



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

Intent to Plan for a New Program

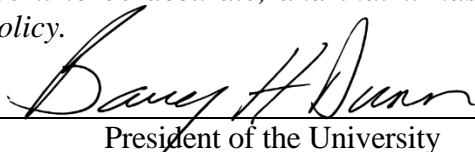
UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
DEGREE(S) AND TITLE OF PROGRAM:	Master of Science (M.S.) in Nutrition and Dietetics
INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:	2022-2023 Academic Year

Please check this box to confirm that:

- The individual preparing this request has read [AAC Guideline 2.4](#), which pertains to new intent to plan requests for new programs, and that this request meets the requirements outlined in the guidelines.
- This request will not be posted to the university website for review of the Academic Affairs Committee until it is approved by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this intent to plan, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.



President of the University

1/12/2021

Date

1. What is the general nature/purpose of the proposed program? Please include a brief (1-2 sentence) description of the academic field in this program.

South Dakota State University (SDSU) requests authorization to develop a proposal to offer a Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics. The Nutrition and Dietetics (M.S.) is being developed to meet new credentialing requirements to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). A Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) is a nutrition counselor who can provide medical nutrition therapy and nutrition education as well as foodservice operations. The possible employment settings for an RDN are numerous and include hospitals, health promotion programs, nursing homes, public health agencies, industries, schools, universities, the armed services and state, national and international organizations. RDNs may also be involved in sports nutrition and corporate wellness or research. The opportunities for entrepreneurship as an RDN are extensive as well.¹

In January 2024, RDN candidates must have completed a masters and an Accreditation Council for Education of Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) accredited supervised practice experience. The proposed program is being developed to meet the Future Education Model standards² from ACEND providing the competency based supervised practice experiences and a graduate degree.

¹ www.eatright.org

² <https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/accreditation-standards-fees-and-policies/future-education-model>

SDSU currently offers a B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics, M.S. in Dietetics, M.S. in Nutrition and Exercise Science with specializations in Nutrition or Exercise Science, and a Nutrition and Dietetics Internship (NDI). The graduate coursework within SDSU's Nutrition and Dietetics Internship program for a M.S. degree in Nutrition and Exercise Sciences allows students the option of pursuing a specialization in Nutrition or Exercise Science. The M.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics will address ACEND standards and be an accelerated pathway for students to become a credentialed professional for practice.

The University does not request new state resources.

2. What is the need for the proposed program (e.g., Regental system need, institutional need, workforce need, etc.)? What is the expected demand for graduates nationally and in South Dakota (provide data and examples; data sources may include but are not limited to the South Dakota Department of Labor, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Regental system dashboards, etc.)?

SDSU is currently the only ACEND accredited nutrition program in the state of South Dakota. SDSU has an accredited undergraduate Didactic Program in Dietetics and an ACEND accredited dietetic internship. Graduates must complete both to be eligible to take the RDN examination. Each year the University graduates 15 RDN's from the current dietetic internship and all have positions requiring the RDN credential.

The U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts the job outlook for 2019-2029 to grow by 8%, much faster than the average of all occupations.³ This increase need is also predicted for SD. The workforce demand for RDN's in South Dakota is expected to increase by 7%.⁴ Demand for the RDNs is expected to be strong particularly with the aging population.

3. How would the proposed program benefit students?

This accelerated program is being developed to meet the new credentialing requirements to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). In January 2024, RDN candidates must have completed a masters and an Accreditation Council for Education of Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) accredited supervised practice experience. The proposed program is being developed to meet the Future Education Model⁵ standards from ACEND providing the competency based supervised practice experiences and a graduate degree.

The M.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics would allow students to complete the undergraduate prerequisites, graduate program, and competency-based experiences in five years (B.S. + M.S. in Nutrition & Dietetics); thus, becoming a credentialed professional for practice. This is a benefit to the students as they are accepted into the program as second semester sophomores allowing the student to become registration eligible in five years rather than six years. Another benefit of the program is that the supervised practice is imbedded into the didactic portion allowing better coordination with the didactic component and experiential learning component.

³ Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Dietitians and Nutritionists, on the Internet at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/dietitians-and-nutritionists.htm> (visited October 25, 2020).

⁴ <https://doh.sd.gov/documents/Providers/RuralHealth/2017WorkforceReport.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/accreditation-standards-fees-and-policies/future-education-model>

4. How does the proposed program relate to the university's mission as provided in South Dakota Statute and Board of Regents Policy, and to the current Board of Regents Strategic Plan 2014-2020?

The M.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics will support the statutory mission of South Dakota State University as provided by SDCL 13-58-1: *Designated as South Dakota's land grant university, South Dakota State University, formerly the state college of agriculture and mechanical arts, shall be under the control of the Board of Regents and shall provide undergraduate and graduate programs of instruction in the liberal arts and sciences and professional education in agriculture, education, engineering, home economics, nursing, and pharmacy, and other courses or programs as the Board of Regents may determine.*

This program is aligned with SDSU's strategic plan to "*achieve excellence through transformative education by developing and growing high-quality and distinct academic programs designed to meet the needs of diverse students and market demands.*"

This request is aligned with the Board of Regents Strategic Plan 2014-2020 Goal 2 "Academic Quality and Performance" to increase the number of new graduate programs and grow the number students participating in experiential learning. This requested program will be accredited and includes substantial experiential learning. This accelerated M.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics supports SDBOR Goal 4 of "Affordability and Accountability." The graduates of the proposed program will obtain the required experiential experiences, didactic components that meet both the undergraduate and graduate requirements in five years. Without this program students could take seven years to be eligible for the RDN examination (four years B.S., two years for M.S., and one year for the required 1200 hours of supervised practice).

5. Do any related programs exist at other public universities in South Dakota? If a related program already exists, explain the key differences between the existing programs and the proposed program, as well as the perceived need for adding the proposed new program. Would approval of the proposed new program create opportunities to collaborate with other South Dakota public universities?

None. This program will replace the current dietetic internship that is being offered at SDSU. This program will not replace the M.S. in Nutrition and Exercise Science nor the M.S. in Dietetics. The M.S. in Nutrition and Exercise Science will remain for students who are pursuing the Exercise Science option or a more research-intensive graduate program in nutrition. The Nutrition and Exercise Science program will not be accredited by ACEND. The M.S. in Dietetics is an online masters offered through the Great Plains IDEA consortium and one must already be a credentialed practitioner to enroll. SDSU offers the accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics (B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics). This is an ACEND accredited program that allows the graduate to apply for an ACEND accredited dietetic internship. The plan is to modify the B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics to allow the student to apply for the accelerated master's and complete their registration eligibility or allow the student to graduate with the B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics, complete a master's, and then compete for an external dietetic internship for registration eligibility. This external dietetic internship will be one located outside the state of South Dakota as the only accredited internship in South Dakota is the one offered through SDSU. There are not enough medical facilities in SD to support more than one supervised practice.

6. Do related programs exist at public colleges and universities in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, and/or Wyoming?

There are no programs in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, nor Wyoming that have a Future Education Graduate Program for Dietetics accredited by ACEND. These institutions have other accredited dietetics education programs, but none have received accreditation for the competency based Future Education Graduate program.

	Institution	Program Title
<i>Minnesota</i>	None	
<i>North Dakota</i>	None	
<i>Montana</i>	None	
<i>Wyoming</i>	None	

7. Are students enrolling in this program expected to be new to the university or redirected from other existing programs at the university?

Students enrolling in this program will continue from the existing B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics. Students will enroll in the B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics and apply for the accelerated master’s program at the end of their sophomore year.

8. What are the university’s expectations/estimates for enrollment in the program through the first five years? What are the university’s expectations/estimates for the annual number of graduates from the program after the first five years? Provide an explanation of the methodology the university used in developing these estimates.

It is anticipated twenty students per year will be accepted into the graduate program. This number is based on the current average enrollment in the B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics. It is expected that the undergraduate majors will apply to the proposed program.

9. Complete the following charts to indicate if the university intends to seek authorization to deliver the entire program on campus, at any off campus location (e.g., UC Sioux Falls, Capital University Center, Black Hills State University-Rapid City, etc.) or deliver the entire program through distance technology (e.g., as an on-line program)?

Note: The accreditation requirements of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) require Board approval for a university to offer programs off-campus and through distance delivery.

	Yes/No	Intended Start Date
On campus	Yes	2022-2023 Academic Year

	Yes/No	If Yes, list location(s)	Intended Start Date
Off campus	No		

	Yes/No	If Yes, identify delivery methods <i>Delivery methods are defined in AAC Guideline 5.5.</i>	Intended Start Date
Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)	No		

	Yes/No	If Yes, identify delivery methods <i>Delivery methods are defined in AAC Guideline 5.5.</i>	Intended Start Date
Does another BOR institution already have authorization to offer the program online?	No	If yes, identify institutions:	

10. What are the university’s plans for obtaining the resources needed to implement the program?

	Development/ Start-up	Long-term Operation
Reallocate existing resources	Yes	Yes
Apply for external resources <i>If checking this box, please provide examples of the external funding identified below.</i>	No	No
Ask Board to seek new State resources <i>Note that requesting the Board to seek new State resources may require additional planning and is dependent upon the Board taking action to make the funding request part of their budget priorities. Universities intending to ask the Board for new State resources for a program should contact the Board office prior to submitting the intent to plan.</i>	No	No
Ask Board to approve a new or increased student fee	Yes	Yes

The University requests to apply an existing fee, not to include a new or increased student fee. The existing dietetic program fee of \$9,490 would need to be applied to the M.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics to support the experiential learning experiences for the program. The fee will be applied on a per-semester basis to spread student costs evenly over the curriculum.

11. Curriculum Example: Provide (as Appendix A) the curriculum of a similar program at another college or university. The Appendix should include required and elective courses in the program. Catalog pages or web materials are acceptable for inclusion. Identify the college or university and explain why the selected program is a model for the program under development.

A sample curriculum is included in Appendix A. This curriculum was designed to meet the Accreditation Standards for Graduate Degree Programs in Nutrition and Dietetics (FG) Future Education Model.⁶ Two faculty from the department have participated in ACEND sponsored training in how to develop a competency-based program to meet the FG standards.

The proposed plan is an accelerated M.S. that will meet the competencies in the FG Accreditation standards. It is proposed that students will apply to the program as a second semester sophomore and start the first semester of their junior year. The proposed curriculum will allow 120 credits for undergraduate degree and 45 for the M.S. degree with 13 dual credits between the undergraduate and graduate degrees.

⁶ <https://www.eatrightpro.org/-/media/eatrightpro-files/acend/futureeducationmodel/femgraduatefinal.pdf?la=en&hash=89123715A3E0E426F0A0CA960299FFEA06714FE5>

Appendix A Sample Curriculum

Students apply to the program the second semester of sophomore year and start the accelerated FG program Fall of Junior year, which is Year 3 of their college program.

Term	Course Prefix	Course Number	Course Name	Undergraduate credit	Dual Credit (undergraduate and graduate)	Graduate Credit
				60 credits from years 1 & 2		
Y3 Fa	NUTR	322	Nutrition Assessment	3		
Y3 Fa	NUTR	141/L	Food Principles/Lab	4		
Y3 Fa	NUTR	4xx	Professionalism I* (New Course)	1		
Y3 Fa	HMG	251	Foodservice Sanitation	1		
Y3 Fa	BADM	360	Organization and Management	3		
Y3 Fa	HMG	380	Foodservice Operations and Purchasing Mgmt	3		
Y3 Fa	NUTR	323	Nutrition Across the Lifecycle	3		
Y3 Sp	NUTR	522	Adv Human Nutrition & Metabolism	4	4	4
Y3 Sp	NUTR	4xx	Professionalism II* (New Course)	1		
Y3 Sp	HLTH	200	Complementary & Integrative Healthcare	3		
Y3 Sp	NURS	323	Intro to Pathophysiology	3		
Y3 Sp	STAT	281	Intro to Statistics OR Epidemiology (if they took stats as general)	3		
Y3 Sp	NUTR	381/L	Quantity Food Production and Service/L*	4		
Y4 Fa	NUTR	523	MNT I*	3	3	3
Y4 Fa	NUTR	560	Nutri genomics & Molecular Nutrition	3	3	3
Y4 Fa	LMNO	435	Organizational Leadership and Team Development*	3		
Y4 Fa	HLTH	479/L	Health Promotion Programming and Evaluation/L	2		
Y4 Fa	NUTR	6xx	MNT I Practicum* (New Course)			2
Y4 Fa	NUTR	6xx	Org Leadership (LMNO) Practicum*(New Course)			2
Y4 Sp	NUTR	425/525	MNT II*	3	3	3
Y4 Sp	NUTR	341/L	Food Science for Nutrition & Dietetics/L	4		
Y4 Sp	NUTR	6xx	Community Nutrition Practicum*(New Course)			2
Y4 Sp	HLTH	475	Principles of Community Health Education*	3		
Y4 Sp	CHRD	475	Motivational Interviewing and Wellness Counseling (online)*	3		
Y4 Sp	NUTR	6xx	MNT II Practicum* (New Course)			2
Y4 Su	NUTR	734	Research Methods in Dietetics*			3
Y4 Su	NUTR	794	Internship (200 hrs)*			4
Y4 Su	NUTR	7xx	Advanced Medical Nutrition Therapy (summer) – New Course			3
Y5 Fa	NUTR	715	Public Health Nutrition (online)			3
Y5 Fa	NUTR	794	Internship (200 hrs)*			4
Y5 Sp	NUTR	794	Internship (200 hrs)*			4
Y5 Sp	NUTR	7xx	Nutritional Pharmacology (online)* (New Course)			3
*Denotes courses where Experiential Learning Experiences (ELE) are incorporated into the course.				120	13	45