The Dietetic Internship Program is currently in its 46th year!

Beginning as an integrated program in 1971, the Dietetic Internship Program became a post-degree program in 1976, clinical program in 1984, and comprehensive program in 1996. We invite you to consider being part of the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and Women’s College Hospital Dietetic Internship Program’s 47th graduating class (Class of 2018-2019).

Six interns will be selected into the 2018-2019 class. Dietetic interns will rotate through Nutrition Care, Research, Population and Public Health, and Management rotations. Here are some program details:

- Interns gain experience both onsite and at offsite facilities.
- Population and Public Health rotations are available through a variety of agency and industry liaisons.
- Food Service Management rotations are offered at Sunnybrook and offsite locations across the GTA.
- Research experience will be gained through the completion of a practice-based research project.

While rotating through different areas, you will function as a member of the healthcare team. You will graduate with knowledge and skills required for a variety of entry level employment opportunities.
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre (SHSC) is an incredible place to work, study, conduct research and provide care. Each year, our 11,000 staff, physicians, volunteers and students work to improve the lives of the one million people who arrive at our doors. Bayview Campus operates more than 1,200 inpatient, long term care and veterans beds, with additional beds at the Holland Centre and St. John’s Rehab sites.

Sunnybrook is committed to inventing the future of healthcare. In every area of SHSC, you will find individuals committed to discovering new treatments, ensuring the safety of our patients, and teaching current and future healthcare professionals the latest in theory and practice. All care provided is based on the philosophy of person-centered care, allowing patients and their families to guide care based on the perception of their needs.

At Sunnybrook, education matters. Each year, more than 2,600 learners from medicine, nursing and other health disciplines, are trained at Sunnybrook.

Women’s College Hospital (WCH) is a well-established leader in women’s health. WCH is a community hospital dedicated to achieving leadership in women’s health in an ambulatory care setting.

WCH is the only independent ambulatory care hospital in Ontario, and the only hospital in Ontario with a primary focus on women’s health.

About Clinical Nutrition and Food Services

Sunnybrook’s Clinical Nutrition team is an integral part of our interprofessional healthcare team and has been recognized for its leadership in education, practice and research. The Registered Dietitians are leading-edge experts in translating scientific, medical and nutrition information into practical nutrition care plans for Sunnybrook patients, residents and clients. Nutrition Technicians work closely with the dietitians to provide one-on-one support for our patients.

The Food Services team at Sunnybrook is currently managed by Aramark and includes a Registered Dietitian, directors and managers who oversee Patient and Retail Food Services. Patient Food Services assembles approximately 3,150 patient meals daily for inpatients, outpatients and Meals on Wheels. The delivery model includes trays, bulk and meal carts. The diet office is managed by Food Services and uses a CBORD system.

“Sunnybrook’s internship program truly provided a family of warm and enthusiastic teachers, mentors and fellow interns to guide my learning. It was a balanced internship experience that fostered individual growth and welcomed feedback along the way. Sunnybrook delivered a range of high quality, intensive clinical rotations, while encouraging the exploration of dietetics in the community and through research projects, which was great! I was constantly impressed by Sunnybrook’s commitment to interprofessional learning, evidence-based practice and patient-centered care. Overall a positive learning adventure, in one of the most reputed Canadian teaching hospitals!”

- Program Graduate

“This was an amazing program which helped me develop the hard and soft skills required to be an RD, the overwhelming support that was available throughout internship helped me tremendously!”

- Program Graduate
Dietetic Education at Sunnybrook

The Sunnybrook and Women’s College Dietetic Internship Program leads to entry into a regulated health profession. The program is an accredited professional education program that supports the achievement of the Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice. The program is recognized by the Partnership for Dietetic Education and Practice and prepares students for eligibility for registration with a provincial dietetics regulatory body.

Program Vision and Values

The internship program is rooted in Sunnybrook’s global Mission, Vision and Values. The program’s vision is:

“To **innovate** the future of dietetic education through **sustainable nutrition care** and **research**-focused programming that is recognized for **excellence** that **benefits** the profession and Sunnybrook/Women’s College Hospital.”

**VALUES (RISE)**

**Research:** We value the process as well as the end result that participating and leading in research provides both learners and clinicians. Evidence-based practice not only drives our clinical practice, but our educational program as well.

**Innovation:** We actively seek out new opportunities for teaching and learning from within the profession and education community.

**Sustainability:** We seek to balance program goals with organizational goals and are mindful of resources available.

**Excellence:** We seek to provide a high quality internship program with graduates that are entry level competent. We will provide a supportive and superior learning environment that enables each dietetic intern to acquire the skills and knowledge needed to become an entry level Registered Dietitian as set out by the Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice (ICDEP).
Program Outline

Our comprehensive 44 - 46 week professional program provides varied experiences in clinical practice, research, food services, and community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Components</th>
<th># of Weeks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Service (may be twinned or 1:1)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Nutrition (may be twinned or 1:1)</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Nutrition Care</strong></td>
<td><strong>19</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Outpatient Rotations (including diabetes)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Introductory (1:1 precepting)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary (1:1 precepting)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inpatient Rotations (at Sunnybrook)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Introductory (twinning model for all interns)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutrition Support (1:1 precepting or twinning)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Further Concentration (at Sunnybrook)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Inpatient or outpatient (1:1 precepting)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consolidation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population and Public Health</td>
<td>4 - 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research (spread throughout the year)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacation (winter holidays + 1 TBD)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Evaluation and Graduation Ceremony week</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>44 - 46</strong></td>
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**ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCES**

- Monthly supplemental education sessions that further support the learning within rotations. Examples include:
  - Renal Nutrition
  - Weight Management
  - Geriatric Nutrition
  - Nutrition Support
  - Simulation and Standardized Patient Sessions
  - Media Training
  - Preparing for Workforce Entry

- Journal Club
- Case Study
- Formal interprofessional education activities with students and staff throughout the year
Applications and Selection Process

APPLICATION PACKAGES

Graduating students should obtain a dietetic internship application package from the Dietitians of Canada website (www.dietitians.ca). The application package is evaluated based on the following criteria:

**Application Fee** – There is a $25 application fee payable via the Dietitians of Canada online store. Your package will not be processed until payment has been received.

**University Transcript** – Strong academic preparation is recommended. A minimum B+ average is required for all courses completed, with preference given to applicants with an A average.

**Experience** in Nutrition and/or Food Service-related field(s) requiring leadership and good communication skills. Please list the number of hours for all your volunteer and work experiences in your application package.

**Confidential Reports** – Successful applicants are selected through strong ratings by all required letters of reference.

**Personal Letter** – The personal letter should briefly highlight experiences related to professional goals and activities, which developed communication and interpersonal skills. Extracurricular activities, ability to be self-directed, expectations of internship and dietetics, and potential contribution to the profession of dietetics should also be addressed. The letter must be concise, grammatically correct, one page, double-spaced and typed. Evaluation will be based on content, clarity, and interest in the profession/program.

The selection committee will evaluate applications packages based on evidence of established predictors of success in the Dietetic Internship Program, including self-direction, strong communication skills, adaptability, and a personal balance of school, work, and leisure.

INTERVIEWS

Interviews will be held for selected applicants on **Tuesday February 27th, 2018**.

A Multiple Mini Interview (MMI) format is used to interview candidates. The MMI consists of a series of short, timed interview stations and attempts to draw multiple examples of the candidate’s ability to quickly and critically appraise information, communicate ideas, and demonstrate thought related to issues pertaining to the dietetic profession. Telephone interviews may be offered if a candidate is unable to attend in person.

“I found the interview process very enjoyable. Having a few minutes to prepare and gather my thoughts meant I could focus on answering the questions rather than stressing about remembering all the things I had to say. I believe the broad type of questions/activities/scenarios was indicative of my skills and ability to react and handle a variety of situations. Having a rest station with the current interns was a great way to break and find out more about the program from those currently in it.”

– Program Candidate
Transportation To and From Sunnybrook

**SHUTTLE BUS**
There are two free shuttle bus services provided to staff/students from Monday to Friday.

1. Between Bayview Campus, Holland Centre and Women’s College Hospital from 5:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

2. Between Finch GO station, St. John’s Rehab main entrance and Bayview Campus between 7 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

**TTC AND PARKING**
TTC passes and monthly parking permits are available for sale at SHSC.

**Once Accepted**

Program admission depends on completion of degree requirements prior to the start of the internship.

**Program Dates** – September 2018 to mid/late July 2019.

**Fees** – Tuition for 2018-2019 will be $2500. Dietetic interns qualify for tuition and education tax credits for income tax purposes.

**Financial Assistance** – Financial assistance is not available from SHSC or WCH. Applicants should be self-supporting for the entire program. Supplemental employment should be kept to a minimum.

**Hours** – Rotations are scheduled according to the routine of the placement (i.e. Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm). Schedules and hours vary by rotation and may include evenings and weekends.

**Rotation Locations** – Core rotations will be at Sunnybrook and Women’s College Hospitals. Travel within the GTA for other rotations maybe required.

**Graduation** – Program graduates will receive a certificate at a graduation. Graduates are eligible for temporary membership in all provincial licensing bodies (e.g. College of Dietitians of Ontario).

**Contact Information**

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