

**REQUIREMENTS FOR REVIEW OF TRANSCRIPTS &
VERIFICATION OF COMPLETING
THE DIDACTIC PROGRAM IN DIETETICS [DPD] REQUIREMENTS
AT SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY**

The Didactic Program in Dietetics at San Diego State University is currently granted Accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190, Chicago, IL., 60606-6995, 800/877-1600 Ext 5400

1. An official transcript from each of the colleges/universities you attended must be included. An unofficial transcript from SDSU is acceptable for your initial DPD application.
2. A catalog description of ALL coursework or a course syllabus must accompany all transcripts from colleges/universities other than SDSU or California community colleges.
3. Students with degrees from institutions not located in the United States of America must have their transcripts reviewed by one of the services approved by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and listed at <https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/students-and-advancing-education/information-for-students/foreign-degree-evaluation-agencies>. An Official Review Document must be obtained before Verification review will commence.
4. **A letter grade of "C" or better must be attained in each and every DPD required course and on each item required for the DPD portfolio. No DPD course may be taken for Credit/No Credit. Information about course repeat and course forgiveness can be found here: http://advising.sdsu.edu/academic_success/course_repeat_forgiveness**
5. A **minimum of eighteen** semester units must be taken in Foods and Nutrition courses from the SDSU Didactic Program in Dietetics before a verification statement will be awarded. Please note that SDSU is the institution verifying and recommending you to the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Therefore, we need to feel confident in your academic preparation. This requirement is independent of whether or not you need to take additional courses to meet DPD requirements. Should you feel it unnecessary to take additional courses at SDSU, the Foods and Nutrition faculty recommend that you contact the institution where you earned your previous degrees for a Verification Statement.
6. **An overall GPA of 3.1 and a GPA of at least 3.1 in DPD courses is required.** Your file must contain Official Transcripts from all institutions you attended to document that you meet the GPA requirements. Verification Statements will not be released without receipt of Official Transcripts. **You must have earned a bachelor's degree at SDSU or at another institution before an official Verification Statement will be issued.**
7. Unofficial transcripts will be reviewed at the end of every semester to ensure that DPD students are meeting the GPA and grade requirements. Students not meeting the requirements will be counseled on how to improve their grades in order to maintain DPD eligibility.
8. Students must complete the Didactic Program in Dietetics within six years of the date when they enrolled in their degree program, unless they are approved for a leave of absence. The policy on leaves of absence can be found in the University Policies: <https://curriculum.sdsu.edu/catalog/2018-19/139-Uni-Policies.pdf>
9. All undergraduate DPD students must complete an international experience (as described on page 17 of the DPD handbook) in order to earn their bachelor's degree and DPD verification statement.

10. Graduate students in the DPD are not required to complete an international experience in order to earn a DPD Verification Statement.
11. Students that are not able to meet the DPD requirements will not receive a verification statement and will be counseled into alternate educational or career paths.

APPLYING TO THE SDSU DIDACTIC PROGRAM IN DIETETICS

When to apply to the SDSU DPD:

Apply to the DPD after you have been advanced to the major, and no later than two full semesters before you graduate.

The deadline to apply to the DPD for Spring graduation is July 1 of the prior year.

The deadline to apply to the DPD for Fall graduation is January 1 of the same year.

Return your completed packet to the address below. Include the REQUEST FOR ADMISSION TO THE DPD FORM found on the last page of this document and all transcripts. Allow at least two weeks for processing, during the academic year [September-May]. Processing over winter break [January] and in the summer [June-August] may take up to one month. If the information you provide is incomplete or transcripts are not available, your evaluation will be delayed. When the initial evaluation is complete, you will receive a letter stating what additional course work you need to complete for verification. If you wish to discuss the verification evaluation, contact Yumi Petrisko via email at mpetrisk@sdsu.edu.

Information for students with bachelor's degrees wishing to complete the SDSU DPD

Students must be enrolled in a degree program in order to take any of the DPD classes at SDSU. The university does not allow students to earn a second undergraduate degree, so the only way to take SDSU DPD classes is to apply to the graduate program in nutrition. Once accepted, students would then take the undergraduate DPD classes along with the required graduate classes.

In order to be granted permission to pursue the course work leading to completion of the Didactic Program in Dietetics (accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics) students admitted to the MS degree program in nutritional sciences or the Dual MS program must have completed the following courses and must have a DPD course GPA of 3.1 or better: Human Anatomy (BIOL 212), General Chemistry (CHEM 100), Organic Chemistry (CHEM 130), Biochemistry (CHEM 160), General Biology (BIOL 100 and 100L), Microbiology (BIOL 211 and 211L), Human Physiology (BIOL 336), Statistics (STAT 250), and Fundamentals of Nutrition (NUTR 201).

Protection of Privacy of Student Information

DPD student files will be kept in a locked file cabinet in the DPD Director's office. Students may request access to their personal files from the DPD Director.

Reciprocity

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics has reciprocity agreements with some countries that allow graduates with appropriate credentials to take the American Registration Examination and conversely American Registered Dietitians may sit for similar examinations in those countries. As reciprocity agreements are constantly being established, please check with the DPD Director for current information, if you have a degree in Foods and Nutrition from a foreign country.

Send your packet of materials for review to:

**Yumi Petrisko, MS, RDN, CSSD
Didactic Program in Dietetics
School of Exercise and Nutritional Sciences
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego, CA 92182-7251**

