



Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics

Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) Option

One of the career options for students pursuing the Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics (MSND) is to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). The DPD track within the MSND is approved by the Accreditation Council on Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) and satisfies the first step towards becoming an RDN. The steps to become an RDN are:

1. Receive a verification statement from an ACEND-accredited program (DPD programs are one way to receive a verification statement)
2. Apply for and complete an ACEND-accredited supervised practice dietetic internship or Individualized Supervised Practice Pathway program
3. Pass a national examination administered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR)

Please visit <https://www.eatrightpro.org/about-us/become-an-rdn-or-dtr/high-school-students/5-steps-to-become-a-registered-dietitian-nutritionist> for more information.

Students who are accepted into the MSND + DPD program are not automatically enrolled in or accepted into the Dietetic Internship program. The Dietetic Internship requires a separate application process. For more information about the application process and your eligibility for the Dietetic Internship, schedule an appointment with an advisor by calling 303-615-0990 or emailing nutrition@msudenver.edu.

Students wishing to complete the DPD option in the MSND are required to take an additional 4 courses beyond the 39 credit hours in the MSND curriculum. These 4 additional courses include:

- ✓ **HCM 3150 Health Care Organization and Management (3 credits)**
- ✓ **RST 1200 Basic Cooking Skills (3 credits)**
- ✓ **NUT 4300 Management in Dietetics (3 credits) – prerequisite is RST 1200**
- ✓ **NUT 4350 Leadership Concepts in Nutrition (3 credits) - pre/corequisite is NUT 4300**

The above 4 courses can be completed prior to starting the MSND program (i.e., during the completion of prerequisites) or after a student has started the MSND coursework.

The MSND + DPD option is a total of 51 credit hours of coursework.