was excited to travel to Brookings to present my research project and meet my graduate committee face-to-face!

What piece of advice would you give new online students?
You will get as much out of the program as you put into it. Self-discipline is a must, but in return you gain respect and flexibility from faculty and staff. Don’t be afraid to try taking a class on something new—you may develop a new interest!