

## **Dietetic Internship Program**

### **Mission**

The mission of the UNLV DI is to provide program graduates with the skills and knowledge to be comfortable and competent in their first employment opportunity, serving as professionals capable of providing excellent dietetic services to the community. The UNLV DI will provide dietetic interns with a variety of practical experiences that 1) challenge their application of didactic knowledge, 2) are broad in scope and provide the entry level knowledge and skills outlined in the competencies/student learning outcomes determined by ACEND, 3) take place in facilities that are common to our profession (i.e., hospitals, community settings), 4) encourage participation in educational and professional activities, and 5) introduce DI students to a culturally diverse population in a fast growing city. Evidence-based practice will be emphasized throughout the DI program.

### **Program Goal 1**

Prepare graduates to become competent entry-level practitioners in dietetics.

### **Program Objectives for Goal 1**

1. Eighty percent of interns enrolled in the program will complete all program requirements within 150% of the planned time for completion (45 weeks).
2. Eighty percent of the program graduates will pass the Registration Examination for Dietitians on the first try.
3. Over a five-year period, at least 70% of the DI graduates who sought employment in dietetics will be employed within twelve months of program completion.
4. Students will receive at least a mean rating of 3 or “satisfactory” for each of the competencies required for the program as determined by preceptors and the DI Director through appropriate testing and observation of applied skills. (Rating scale: 5 = excels; 4 = above average; 3 = satisfactory; 2 = below average; 1 = incompetent).
5. Upon program completion, at least 80% of dietetic interns will indicate that the DI prepared them for entry-level positions in dietetics.
6. Over a five-year period, at least 80% of employed graduates will rate themselves as being prepared for their first job (Rating scale: “well-prepared”, “prepared”, “somewhat prepared”, and “not well-prepared”).
7. Over a five-year period, when surveyed, at least 80% of employers will give program graduates in their employ a mean rating of 3 or “satisfactory” for all entry level knowledge and skills assessed (Rating scale: 5 = excels; 4 = above average; 3 = satisfactory; 2 = below average; 1 = incompetent).

## **Program Goal 2**

Prepare interns to participate in continuous learning/ professional development activities.

1. At least 80% of interns attend all meetings of the Southern Nevada Dietetic Association (minimum of four per year/two per intern class).
2. At least 80% of interns enrolled in January will attend the Nevada Dietetic Association Annual Meeting. At least 80% of interns enrolled in July will attend the Annual Food & Nutrition Conference & Exhibition of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
3. One hundred percent of the interns will present a professional learning portfolio/program binder (summarizes how competencies were met with supporting documentation) at the completion of the program.
4. One hundred percent of the interns will successfully complete (receive a grade of at least "Satisfactory") the first three steps of the CDR Professional development portfolio assignment
5. Over a five year period, at least 80% of credentialed program graduates will submit their learning plan to CDR within 12 months of earning the RD credential.
6. Over a five year period, at least 80% of graduates will indicate that they participate in continuing education and professional development activities.
7. Over a five year period, at least 70% of the credentialed program graduates will report being active or demonstrating leadership in the profession of nutrition & dietetics.