



# SDSU's Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) The Road to Becoming a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist

Yumi Petrisko, MS, RDN

Director, Didactic Program in Dietetics

[mpetrisk@sdsu.edu](mailto:mpetrisk@sdsu.edu)

# WHAT CAN I DO WITH A DEGREE IN NUTRITION?

BS Foods and Nutrition

- Degreed nutritionist

Bachelor's Degree + DPD

- Nutrition and dietetics technician, registered (NDTR) – usually work in clinical or social services

Bachelor's Degree + DPD + Master's Degree + Dietetic Internship

- Registered dietitian nutritionist (RD/RDN)



# Why Become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist?

A decorative graphic in the top right corner consisting of a large orange circle partially cut off by the edge of the slide, and a horizontal green brushstroke below it.

- RD/RDN only nationally recognized profession for nutrition expertise
- RD/RDN services included in state and federal regulations
- RD/RDN reimbursement under medical services
- RD/RDN one of fastest growing health careers
- RD/RDN nutrition expert, credibility

# The Road to Your RD/RDN

- Apply to the SDSU DPD
  - Must be advanced to Foods and Nutrition major or a graduate student in MS Nutritional Sciences or Concurrent MS program
- Maintain grades for DPD
  - 3.1 overall GPA
  - 3.1 DPD course GPA
  - No DPD course grade less than a C
- Apply for and complete a graduate degree and then an accredited dietetic internship (DI) or a combined graduate degree and supervised practice program
  - Minimum 1000 hours of supervised practice
- Take national registration exam



# Completing the DPD



## Required

- Complete Nutr 407, Nutr 409, Nutr 511
- Complete portfolio
- Maintain required grades/GPA

## Optional, but recommended

- Work or volunteer in the field
- Participate in Student Nutrition Organization (SNO) activities
- Get involved in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the San Diego district (CANDSD)

# Resources

- DPD website

<https://ens.sdsu.edu/academic-programs/dpd/overview/>

- DPD Instagram (@sdsudpd) and Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/SDSU-Didactic-Program-in-Dietetics-357146781002100>

- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and local chapter – join as a student member!

[www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org)

<https://dietitian.org/>

- Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND)

<https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend>

