School of Nursing and Health Professions
Department of Allied Health Sciences
Division of Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Management

Dietetic Internship Program
Handbook

2021 - 2022
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Introduction to the Murray State University Dietetic Internship &
Master of Science in Nutrition

The Murray State University (MSU) Dietetic Internship Program (DI) and Master of Science in Nutrition (MS) is designed to meet the competencies for entry-level dietetics practice and to prepare interns for the Registration Examination for Dietitians. The program has a Medical Nutrition Therapy concentration and provides interns with 1280 supervised practice hours in a variety of healthcare settings.

The program begins in the first session of summer, is 15 months in duration, and is completed over four semesters ending in August of the following year. MSU has clinical agreements with supervised practice sites across Kentucky, Indiana, and Tennessee. Interns follow a modified university calendar.

Interns begin in the summer session taking two online courses and completing orientation to the internship program. In the fall semester, interns continue course work and begin their supervised practice at their assigned facility. Spring semester interns continue with course work and supervised practice training, culminating in the summer session with the completion of 33-credit hours. Approximately 40 hours of supervised practice are completed per week. Distance education components are used to deliver internet-based instruction.

Interns complete supervised experiences in Medical Nutrition Therapy, Management Practice in Dietetics, Community Nutrition and Long-Term Care. An Advanced Practice experience is completed after all clinical rotations. This experience allows the intern to function independently as an entry-level dietitian in the hospital setting.

MSU’s DI is currently accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), the accrediting agency for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190, Chicago, IL 60606-6995, 312-899-0040 ext. 5400.

Dietetic Internship Program – Contact Information

**Dietetic Internship Director & Clinical Instructor**

Lori Crouch, MS, RD, LD  
Director, Internship Program  
Murray State University  
200 N Applied Science  
Murray, KY 42071  
(Office) 270-809-3964  
lcrouch1@murraystate.edu
Murray State University Program

Students accepted to the MSU DI must apply and be accepted to the MSU Graduate School. Thirty-three hours of graduate credit are earned during internship program. Interns who successfully complete the Internship Program will receive their Master of Science in Nutrition Degree.

Program Philosophy, Mission, Goals, and Student Learning Outcomes

Program Philosophy
The Murray State University dietetic internship program is committed to providing comprehensive supervised practice learning experiences in a wide variety of supervised practice settings to prepare graduates for entry-level practice and lifelong learning as registered dietitian nutritionists. We emphasize the value of good communication skills, collaboration and teamwork, respect for diverse societies and viewpoints, leadership and decision-making skills, problem-solving and critical thinking skills, a commitment to advocacy for the profession, and self-reflection in our planned learning activities. Our program plans a range of learning activities that support competency attainment, including direct patient care, interdisciplinary forums, management projects, and case study presentations. Interns integrate and apply their new knowledge and skills using a variety of educational methods. The Murray State University dietetic internship strives to foster professional development of interns that exhibit the behaviors outlined in the Characteristics of the Murray State Graduate. The mission and goals mutually support the faculty’s belief in a liberal education as a bases for excellence within the profession.

Mission Statement
The mission of the Murray State University Dietetic Internship is to provide mentored, real-world learning opportunities that foster student growth in knowledge and critical thinking. Upon program completion, dietetic interns will be prepared to be entry-level registered dietitian nutritionists skilled in medical nutrition therapy who improve the health and well-being of individuals regionally and nationally in clinical, community, foodservice, and long-term care settings.

Program Goals and Objectives
Goal #1 – Program graduates will be prepared to be entry-level registered dietitian nutritionists.

- **Objective 1a** - At least 80% of program interns complete program/degree requirements within 16.5 months (150% of program length).
- **Objective 1b** - 80% of program graduates take the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists within 12 months of program completion.
- **Objective 1c** - The program’s one-year pass rate (graduates who pass the registration exam within one year of first attempt) on the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists is at least 80%.
- **Objective 1d** - 100% of program graduates employed as registered dietitian nutritionists (RDN) who respond to the Post Internship Survey will report preparation to be an entry-level RDN as “satisfactory” or better.
Section 1 – General Information

Goal #2 – Program graduates will be prepared to apply their knowledge and critical thinking skills to improve the health and well-being of individuals as employed professionals in nutrition and dietetics or related fields.

- Objective 2a - Of graduates who seek employment, 80% percent are employed in nutrition and dietetics or related fields within 12 months of graduation.
- Objective 2b - 80% of employers of Murray State University (MSU) Dietetic Internship graduates, who respond to the employer survey, will rate the MSU graduate as “satisfactory” or better for helping to “improve the health and well-being of individuals.”
- Objective 2c - 80% of employers of Murray State University (MSU) Dietetic Internship graduates, who respond to the employer survey, will rate the MSU graduate as “satisfactory” or better for skill in critical thinking.
- Objective 2d - 100% of employers of Murray State University (MSU) Dietetic Internship graduates, who respond to the employer survey, will rate the MSU graduate as “satisfactory” or better for “knowledge” needed for entry level position.

Admission Requirements

Candidates for the Murray State University Internship Program must meet the following requirements:

1. Successful completion of a Didactic Program in Nutrition and Dietetics accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) as evidenced by an original Verification Statement signed by the Program Director. The Verification Statement must be obtained prior to the MSU DI start date.
2. Successful completion of a minimum of a Bachelor's degree from a US regionally-accredited college or university or a foreign equivalent as evidenced by an official transcript. (Foreign degrees must be evaluated by an independent agency to validate the foreign degree is equivalent to at least a bachelor's degree conferred by a US regionally-accredited college or university. The summary section of the evaluation report must state "from a regionally accredited institution.") The degree must be obtained prior to the MSU DI start date.
3. Submission of a completed application for the MSU DI through the Dietetic Internship Centralized Application Service (DICAS) following the specific directions under the “Admissions Procedures” section of the MSU Dietetic Internship Program Handbook.
4. International students must meet the academic preparation required by the Academy of Dietetics and Nutrition (AND). Students may refer to the AND Membership Application for further information. For application consideration, a score of at least 550 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or 213/300 on the computer-based test for all applicants who are non-native English speakers is required.
Selection Considerations

Applications will be reviewed and evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. **Completeness**: A completed application through the Dietetic Internship Centralized Application Service (DICAS) following the specific directions under the "Admissions Procedures" section of the MSU Dietetic Internship Program Handbook is required.

2. **Grade Point Average**: Applicants should have an overall undergraduate Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher and an overall DPD GPA of 3.4 or higher (based on a 4.0 system), or an overall graduate GPA of 3.5 or higher (if applicable). Students meeting the GPA requirement that have a D or lower on their transcript in any course that has not been replaced with a higher grade will not be considered a viable candidate.

3. **Graduate Record Examination (GRE)**: Applicants must have taken the GRE within the past three years and have a score of 145 in both the verbal and quantitative test, and a 4 on the written essay portion.

4. **Work/Volunteer Experience**: Applicants should have 400 total hours or more of nutrition/dietetic-related volunteer and work experience over the past 4 years. Having experience in clinical areas is very beneficial due to the program’s concentration in Medical Nutrition Therapy.

5. **Recency of Experience**: Applicants with a DPD completion date of greater than three (3) years must provide evidence of recent experience in the field of nutrition and dietetics and/or relative graduate course work. Medical Nutrition Therapy course work must be within the past three (3) years.

Applications are reviewed by the MSU DI faculty and Application Review Committee, scored according to the outlined criteria, and ranked by these preliminary scores. Applicants under consideration after review are contacted for telephone interviews during the selection process. The interviews are an opportunity for applicants to share additional information about their qualifications, demonstrate their core knowledge and critical thinking skills, as well as learn more about the MSU DI.

Admission Procedures

Applicants must first apply for admission to the MSU Dietetic Internship Program. Following admission to the Dietetic Internship Program, applicants must then apply for admission to the MSU Graduate School. Applicants should not apply to the MSU Graduate School until they have been accepted into the Dietetic Internship Program.

Computer Matching

All applicants not preselected to the Murray State University DI program must participate in computer matching. Computer matching enables a student to be assigned to a requested internship program that has also expressed interest in the student. A private company, D&D Digital Systems, conducts the matching process. Students should request instructions from their undergraduate program or from D&D Digital Systems to participate in computer matching and to prioritize their preferences for internship locations. Your preferences must be completed into D&D Digital Systems by
the deadline listed on D&D Digital’s spring timeline. There is a fee for participation in computer matching that must be paid with your prioritized preferences for internship locations. Requests for additional materials may be made to:

D&D Digital Systems  
304 Main St., Suite 301  
Ames, IA 50010  
(515) 292-0490  
www.dnddigital.com/ada/

Application for Admission to the Dietetic Internship Program  
Applicants not preselected to the internship program must use the Dietetic Internship Centralized Application System (DICAS). The online application must be completed by 11:59 pm Central time on the deadline date listed by D&D Digital. The fee to use DICAS is found on the main website under “Starting Your DICAS Application” at https://help.liaisonedu.com/DICAS_Applicant_Help_Center. The DICAS application for the Spring match cycle is generally available after December 1st and can be accessed at: https://portal.dicas.org.

Personal Statement  
Applicants must also submit a personal statement in 1,000 words or less through DICAS. The following questions should be addressed:  
Why do you want to enter the dietetics profession?  
What are some experiences that have helped to prepare you for your career?  
What are your short-term and long-term goals?  
What are your strengths and weaknesses or areas needing improvement?  
What attracted you to the Murray State University dietetic internship program?

Recommendations  
Three recommendations are required. One recommendation should come from a Medical Nutrition Therapy professor, one from your DPD Director and one from a Food Management professor or work supervisor. When completing the online application, applicants must provide the name, email address and other contact information for each reference. Submission of this information will trigger an email message requesting completion of a recommendation form. No recommendation will be considered unless entered as part of the online application process.

Transcripts  
Official transcripts from all universities attended should be mailed to the address below. Photocopies or “Issued to Student” copies will not be accepted.  
DICAS - Transcript Dept.  
PO Box 9118  
Watertown, MA 02472

GRE Scores  
GRE scores must be included as part of the DICAS application. A scanned copy of the score should be attached as supplemental information to the electronic application. In addition, official scores must also be sent to #1494 Murray State University.
Section 1 – General Information

Notification of Acceptance
MSU will not notify students of acceptance into the program. D&D Digital will notify each student applicant about the dietetic internship program to which he or she has been “matched.” The student must confirm acceptance by contacting MSU’s Dietetic Internship Program Director by phone or email by 5:00pm on Appointment Day. After this time, the MSU DI is under no obligation to hold the opening for the applicant.

MSU Graduate School Admission
Once a student receives notification they are matched to the Dietetic Internship Program and has confirmed acceptance, they must apply and be admitted to the MSU Graduate School. The application fee payable to Murray State University should accompany this application. The Graduate School application and information is accessible on the web at the following address: https://www.murraystate.edu/students/Graduate/ApplyforGraduateSchool.aspx

Preselection Admission Option
Purpose:

The purpose of the preselect dietetic internship admission option is to offer qualified Murray State University Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) students the opportunity to apply for admission into Murray State University’s Dietetic Internship Graduate Certificate Program (DI).

Students apply during their senior year and will be granted direct admission into the program upon final acceptance and successful completion of the DPD program and Bachelor of Science program requirements. Students applying to the preselect admission option will commit to attending the Murray State University Dietetic Internship the year following undergraduate completion and bypass the online centralized application (DICAS) and dietetic internship computer matching process.

Preselect Admission Requirements:
Students currently enrolled at Murray State University who meet the following criteria are eligible to apply for the Preselect Admission Option during their senior year.

- Minimum of a 3.0 cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)
- Minimum of a 3.4 DPD Grade Point Average (GPA)
- Grade of B or better in NTN230, NTN333, NTN330, NTN440, NTN445, NTN450
- Grade of C or better in all other courses
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) required taken no earlier than five years prior to application with preferred minimum scores of Verbal 145, Quantitative 145 and Writing 4.0
- Students for whom English is a second language must earn a minimum score of 550 (paper-based) or 213/300 (computer-based) within two years prior to application on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The TOEFL website is http://www.toefl.org
Preselect Application Process:

1. Interested applicants must schedule an appointment with the Dietetic Internship Director to review their admission requirements and discuss the application process.
2. Interested, qualified applicants will be provided the Murray State University Dietetic Internship Preselect Application by the Dietetic Internship Director. This application is due the fall semester of the applicant's senior year no later than 5PM CST on the last Friday of October for preadmission into the dietetic internship class for the following year.
3. Applicant must submit a completed application and the following in their application packet.
   a. Evidence of meeting the minimum academic requirements from an ACEND-approved Didactic Program in Dietetics by a "Declaration of Intent to Complete Degree."
   b. Personal Statement: Applicants must also submit a personal statement in 1,000 words or less. The following questions should be addressed:
      - Why do you want to enter the dietetics profession?
      - What are some experiences that have helped to prepare you for your career?
      - What are your short-term and long-term goals?
      - What are your strengths and weaknesses or areas needing improvement?
      - What attracted you to the Murray State University dietetic internship program?
   c. Three recommendation letters with one being from the DPD Director (academic reference), another from a nutrition professor with whom you have had for 2 or more courses, with the final reference being a work or volunteer reference.
      - Please submit each reference letter in a sealed envelope with the signature of the person submitting the reference on the envelope closure.
   d. Resume which includes work and volunteer experience and involvement in college and/or community activities.
   e. A completed Dietetic Internship Preselection Checklist should be attached to the front of your Preselection application packet. Applications are to be hand delivered or mailed to the following address: DI Director & DI Selection Committee, Murray State University, 200 N Oakley Applied Science Building, Murray, KY, 42071
   f. The completed application packet must be submitted or postmarked to the Dietetic Internship Director no later than 5PM CST on the last Friday of October for preadmission into the Dietetic Internship class for the following year.

Preselect Selection Process:

1. The total number of preselect positions is four annually.
Section 1 – General Information

2. Applications will be reviewed by the DI Selection Committee upon receipt of fall semester grades and calculation of the final cumulative GPA.
3. Qualified applicants will have an on-campus interview during the month of November. Dates will be determined depending on the student and committee’s schedules. Students will be notified of the date and time of their interview by the DI Director.
4. Selection criterion will include academic performance, faculty recommendations, participation in an on-campus interview, and the selection committee’s assessment of the individual’s ability to successfully complete the Murray State University DI. Meeting minimum requirements for the Preselect DI Admission Option does not guarantee acceptance into the DI Program.
5. Admittance in Murray State University’s DI is contingent on the student maintaining a 3.0 overall GPA and 3.4 DPD GPA in their remaining courses.
6. Students are accepted into the Murray State University DI for the year immediately following completion of their undergraduate requirements.
7. Once students accept an intern position in Murray State University’s DI their name is submitted to D&D Digital and that student is ineligible to participate in computer matching.

Preselect Applicant Notification:

1. Applicants will receive notification via email from the Dietetic Internship Director of acceptance or rejection into the Preselect Dietetic Internship Admission Option by the last day of finals in the fall semester each academic year.
2. Written confirmation via email to the Dietetic Internship Director of acceptance or rejection of the internship position is required within 24 hours of notification.
3. Students admitted into the DI program must pay a non-refundable placeholder fee of $175.00 which will be applied towards the MSU program fee within 24 hours of acceptance.
4. Students admitted into the DI program will complete the Graduate College Application for Admission and be enrolled in MSU’s graduate school. Apply at http://www.murraystate.edu/admissions/GraduateStudents.aspx In order to be enrolled in the graduate college students will submit the online application along with the application fee.
5. Official GRE scores need to be submitted to Murray State University after acceptance into the program if this has not been completed already.
6. Additional program requirements and information can be found at: www.http://murraystate.edu/dieteticinternship

Second Round Match Procedure
Should open positions exist, Murray State University follows the recommended procedures outlined by D&D Digital for second round match. Students wishing to be considered for open positions during this process should make their application available to Murray State University. Applicants should also email the Director of the Dietetic Internship Program notifying them the application has been made available.
Appointments for open positions may begin being offered as soon as the updated match/no match list is made available.

**Intern Placement**

Each intern is assigned to one of fifteen supervised practice sites in Kentucky, Indiana, and/or Tennessee. Once students are selected to Murray State's internship, they will be able to rank their supervised training site preferences. Although student preference is considered, placement at a requested practice site cannot be guaranteed.

**Program Costs**

**Internship Application Fee**
DICAS: See website “Starting Your DICAS Application” for information: [https://help.liaisonedu.com/DICAS_Applicant_Help_Center](https://help.liaisonedu.com/DICAS_Applicant_Help_Center)

**Graduate School Application Fee:**
Those applicants accepted into the dietetic internship program must apply to the Graduate School. The Graduate School application fee is $40.00.

**Estimated Tuition**
Information regarding current tuition rates, out of state tuition and reciprocity agreements with other states can be found on the MSU website: [http://www.murraystate.edu/admissions/BursarsOffice/GraduateTuition.aspx](http://www.murraystate.edu/admissions/BursarsOffice/GraduateTuition.aspx)

**Estimated Professional Expenses**
- MSU DI Program Fee (due at August orientation): $350
- Registration Examination Preparation Course: $430
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Student Membership $ 58

*Please refer to the website for additional information on expenses.*

**Additional Cost**
Items such as background checks, immunizations, TB skin test or drug tests may be required by some clinical facilities. Interns may also incur other miscellaneous expenses such as program supplies, travel, hotel and food as part of the MSU DI experience. Interns are responsible for bearing the cost of these items and costs may vary by location.

**Financial Aid**
Interns enrolled in the Master of Science in Nutrition degree program may be eligible for financial aid. Additional information can be found on the MSU website: [http://www.murraystate.edu/Students/Graduate/FinancialAidandAssistantships/FinancialAid.aspx](http://www.murraystate.edu/Students/Graduate/FinancialAidandAssistantships/FinancialAid.aspx)
Student Support Services
Interns enrolled in the MSU graduate school have access to student support services such as campus police and public safety, health services, Racer Writing Center, counseling and testing services, disabled student services, as well as the Marvin D. Mills Multicultural Center. Links to student support services are provided in each Canvas course. Additional information can be found on the following website: http://www.murraystate.edu/Students/Graduate/GraduateStudentServices/SafetyAndHealth.aspx
Interns can also review the University policies for non-discrimination and commitment to equal opportunity in compliance with state and federal laws and regulations as outlined on the Murray State Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) https://www.murraystate.edu/headermenu/administration/OfficeOfInstitutionalDiversityEquityandAccess/
Interns also have free access to Career Services which provides resources and assistance in all aspects of the career development and job search processes. Current interns and alumni are invited to utilize the services found on the following website: https://www.murraystate.edu/headermenu/Offices/CareerServices/

Technology Requirements
• Access to high speed internet at all times
• Office 2010 or higher installed on your computer
• Current versions of Java and Flash installed on your computer
• Supported browsers and plugins installed on your computer
• Meet additional requirements as listed here to be able to utilize Canvas (Murray State’s Learning Management System)
### Section 1 – General Information

**Rotation Information**

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<th>Summer 1 Semester</th>
<th>Duration (Weeks)</th>
<th>Credit Hours Earned</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NTN 610 Professional Dietetics Practice</td>
<td>5 (online)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTN 622 Trends in Food Supply</td>
<td>10 (online)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTN 640 Dietetics Clinical Training Primer</td>
<td>2 days in August (on campus) 3 days in October (on campus)</td>
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<th>Duration (Weeks)</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Credit Hours Earned</th>
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<td>NTN 635 Pharmacology for Allied Health Professionals</td>
<td>16 (online)</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NTN 642 Management Practice in Dietetics</td>
<td>5 (at site)</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTN 643 Community Nutrition</td>
<td>5 (at site)</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTN 645 Pathophysiology for Nutrition-Related Diseases</td>
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<th>Duration (Weeks)</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<td>NTN 641 Medical Nutrition Therapy I</td>
<td>6 (at site)</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NTN 651 Medical Nutrition Therapy II</td>
<td>8 (at site)</td>
<td>320</td>
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<tr>
<td>NTN 620 Long Term Care</td>
<td>16* (3)</td>
<td>120</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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*16 week traditional online course, including 3 weeks of supervised practice at training site*

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<th>Duration (Weeks)</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Credit Hours Earned</th>
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<td>NTN 653 Advanced Practice</td>
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<td>200</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NTN 621 Performance Nutrition</td>
<td>10 (online)</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>1280</td>
<td>33</td>
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</table>
Graduation and Program Completion Requirements

The verification statement is granted only under the following circumstances:

1. The dietetic intern has demonstrated competence as an entry-level practitioner through satisfactory completion of all scheduled supervised practice rotations.
2. The dietetic intern has completed all required courses with a grade of B or better.
3. The dietetic intern has met all financial obligations to Murray State University.
4. The dietetic intern must score a minimum of 75% on the post assessment at the end of the Advanced Practice rotation in order to be eligible to receive an DI verification statement.
5. The dietetic intern has completed 1280 supervised practice hours during the internship.

The dietetic intern is allowed a maximum of 22.5 months to complete the internship with the start of the first online class in summer 1. If the intern is unable to complete the program within the 22.5 months, he/she will not receive a verification statement.

For interns successfully completing the program and receiving signed verification statements, the program director will submit all required information to the Commission on Dietetic Registration to verify eligibility for the registration examination for dietitians.

Accreditation

The Dietetic Internship Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) the accrediting agency for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190 Chicago, Illinois 60606-6995

Any questions regarding accreditation may be directed to the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (ACEND) at 312-899-0040 ext. 5400 or visit the Academy web site at www.eatright.org.
Assignments, Curriculum, Assessment & Evaluations Policies

I. Definition of Terms

DI Director/ Clinical Instructor: Lori Crouch, MS, RD, LD
Nutrition and Dietetics
Murray State University

Site Director: The RD or Manager that is the main supervisor of the intern during their assigned rotations throughout the time they are at a specific site.

Preceptor: The supervisor (usually an RD) that the intern reports to during a specific day/week/topic of each rotation. At some sites, the Preceptor and the Site Director may be the same. Preceptors must have a minimum of 1 year of experience as a Registered Dietitian before they can become the main supervisor for an intern.

II. Graduate Writing Requirement

Prior to beginning the fall rotation, successful completion or evidence showing successful completion of the graduate courses in summer 1 must be documented. Successful completion requires that you receive a grade of B or better in order to proceed into the internship in the fall. This can be accomplished by:

1) Taking the online NTN 610 level course at Murray State University during the summer session.
2) Taking the online NTN 622 level course at Murray State University during the summer session.

III. Assignments

Rotation Assignment Format
See “Policy for Murray State Intern Portfolios” on page 28 for formatting of written assignments.

Rotation Assignments – DI Faculty Evaluation
DI Faculty will review all written work (Independent Learning/homework, case studies, journal article reviews, portfolio items, etc.). All assignments will receive an indicator of successful completion. Assignments receiving an A, B, or complete are considered acceptable. At the discretion of the DI faculty, any assignment that is incomplete or receives a C or lower may require a rewrite or the completion of additional or alternative assignments or activities in order to meet ACEND competencies. The intern’s assignment grade may change at the discretion of the DI Faculty. An intern who submits incomplete assignments, receives an initial grade of C or lower on two (2) consecutive assignments, or receives a C or lower on any Advanced Practice assignment is
considered at risk for successful completion of the rotation and/or course and receiving a verification statement. Interns identified at risk will be counseled, referred to the Racer Writing Center if needed, and appropriate remediation will be determined. The DI faculty will decide upon the timeline for completion and resubmission of rewritten work. Continuation of unacceptable performance will result in disciplinary action. The final course grade may be lowered at the discretion of the DI Faculty based on number of rewrites and/or additional assignments to be completed.

Late Submissions: All assessments, quizzes, and assignments are due by 11:59 pm CST on the designated due date unless otherwise indicated by the instructor. Any of the above submitted after the designated due date and time will be considered late.

- Assessments, quizzes, or assignments submitted within the first 24 hours after the designated due date will receive a 10% (or full letter grade) deduction off the earned score. For example, if the intern earned a “C” on an assignment but it was submitted two hours late, s/he will receive a “D” on the assignment.
- Assessments, quizzes, or assignments submitted more than 24 hours late will receive a zero.
- Cheating or plagiarism of any of the following will result in receiving a zero (0) for the assignment:
  - Independent Learning (homework), Case Studies & any other rewritten/required work
  - Intern Portfolio Assignments
  - Completed Intern Portfolio
  - Intern Quizzes and End of Rotation Assessments

**Rotation Assignments – Preceptor Review**

Interns are responsible for putting all assignments into a portfolio for each rotation (see policy for portfolio on pages 24-25) and turning in the completed portfolio to the Site Director/Preceptor for review by the dates noted on the intern planning calendars. Late submission of portfolio or any assignment is subject to deductions unless prior approval from Preceptor has been granted and DI Director and Clinical Instructor have been notified and approved the extension.

The Preceptor, prior to the completion of each rotation, will review all assignments in the portfolio. The Preceptor may use the Portfolio Check-off Lists to ensure completion of the rotation assignments. The Preceptor is not responsible for grading assignments. The Preceptor may require revisions, as s/he deems necessary. The Preceptor will obtain input from others who have worked with the intern during the specific rotations as they see fit. The Preceptor may use the Portfolio Check-off Lists as a guide when completing the intern’s performance evaluation at the end of each rotation.

**Independent Learning/Homework Assignments**

Independent Learning/homework assignments from online courses will accompany each rotation throughout the internship. These assignments are designed to
complement supervised practice experiences, as well as emphasize competencies not fully developed in the rotations. The thirty-three hours of graduate credit comes from the course work and independent learning/homework assignments that you will complete during each of your rotations. The internship hours are not part of your graduate credit; they are part of the supervised practice hours that are mandated by ACEND, our accrediting body.

Course work and independent Learning/homework assignments for each rotation will be posted on the university’s Learning Management System (LMS). Points for assignments are listed on the course syllabus and due dates are listed on the university’s LMS. Independent Learning/homework assignments are submitted as a part of the intern portfolio.

III. Rotation Curriculum

The MSU DI curriculum is approved by ACEND, the accrediting agency for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. The DI curriculum and forms will be used as a guideline for the completion of required work in each rotation. All activities and projects completed by dietetic interns will be directly related to and support the ACEND core competencies and curriculum requirements of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. The MSU Internship Program supports and encourages exposure to other experiences, as Site Directors/Preceptors deem appropriate for intern knowledge and growth. The Site Director, Preceptor and Clinical Instructor at MSU will make the final recommendations and approval of all supervised practice experiences.

IV. Assessment & Evaluation

Intern Core Knowledge

Intern core knowledge will be assessed throughout the DI experience by using a variety of assessments. Interns are expected to make a 75% on each end of the semester assessment and a 19/25 on each of the rotation quizzes. Interns scoring below 75% may be required to complete additional study, remediation and/or re-assessment as determined by the MSU DI faculty. Interns must score at least a 75% on the assessment at the end of the Advanced Practice rotation in order to be eligible to receive an DI verification statement. Interns use a secure login and password issued by the university to access and submit assignments via Canvas, the university Learning Management System (LMS). The DI faculty can also access the password protected LMS. Respondus with Lockdown Browser and webcam is used in Canvas to verify the identity of the intern for quizzes and assessments.

Intern Performance Evaluations

The performance evaluation sheets for each rotation should be filled out, discussed with the intern, signed and dated by the primary Preceptor and intern during the last week of the rotation. It is imperative that these sheets reflect the work and effort that was exemplified by the intern. Preceptors, using the guidelines provided, will complete
performance evaluation sheets to assess each competency completed, as well as the professional behaviors demonstrated by the intern throughout each rotation. When the performance evaluations have been completed, the Preceptor will review the information and discuss areas of strength and areas for improvement with the intern. After the review, the Preceptor and intern will sign the performance evaluation. The signed copy of the performance evaluation sheets should be given to the intern and scanned into the e-portfolio on the LMS.

**Intern Self-Assessment**
Towards the end of the Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) I rotation and prior to meeting with the Preceptor, interns will complete a self-assessment form. This self-assessment is designed to assess and identify any strengths, weaknesses or deficiencies of the intern. During the last week of MNT I, the intern should discuss the MNT self-assessment outcomes with their preceptor. Based on input and feedback from the preceptor, at least two (2) self-improvement objectives for MNT II and AP should be identified and developed by the intern. Interns will use the guidelines/examples provided for professional behaviors to help them assess the level they are in at the end of each rotation. Interns will present a completed copy of this form when turning in their portfolio for evaluation by the Preceptor.

**Student Learning (SMART) Objectives**
Based on the self-assessment and preceptor evaluations and input, the intern will develop learning objectives. These learning objectives will be written at the end of Medical Nutrition Therapy I and should be written in SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely) format. In Medical Nutrition Therapy II, at the end of weeks four (4) and eight (8), the intern and their Preceptor will discuss and evaluate intern progress towards meeting these objectives. The intern must have successfully met all learning objectives identified prior to moving out of MNT II to begin the next rotation. Failure to meet objectives will result in receiving an incomplete and continuing in MNT II until further evaluation by the Preceptor and DI faculty (see Section V. Course Grade).

**Other Evaluation Guidelines**
The Site Director and/or Preceptors will evaluate interns using various other evaluation forms. These forms are designed to indicate areas with exceptional or adequate performance and areas that need further practice and improvement. Interns are evaluated during interviewing and counseling sessions, group, individual and case study presentations, and upon completion of special projects using specific evaluation forms. Each time an evaluation form is used, the Preceptor will discuss it with the intern. These forms are to be included in the intern’s portfolio.

**Site and Preceptor Evaluations**
At the end of each rotation, the intern will evaluate his/her experiences in the rotation. The evaluation is designed to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of the rotation, the Preceptors, Site Director, any other staff and the supervised practice site. These comments should be constructive and professional, as well as reflect the time and
commitment preceptors provide throughout the training. The evaluation forms will be sent to the Clinical Instructor and placed into a rotation evaluation file. These evaluations will also be used as a basis of discussion during the annual review of the program, which includes MSU faculty and DI advisory committee members.

V. Course Grade
At the end of each course, interns will be assigned a course grade based upon their coursework, including but not limited to course assignments, Independent Learning/homework assignments, rotation assessment and performance evaluations. The syllabus for each course will reflect the point distribution given for each specific assignment, assessment and evaluation. Interns are required to successfully complete each course. Interns who fail to successfully complete the course will be counseled as to their potential for successfully completing the internship program. The DI Director and/or Clinical Instructor may determine the need for an intern to repeat a course, spend additional time in a rotation, and/or complete supplemental work. Interns who receive a letter grade of D or lower in any one course or whose overall GPA for graduate work falls below a 3.0 will not be allowed to continue in the MSU Dietetic Internship Program and will not receive a verification statement. Interns receiving a grade of “Incomplete” in any course will have to successfully complete the coursework within the determined time frame set by the MSU faculty in order to advance to the next course. Interns whom successfully complete (see IV. Assessment & Evaluation) the additional time and/or supplemental work, will be re-evaluated and allowed to move on to the next course. Should the intern have to repeat a course, they will be required to withdraw from the course and re-enroll when it is offered again. MSU faculty cannot guarantee the same placement location if this occurs and any costs associated with the withdrawal from a course will be the responsibility of the intern. For grade appeals, contact the Office of the Registrar.

Extenuating Circumstances
Interns who encounter unforeseen major life events that prevent the completion of rotations or program requirements may be granted additional time for completion if deemed necessary by the DI Director. Interns encountering these circumstances must complete program requirements within one (1) year from the program start date. However, additional time may be provided at the discretion of the DI Director. Dependent on the length of time out of the program, the intern may need to go back and complete rotations to ensure content development. Interns who are not able to complete program requirements may be counseled to withdraw from the program.

Medical Conditions
Interns developing medical conditions during a rotation will be expected to provide a physician’s statement regarding their ability to continue in the program. In short-term absences, all missed hours must be made-up before the end of the rotation, and documented on the intern time sheets. If interns are approved for an extended leave of absence, they will be required complete the missed rotation hours before moving on to the next rotation or repeat the entire rotation at a time designated by the DI Director,
Clinical Instructor, and Site Director. Should the intern have to repeat a rotation, they will be required to withdraw from the course and re-enroll when it is offered again. Any costs associated with the withdrawal from a course will be the responsibility of the intern.

**Disciplinary Action**

**Warnings**
Behaviors and/or attitudes deemed inappropriate by the DI Director, Clinical Instructor, Site Director and/or Preceptor, or below standard academic performance, will be brought to the attention of the intern. Inappropriate behaviors, attitudes or below standard academic performance reported to the clinical instructor and/or DI Director will begin the process for correcting the inappropriate behavior and/or attitude or below standard academic performance.

**First Formal Warning**
The DI Director and clinical instructor will meet to discuss issues/problems with the intern. Issues or problems identified may result from preceptor concerns and/or below standard academic performance. A formal written warning will be issued at this time. The written warning will outline inappropriate behavior, attitude, and/or below standard academic performance. Expectations will be outlined for changes in the intern’s behavior, attitude, and/or below standard academic performance, along with a monitoring timeline. A copy of the warning will be given to the intern and site preceptor, and placed in the intern’s permanent file. Continuation of inappropriate behaviors, attitude, and/or below standard academic performance will result in a second written warning. In some cases, due to distance, meetings may occur via electronic means or phone. Copies of warnings will be sent electronically at the time of the meeting.

**Second Formal Warning**
The DI Director and Clinical Instructor will meet with the intern to discuss issues/problems with the intern. Issues or problems identified may result from preceptor concerns and/or below standard academic performance. A formal second written warning will be issued at this time. The written warning will outline inappropriate behaviors, attitudes and/or below standard academic performance. Expectations will be outlined for changes in the intern’s behavior, attitude and/or below standard academic performance, along with a monitoring timeline. A copy of the warning will be given to the intern and site preceptor, and placed in the intern’s permanent file. In some cases, due to distance, meetings may occur via electronic means or phone. Copies of warnings will be sent electronically at the time of the meeting.

**Termination**
Should an intern display insubordinate behaviors and/or attitudes to the extent that his or her site preceptor feels strongly enough to ask the internship faculty to remove the intern from the facility, the DI Director will remove the intern from the facility and s/he will be terminated from the MSU DI immediately. The system of warnings outlined under disciplinary action is appropriate for minor offenses that can be identified, monitored, and resolved. However, should the identified behaviors, attitudes and/or below standard academic performance continue despite warnings, a final internship termination conference will be held. When it has been determined the intern has not made sufficient
progress toward correction of identified behavior, attitudes and/or below standard academic performance, despite previous formal warnings, the Program Director and Clinical Instructor will meet with the intern, identify the inappropriate behaviors, attitudes, and/or below standard academic performance and issue a statement notifying the intern verbally and in writing that s/he is being terminated from the program. Interns will be advised to contact Career Services for alternative career paths. An intern terminated from the MSU internship program for inappropriate behavior, attitudes and/or below standard academic performance will not be considered for future internship placements. Examples of inappropriate behavior include but are not limited to:

- chronic tardiness or leaving early,
- missed work,
- insubordination to faculty or supervised practice site staff,
- misrepresentation of self, program, or truth,
- theft,
- cheating or plagiarism

Other behaviors may be deemed worthy of a formal warning (see pages 44-46) upon consultation with Preceptors, the Site Director, Clinical Instructor and DI Director.

If the disciplinary process prevents the intern from completing a specific rotation, the intern will be required to withdraw from the course and re-enroll when it is offered again. Any costs associated with the withdrawal from a course will be the responsibility of the intern.

Prior Learning and Supervised Practice Experience
The MSU dietetic internship program does not allow exemption for any dietetic internship rotation, supervised practice hours or assignments because of prior education courses or experience.

Intern Replacement of Employees
In accordance with ACEND guidelines, supervised practice is for educational purposes only and is not intended to replace facility employees, except as planned to acquire experience and demonstrate competence through learning experiences. All supervised practice experiences should be planned for competency attainment as described in the curriculum and work assignments for the purpose of education, i.e., mastery of techniques and reinforcing knowledge. Replacement of employees is defined as interns “filling in” or being placed on the regular work schedule in lieu of paid employees.

Vacation, Holidays, And Attendance
During the MSU Dietetic Internship Program, interns will typically have a Christmas vacation and approximately two to three other days off. The DI schedule will be given to interns at the beginning of the internship in August that outlines the specific holidays and days off. Customary religious holidays may be honored with the approval of the DI Director and Site Director. Approval for the holiday must be granted prior to that holiday.
Any other requested time off, including leaving the site early, must be approved and granted by the DI Director and Site Director. Interns are typically scheduled for a minimum of forty hours per week at their supervised practice sites. Extra project work will require interns to use off-duty time. Interns are expected to be punctual, available throughout the entire rotation, and complete all shift work responsibilities assigned to them by their preceptors. All absences and reasons for absences should be reported to the Site Director and Preceptor by phone within the first thirty (30) minutes of regular work hours. In addition, an email must be sent within the first hour to the Site Director, Preceptor and Clinical Instructor reporting the absence and reason. Unexcused absences are not acceptable and are subject to disciplinary action. If an intern is absent for the third time during a rotation, it will be reported to the MSU DI Director for review and remedial action if deemed necessary. Arriving late and/or leaving early from the supervised practice site may be considered an absence.

Any missed time during the supervised practice experience must be made up by completing time during the same rotation; therefore, ensuring completion of required minimum supervised practice hours. It is the responsibility of the intern to arrange make up time/days with the Site Director and/or Preceptor. MSU DI faculty must be informed of a make-up time/days/activities via email.

**Inclement Weather Policy:** During inclement weather conditions, you should adhere to the supervised training site policy and decisions made by main preceptor on whether you should come in or not. Any time missed due to inclement weather must be made up at a time agreed upon with the main preceptor.

**Time Sheets**

All interns will complete time sheets during each of the scheduled rotations. Interns are responsible for reading and following any directions listed on the time sheets. At the end of each week, time sheets should be shown to the preceptor or site director for verification. Once time has been verified, the preceptor or site director will place their initials in the appropriate box. At the end of the rotation, the time sheet should be signed and dated by both the preceptor and the intern. If time is missed, the intern will fill out the appropriate information on the time sheet with the date, number of hours missed, reason and how the time is going to be made up. These time sheets are due to MSU at times designated on the intern planning calendars. Internship faculty will verify that the minimum number of hours were completed during each rotation, therefore, meeting the minimum number of hours required by ACEND.

**Confidentiality**

During Orientation I in August at MSU, interns will be required to read and sign the MSU confidentiality acknowledgement regarding protected health/proprietary information and agreement regarding intern clinical experience and release of education records (see Appendix 2). All interns are required to complete HIPPA training and provide evidence of completion to MSU on the first day of orientation.
Protection of Privacy
Murray State University Dietetic Internship Program files are kept in locked cabinets in the Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Management office. All information in the files are private and confidential. Assignments completed will be de-identified before disseminating among faculty and others for educational purposes. The MSU DI faculty has access to interns’ confidential internship files. Interns have the right to review their personal dietetic internship program file upon request.

Insurance Requirement
It is the responsibility of the intern to maintain personal health insurance and car insurance.

Professional Liability
Healthcare Professional Liability Malpractice Insurance will be purchased through Murray State University during orientation in August. It will be obtained through Marsh U.S. Consumer Insurance of Seabury & Smith, Inc. in the amount of 1,000,000/3,000,000. The cost is approximately $20.00 per year and will be paid from the MSU DI Program fee that is due at August orientation.

Health Insurance
All interns must be covered by health insurance while enrolled in the program. Evidence of coverage must be provided prior to beginning the MSU Internship program.

Automobile
All interns must carry and be able to provide proof of automobile insurance, including personal liability. Interns assume all liability for safety in travel to and from assigned supervised practice sites and/or Murray State University.

Injury or Illness While at Supervised Practice Site
Should an intern become ill or encounter an accident while at the Supervised Practice Site, the Site Director or preceptor should assist the intern with the medical emergency. The preceptor will then notify the DI Director and additional arrangements will be made as required by the problem or condition. See section “Medical Conditions” (page 13) if hours need to be made up.

Intern Pre-Placement Screening
Interns will be required to undergo a background check, drug screen, immunizations and other tests as determined by Murray State University and each of the supervised practice sites. It is the responsibility of the intern to contact the Site Director at each supervised practice site to obtain the list of requirements and complete these and the MSU requirements listed on the “To Do List” prior to the start of the internship program orientation in August. Background checks can be obtained through http://www.verifiedcredentials.com/start-your-background-check/ or https://mybackgroundcheck.preemploy.com/products/student-background-check All interns are
required to have an up-to-date flu vaccination. Interns will be responsible for the expense of each test and/or requirement. The intern is responsible for emailing a copy of each test result and requirement completed to the Clinical Instructor prior to beginning orientation in August. These copies will be placed into each intern’s file.

**MSU DI Grievance Policy and Procedures**

**Intern**
Murray State University Internship Program faculty and staff commits to investigating all problems and/or claims or allegations of discrimination in the operation and administration of the internship program as it relates to placement and supervision of interns in supervised practice sites. Interns have the right to file a complaint regarding any aspects of the program without the fear of retaliation. Contact the IDEA office for any academic course related grievances.

When interns feel they have been treated unfairly, they have a right to voice their concerns through the appropriate channels as follows:

**Step 1: Meet with Site Preceptor**
Should an intern encounter a problem they are not able to resolve with the rotation preceptor or other site staff; s/he should request a meeting with the site preceptor. The intern should be respectful of the site preceptor’s time and work commitment and arrange a meeting at a time convenient to the preceptor. At all times, the intern should remain respectful of the commitment each preceptor has made to make the supervised practice experience available for the intern.
At the meeting, the intern should identify specific incidents and when the problem(s) occurred. The intern and site preceptor will discuss the resolution of the problem(s), a course of action, a procedure for monitoring resolution, and a timeline for resolution. The intern and the preceptor should also discuss the intern’s ability to successfully complete the rotation and strategies for success.

**Step 2: Meet with Clinical Instructor**
Should the problem still exist after completion of the course of action and timeline for resolution agreed to in Step 1, the intern should contact the MSU DI Clinical Instructor to arrange a meeting to discuss the problem. The intern should identify the unresolved program/grievance and the attempts that have been taken to resolve the problem(s). The intern should be informed that the clinical instructor might contact the preceptor to clarify actions if this is determined to be necessary. The intern and clinical instructor will discuss strategies for successful resolution of the problem. The clinical instructor and the intern will agree on a course of action and timeline, as well as, monitoring of resolution needed by the clinical instructor.

**Step 3: Meet with Program Director**
Should the problem still exit after the second attempt at problem/grievance resolution, the intern should contact the MSU DI Director to arrange a meeting with the clinical instructor and the program director. At least three school days prior to the meeting, the
intern must submit in writing to the program director the following: the problem/grievance, courses of action taken up to that point, and an explanation for lack of resolution. The director may ask the preceptor to verify what has transpired. The program director and intern will identify reasons for lack of resolution and a third course of action, along with a timeline for successful completion of the internship. The course of action might include assurances for appropriate preceptor and intern behaviors/actions.

**Step 4: Meet with AHS Department Chair**
Should the problem still exist after the third attempt at problem/grievance resolution, the intern should contact the AHS Department Chair and request assistance in resolving the problem/grievance. At least three days prior to meeting with the department chair, the intern should write an account of the problem and the attempts made to resolve the problem, as well as the timeline followed. The Department Chair may meet with the Program Director, and Clinical Instructor to discuss the lack of resolution to the problem. Based on his/her best judgment, the Department Chair may arrange a meeting with the Intern, Clinical Instructor, and the Program Director to discuss a course of actions to resolve the intern’s complaint. If the problem is still unresolved after the agreed upon course of actions and timeline, the intern should move to Step 5.

**Step 5: SONHP Grievance Procedure**
If the problem/grievance continues to be unresolved, the intern should contact the SONHP Dean’s office to obtain a copy of the current grievance policy and procedure. If after a hearing by SONHP grievance committee and appeal to the Dean of the College of SONHP, the problem/grievance exists the interns may continue to the university grievance committee (see XIII or the university bulleted for the MSU grievance Policy and Procedure. All complaints received will be filed in a locked filing cabinet located in the main nutrition office.

**ACEND**
Submission of written complaints to ACEND related to program noncompliance with ACEND accreditation standards after all other options with the program and institution have been exhausted should be sent to ACEND at ACEND@eatright.org or 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190, Chicago, IL 60606-6995.

**Preceptor**
Complaints from preceptors will be discussed as follows: DI Director or Clinical Instructor will meet with the preceptor and intern separately. Next, if needed, the DI Director or Clinical Instructor will meet with the preceptor and intern together. If unresolved, the preceptor will be advised that they can discuss the complaints with the AHS Department Chair. If the issue is still unresolved, preceptor should follow Step 5 and Step 6 of the Intern DI Grievance process. All complaints received will be filed in a locked filing cabinet located in the main nutrition office.

**Unusual Occurrence**
An unusual occurrence is any event of which a Preceptor is made aware and that has potential to result in harm to an intern. If an intern gets sick or has an unusual
occurrence during their rotation and needs assistance, the intern is responsible for informing the Preceptor and MSU Clinical Instructor of the occurrence as soon as possible after the occurrence. The Preceptor, MSU Clinical Instructor and intern must document such occurrences. It is the intern’s responsibility to arrange for immediate care whether it is to the MSU Student Health Services or the intern’s healthcare provider of choice. The intern is responsible for all healthcare costs for her/himself incurred in treatment of said injury. The intern’s healthcare costs cover both immediate care and any necessary follow-up care. The University is not financially responsible for any costs incurred by the intern.

Program Withdrawal
Murray State University Dietetic interns may withdraw at any time from MSU and from the Dietetic Internship Program. Withdrawal is immediate and the intern cannot return to the program after withdrawal. Withdrawal is defined as leaving the program permanently. Interns are strongly encouraged to contact the MSU DI Director and Clinical Instructor prior to making the decision to withdraw from the program. If the intern decides to proceed with withdrawal, they must follow withdrawal from school as outlined in the MSU Academic Bulletin, as well as send written notice of withdrawal to DI Director within 24 hours of withdrawal.

For the MSU Registrar’s Academic Calendar for all Registration and Withdrawal deadlines, see FAQ: https://www.murraystate.edu/academics/Registrarsoffice/Registration/WithdrawalFromAllClasses/index.aspx

For MSU Graduate Student Withdrawal Policies, see page 40: https://www.murraystate.edu/Libraries/Academic_bulletins/5_RegistrationAcademicRecords.pdf

For MSU’s policy on tuition refunds: https://www.murraystate.edu/admissions/BursarsOffice/RefundInfo.aspx

If an intern withdraws from the MSU Dietetic Internship Program, tuition may be refunded based on MSU’s tuition refund policy (see above). No refunds will be given for any costs incurred to prepare for supervised practice experience, such as DI fee, required immunizations, insurance, TB tests, etc.

Professional Membership
All interns are required to become student members of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

Attire and Appearance
Interns must follow established dress code policies set by each supervised practice site they are assigned to. The following general policies apply to all MSU dietetic interns:
• Interns are expected to be neat and clean, taking pride in personal grooming to reflect concern and respect for patients, clients, preceptors and others.
• All tattoos must be covered when in any supervised practice training site.
• Lab coats or scrubs can be worn as required in the supervised practice site.
• Dress is business casual. No jeans, revealing clothing, form-fitting leggings, short skirts, bare arms, bare midriffs or athletic wear is allowed.
• Shoes must have closed toes and closed heels.
• Name badges must be worn at all times when on duty.
• Site Directors and Preceptors have the right to determine if the attire worn is consistent with the image desired.
• During food service rotations, interns are expected to adhere to the supervised practice site policies that may include additional requirements such as: hair coverings, jewelry, clothing and/or physical appearance.
• See pages 39-41 for additional information and expectations for professional behavior and conduct.

Employment Outside the Internship
Interns are not allowed to be employed at any MSU supervised practice site while enrolled in the MSU DI program. Part-time employment during the internship is not recommended due to the full-time demands of the internship. However, in cases where employment is necessary, it is recommended to limit hours to no more than 15 hours per week. Internship responsibilities and hours of training must supersede employment duties and work schedules at all times. In the event of a conflict, internship responsibilities take precedence at all times. Any deviations from this policy require approval from the DI Director and Site Director at your supervised practice site.

Acceptance of Employment Following Internship
Interns are not permitted to participate in employment interviews during regular internship hours except during the final rotation, Advanced Practice. Interns must receive approval from their Main Preceptor and DI Director to participate in an interview. Interns will not receive approval by the DI Director for more than one interview that requires being away from the facility. Time away is considered an absence and must be recorded on the time sheet and made up as outlined under the Vacation, Holidays and Attendance section in the DI Handbook.

General Intern Expectations
Interns enrolled in the MSU Dietetic Internship Program are expected to follow all policies and procedures and expectations as listed below. Failure to follow policies and procedures may result in disciplinary action including termination from the program.

Interns are expected to:
• Be familiar with all policies and procedures and refer to them to answer policy and procedure questions.
• Adhere to course syllabi and university academic honesty policy.
• Complete learning experiences, competencies, readings, written assignments and projects by due dates.
• Complete required health screenings, immunizations (including the flu shot), TB test and other health documents as determined by each of the supervised practice sites.
• Be punctual, complete all shift work and responsibilities assigned to them, and be available through each rotation.
• Behave in a manner consistent with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Code of Ethics at all times.
• Represent MSU in an appropriate manner and with an appropriate appearance.
• Maintain medical and auto insurance throughout your time in the internship program.
• Responsible for transportation to all supervised practice facilities.
• Prepare before each rotation by completing any required reading or homework.
• Work independently when completing any assignments & projects.
• Maintain confidentiality of all information discussed within their rotation.
• Communicate and respond in a timely manner with Preceptors and MSU DI faculty throughout each rotation.
• Inform Preceptors and MSU DI faculty of any change in his/her schedule in a timely manner and to accept program changes that may arise.
• Maintain a positive and hard-working attitude.
• Check email and LMS accounts daily, as this is the main form of communication between MSU faculty and interns.
• Confine cell phone usage, including texting, to lunch and break times unless the responsible Preceptor has approved other arrangements.
• Agree if equipment/property is damaged at any supervised practice site, it is their sole responsibility to make restitution to the supervised practice site for repair or replacement.
• Agree to hold supervised practice sites and Murray State University harmless from any claim which might arise out of or by virtue of the intern’s participation in the supervised practice experience, including but not limited to injuries occasioned by the negligence, including gross negligence, of the supervised practice site and/or Murray State University, their offices, agents and employees.

General Dietetic Internship Faculty Responsibilities
Internship program Director and Clinical Instructor are expected to:
• Provide intern orientation to the DI Program.
• Ensure adequate training of Preceptors and coordinate learning experiences, assignments and projects for each rotation.
• Develop schedules for the DI program, organize rotations and plan class days for orientation sessions.
• Monitor and evaluate intern’s progress in each rotation.
• Ensure that all interns are meeting ACEND core competencies for all rotations.
• Serve as a role model and mentor.
• Serve as an advocate for the intern when appropriate and justified.
• Act as a liaison between the Site Director, Preceptor and intern as needed.
• Develop partnerships with outside organizations that strengthen the program.
• Develop and enforce policies and procedures.
• Direct the selection and procession of new interns.
• Maintain currency in education and training and revise the program as needed to ensure interns are training in current dietetics skills.
• Be involved in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics activities that strengthen the quality of the program.
• Maintain the program’s accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education.

General Preceptor Responsibilities

Role of a Preceptor
• Planners – responsible for planning experiences and coordinating learning activities on a day-to-day basis.
• Role Models – Interns learn from what you say AND do. It is critical that preceptors are deliberate in modeling professional behaviors and ethics.
• Information Providers – Preceptors share knowledge and help interns integrate knowledge and skills they need to think critically, solve problems, and become competent practitioners.
• Learning Facilitators – Interns can learn by observing but they also need to have facilitated work experiences with preceptor guidance and feedback.
• Resource Developers – Preceptors guide interns towards appropriate materials, best practices and other professionals that can assist with intern learning.
• Assessors of Learning – Preceptors are integral to the assessment of the intern’s learning and competence and preceptor identification of whether or not interns have met competency requirements is vital to the integrity of the program.

Responsibilities of a Preceptor
• Participate in training related to the administration of the DI program.
• Provide interns with an orientation to the practice setting reviewing code of conduct, HIPPA guidelines, and confidentiality. Provide tour and overview of facility.
• Meet with intern over the summer to provide information and details on requirements for obtaining background check, specific tests, forms, orientation, etc. that need to be completed prior to beginning the first rotation. If possible, intern should complete hospital orientation sometime during the summer months so there is not a conflict with supervised practice site hours once the internship begins.
• Determine a schedule and plan for completing competencies.
• Identify and facilitate learning activities and assignments that support intern completion of competencies.
• Provide information and assistance as needed.
• Verify intern hours and completion of competencies via Intern Time Sheet and Performance Evaluation Sheets at the end of each rotation.
• Model code of ethics and professional behavior.
• In accordance with ACEND guidelines, interns will not be allowed to “replace” employees during their supervised practice rotations. For example, if an employee calls in sick, the intern may not “fill in” for that employee. Interns may provide complete care or staff relief as directed and supervised by their preceptor and as indicated for rotation competencies.

Preceptor Training
The DI Director or Clinical instructor provides training to the primary preceptors. Primary preceptors are expected to educate other staff designated to assist with precepting interns.

I. New Preceptor Orientation
Primary preceptors new to the Murray State DI or newly designated as the primary preceptor will be oriented to the program prior to hosting an intern. The orientation will minimally include:
1. A phone call or in-person visit to discuss the tentative or actual rotation schedule and learning activities
2. A welcome email to the preceptor from the DI Director or Clinical Instructor that includes the following:
   a. A link to the DI website
   b. A ppt presentation that minimally includes the mission, goals, and objectives of the DI, the ACEND standards, and definition of a CRDN
   c. A link to the Dietetics Preceptor Training Program from the Commission on Dietetic Registration (http://www.cdrnet.org/news/online-dietetics-preceptor-training-course-free-of-charge), with a recommendation to complete this training worth eight continuing professional education units for RDNs.
   d. A copy of the of the DI handbook* that includes the roles and responsibilities of the preceptor
   e. A copy of the curriculum* for the rotation hosted by the preceptor; the curriculum includes applicable CRDN's (i.e., ACEND competencies) and learning activities for the rotation.
   f. A copy of applicable forms for the rotation*
   g. A copy of the tentative or actual rotation schedule
   h. A link to ACEND standards http://bit.ly/2KTxRLB
   i. Phone numbers and email addresses of the DI Director and Clinical Instructor

II. Ongoing Training
Ongoing training for the primary preceptor occurs as follows:
1. An annual email is sent by the DI Director or Clinical Instructor to existing preceptors during the summer that includes the following information:
Section 2– POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

a. A copy of the DI handbook* that includes the roles and responsibilities of the preceptor
b. A copy of the curriculum* for the rotation hosted by the preceptor; the curriculum includes applicable CRDN’s (i.e., ACEND competencies) and learning activities for the rotation.
c. A copy of applicable forms for the rotation*
d. A document outlining the mission, goals, and objectives of the DI.
e. A document outlining the ACEND standards
f. A link to the DI website

g. A link to the Dietetics Preceptor Training Program from the Commission on Dietetic Registration (http://www.cdrnet.org/news/online-dietetics-preceptor-training-course-free-of-charge) with a recommendation to complete this training worth eight continuing professional education units for RDNs.
h. A link to ACEND standards http://bit.ly/2KTxRLB

i. A description of any significant changes in the administration of the DI.

*These documents may be provided via regular mail per the request of the preceptor.

2. Invitation to preceptors to attend relevant workshops hosted by the DI (i.e., Nutrition Focused Physical Exam training)

3. In-person or telephone conferences as needed to provide follow up training to preceptors based on intern feedback.

Benefits of Being a Preceptor

• Interns can bring a new perspective and questions can help enhance best practices.
• Assistance with special projects and staff relief towards the end of the internship.
• Sense of importance and contribution towards the dietetics profession.
• Enhance your professional portfolio and resume by providing educational experiences, expertise and mentoring as a preceptor.

Preceptor CPEU’s

CDR has made the decision to award continuing professional education credit to preceptors. Precepting will be included under the current Leadership activity type with a three (3) CPEU/year, fifteen (15) CPEUS per five-year recertification period maximum for Leadership and/or Precepting activities.

Intern Progression of Learning

The supervised practice experience is designed to build intern skills to perform entry-level competency while building on the intern’s existing foundation of didactic knowledge. The goal is to gradually increase the intern’s level of:

• Responsibility
• Proficiency
• Independence
• Competence
The supervised practice experience may start out with observation but should go beyond that with the intern gradually taking on more roles. In addition, workload and rate at which an intern accomplishes tasks should increase similarly. Each of the major rotation descriptions provides an example of learning activities and progression of learning. However, it will be up to the preceptor’s discretion to advance and/or limit experiences and responsibilities as they see appropriate.

Suggested Orientation to Site Checklist
Topics to consider when providing orientation to interns at sites
☐ Parking (restrictions if any)
☐ Appropriate ID (all interns will have a nametag from MSU)
☐ Office or other space they may use
☐ Access to phones, pagers, computers, library, etc.
☐ Any additional required facility specific orientation
☐ Dress code
☐ Facility tour, policies, and code of conduct
☐ Set expectations for you and the intern (i.e. how often will you speak or meet each week? the best way to get in touch with you if there are problems or concerns? what will a typical day look like and expectations for progression of learning?)
☐ Introductions to key staff that they will work with during rotations
☐ Rotation schedules
☐ Typical work schedule (days, time)
☐ Resources (manuals, online tools, etc.)

Selection of Supervised Practice Sites & Preceptors

Selection of Supervised Practice Sites
The Murray State DI establish agreements with supervised practice sites in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Indiana based on the following:
1. The ability of the site to provide supervised instruction to the dietetic intern to meet CRDN’s for the assigned rotation and support the mission, goals, and objectives of the Murray State DI. Specific criteria for the supervised practice site for each rotation is as follows:
   A. Medical Nutrition Therapy Rotation
      • Acute care hospital of at least 100-licensed beds
      • Accredited by The Joint Commission
      • Employs at least two registered dietitian nutritionists (RDN)
      • Willing to designate an RDN who is qualified by education or experience to precept interns in medical nutrition therapy as the primary preceptor
   B. Management Practice
      • On-site foodservice operation in an acute care hospital of at least 100-licensed beds
Section 2– POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Accredited by The Joint Commission
- Employs a foodservice manager/director (FSD) that is qualified by education or experience to manage the foodservice operation
- Willing to designate the FSD OR an RDN involved with the foodservice operation as the primary preceptor; the primary preceptor is qualified by education or experience to precept interns in foodservice management

C. Community Nutrition
- Provides community nutrition services in any of the following areas:
  - Public Health Department
  - Food pantry/bank
  - Outpatient clinic
  - Worksite wellness
- Employs at least one RDN
- Willing to designate an RDN who is qualified by education or experience to precept interns in community nutrition as the primary preceptor

D. Long Term Care
- Skilled nursing facility licensed in the state where it is located OR a company providing dietetic services to licensed skilled nursing facilities
- Employs at least one RDN
- Willing to designate at least one RDN but no more than two RDNs as the primary preceptor(s) who are providing an average of 37.5 hours per week of dietetic services to one or more skilled nursing facilities, solely or jointly; the primary preceptor is qualified by education or experience to precept interns in the clinical management of patients/residents in a skilled nursing facility

2. The site is willing to meet the criteria in an affiliation agreement approved by legal counsel of Murray State University and has signed said document.
   - Affiliation agreements delineate the rights and responsibilities of both Murray State University and organization designated as the supervised practice site.
   - Affiliation agreements are signed by individuals with appropriate institutionally-assigned authority prior to intern placement at the supervised practice site.
   - Affiliation agreements are reviewed annually for expiration dates and change of ownership of the supervised practice site to determine if a new agreement needs to be signed.
   - Sites where the learning experience is not meant to meet CRDNs and/or may be a limited activity such as shadowing, a tour of a facility, or overview of an organization, do not require affiliation agreements.

3. Ongoing site evaluation will occur through intern evaluations, correspondence with the primary preceptor, and observations of the program director or other internship faculty when visiting the site annually.
4. Selection criteria for supervised practice sites include geographic location (within approximately 5 hours or less of Murray, KY, qualified preceptors, willingness to precept interns, and a variety of dietetic experiences that can be provided by the site.

An intern may elect to pursue additional shadowing experiences on their own time during vacation days and holidays during the internship at locations not designated as Murray State supervised practice sites. These locations do not need to meet the criteria outlined above nor is an affiliation agreement necessary, as these are not official activities of the internship. Interns are advised to minimize these types of activities during the internship to avoid negatively affecting their performance at the required supervised practice sites and in their graduate studies.

Selection of Preceptors
Selection of preceptors is based on the following:
1. A signed affiliation agreement between Murray State University and the organization that employs or contracts with the preceptor.
2. Qualifications of the preceptor based on education or experience to precept interns in the assigned rotation. Qualifications are evaluated by the DI Director and Clinical Instructor based on a review of the following:
   - CV/resume
   - Commission on Dietetic Registration Professional Development Portfolio or other record of continuing professional education
   - Copy of licensure and registration card

RDNs who serve as the primary preceptors have at least one year of experience post-credentialing; non-RDN preceptors have at least one year of experience in the area in which they are precepting (i.e., foodservice management).

Continued Use of Preceptors and Supervised Practice Sites
1. Continued use of preceptors is based on the following:
   a. Completion of the preceptor responsibilities as outlined in the DI Handbook.
   b. Feedback from dietetic interns. Specifically, if the dietetic intern’s evaluation of preceptor resulted in less than 80% of the criteria being rated as “agree” or higher, the DI Director or Clinical Instructor will meet with the primary preceptor (via phone or in person) to discuss the intern’s feedback. Preceptor evaluations completed by two consecutive dietetic interns with less than 80% of the criteria being rated as “agree” or higher will warrant a request to the supervised practice site to assign an alternative preceptor or temporary discontinued use of the supervised practice site.
   c. A review of the preceptor’s Commission on Dietetic Registration Professional Development Portfolio, or other record of continuing professional education every three years to confirm continued qualification to precept dietetic interns and verification of current licensure and registration.
2. Continued use of a preceptor site is based on the site continuing to meet the criteria outlined for the “Selection of Supervised Practice Sites.”

Policy for Murray State Intern Portfolios
Murray State Intern Portfolios are a collection of assignments that interns complete throughout each rotation during their internship here at Murray State. You will be responsible for completing an e-portfolio (zip file) for the DI faculty and either a hard copy portfolio or a zip file for your preceptor during each of your rotations.

Formatting of Assignments
All assignments should be written in New Times Roman, 12 font, 1” margins and double spaced. The file name for each assignment should include the following information:
Last Name: (Crouch)
Rotation Course Number: (640, 641, 642, etc.)
Checklist #
Activity Name

Example of correct file name format:
Crouch_641_ #1_Case Study

Each assignment should contain a header at the top left-hand corner of the paper and should include the following information:
Course Number: NTN (640, 641, 642, etc)
Last Name, First Name: (Crouch, Lori)
Assignment Name (Case Study)

Example of correct header on assignments:
NTN 641
Crouch, Lori
Case Study

If there are multiple files for one assignment, these should be compressed into a zip file or into one single file before uploading into Canvas.

Hard Copy Portfolio Guidelines
If your preceptor requests a hard copy of your portfolio at the end of your rotation, you will need the following items:
- One 3”- three ring binder
- Paper
- 40 dividers & tabs to label each competency project/report/summary

Organization of your portfolio should be as follows:
1) Using dividers and tabs, clearly mark each Assignment/Activity Name and put the assignment behind the tab.
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2) All CRDN assignments should be listed in the order that they appear in the curriculum. If something is out of order, it will be counted as missing.

3) If you complete "extra" assignments during any of your rotations and you have already completed work and have something listed under each one of the CRD competencies, make another tab and label it "Extra Assignments" and put these assignments behind this tab. You will want to show your work, all of it, so please don’t leave out anything you have done! Put this tab behind the last Assignment/Activity tab.

You are responsible for completing each assignment listed. If you are unable to complete any assignment(s) or if the assignment(s) will be submitted after you have turned in your portfolio to your preceptor, you must provide justification under the missing CRD assignment tab. **If any assignment(s) is missing or incomplete at the end of the rotation or due date for the E-portfolio, it will be counted as incomplete unless you have been given permission to turn it in at a later date.** You will not be given additional time unless you have discussed your situation with your preceptor and the Murray State Clinical Instructor. Time extensions will result in the intern having to resubmit their rotation zip file once all items are complete.

Prior to the end date of each rotation, the completed rotation section with all projects and summaries are due to the responsible preceptor for evaluating (due dates are noted on the intern planning calendars for each rotation). The preceptor will be reviewing these items as part of your total experience at the facility. You will need to turn in your portfolio in a 3" binder and organized as describe above. Once your preceptor has completed the reviewing process, it is your responsibility to retrieve the portfolio. MSU DI Faculty may request interns to submit hard copy of portfolio for review at any time.

**E-Portfolio (Zip File)**

Interns will be submitting all portfolio work via a zip file on the university's LMS at the end of each rotation. Instructions will be posted on the university’s LMS under each rotation section. All completed assignments/projects must be submitted in the zip file; if anything is missing, you will receive an incomplete and must redo and resubmit your zip file. Time extensions for any project/assignment will result in the intern having to resubmit their rotation zip file once all items are complete. The intern may also be submitting an e-portfolio (instead of a paper copy) if requested by the intern's preceptor at the end of each rotation.

Zip files should be labeled as follows:

**Last name_rotation course #_name of rotation_zipfile**

**Example:** Crouch_642_MPD_zipfile
DIETETIC INTERNSHIP HANDBOOK COVID-19 ADDENDUM AND WAIVER:

The following information is to help inform Murray State University dietetic interns about COVID-19 and provide general recommendations for social distancing, face masks, and travel per the Centers for Disease Control [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html) as well as guidelines from Murray State University Health Services regarding daily self-monitoring, testing, isolation and quarantining.

It is important to understand the risks of COVID-19 exposure and know how to be as safe as possible as you become a student of the dietetic internship program involving group class days and rotations to off-site partnering organizations. If you are considered at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19, you should inform your directors and consider the actions necessary to protect yourself.

As a dietetic intern, it will be your responsibility to consider the activities that you will be involved in daily that may increase the risk of exposure to COVID-19 and the following measures the program will require to protect the staff, clients, and patients of our partners as well as you and your classmates. Strongly consider the risks of resuming some activities, running errands, attending events and gatherings or traveling to other cities or states that may increase exposure to COVID-19.

The Murray State University Dietetic Internship Certificate Program requires interns to follow daily monitoring guidelines that include taking your temperature, assessing for symptoms, and answering questions about travel and exposure to large groups of individuals, as well as individuals suspected and/or diagnosed to have COVID-19. Self-quarantining and/or self-isolation may also be required in certain situations which will impact and potentially delay timely completion of rotations. In the event clinical education or academic progression is delayed as a result of COVID-19 related absences, we will work together to create a plan to complete the needed requirements for the clinical education experience/course. Each of the program’s partnering organizations will have additional facility specific guidelines and in some cases attestation forms ensuring that each individual intern understands and adheres to the guidelines to reduce the transmission of COVID-19.

The following information has been adapted from the CDC and other resources intended to inform the general public about COVID-19. It is your responsibility to address with your healthcare provider and program director any health concerns you have with participation in this program involving in-person classes and rotations at healthcare and community facilities. Healthcare specific guidelines for use of PPE will be included in additional trainings.

**What is the difference between Influenza (Flu) and COVID-19?**

Influenza (Flu) and COVID-19 are both contagious respiratory illnesses, but they are caused by different viruses. COVID-19 is caused by infection with a new coronavirus (called SARS-CoV-2) and flu is caused by infection with influenza viruses. Because some of the symptoms of flu and COVID-19 are similar, it may be hard to tell the difference between them based on symptoms alone, and testing may be needed to help confirm a diagnosis. Flu
and COVID-19 share many characteristics, but there are some key differences between the two. While more is learned every day, there is still a lot that is unknown about COVID-19 and the virus that causes it. This table compares COVID-19 and flu, given the best available information to date.

- To learn more about COVID-19, visit Coronavirus (COVID-19).
- To learn more about flu, visit Influenza (Flu).

COVID-19 spreads mainly among people who are in close contact (within about 6 feet) for a prolonged period. Spread happens when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks, and droplets from their mouth or nose are launched into the air and land in the mouths or noses of people nearby. The droplets can also be inhaled into the lungs. Recent studies indicate that people who are infected but do not have symptoms likely also play a role in the spread of COVID-19. Since people can spread the virus before they know they are sick, it is important to stay at least 6 feet away from others when possible, even if you—or they—do not have any symptoms.

- Although the risk of severe illness may be different for everyone, anyone can get and spread COVID-19. Everyone has a role to play in slowing the spread and protecting themselves, their family, and their community. In addition to practicing everyday steps to prevent COVID-19, keeping space between you and others is one of the best tools we have to avoid being exposed to this virus and slowing its spread in communities.

- People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported — ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. The following list of possible symptoms is not all-inclusive and will continue to be updated by the CDC as more is learned about COVID-19.
  
  - Fever or chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fatigue
  - Unexplained muscle or body aches
  - Unexplained headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea

**Practicing Daily Preventative Actions**

In general, the more people you interact with, the more closely you interact with them, and the longer that interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread. So, think about the following as you consider your daily routine. On campus class participation would fall into the “more risk” category as 6 ft distance and masks will be implemented.

- How many people will you interact with?
- Can you keep 6 feet of space between you and others?
- Will you be outdoors or indoors?
- What’s the length of time that you will be interacting with people?
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- **Lowest risk**: Virtual-only activities, events, and gatherings.
- **More risk**: Smaller outdoor and in-person gatherings in which individuals from different households remain spaced at least 6 feet apart, wear cloth face coverings, do not share objects, and come from the same local area (e.g., community, town, city, or county).
- **Higher risk**: Medium-sized in-person gatherings that are adapted to allow individuals to remain spaced at least 6 feet apart and with attendees coming from outside the local area.
- **Highest risk**: Large in-person gatherings where it is difficult for individuals to remain spaced at least 6 feet apart and attendees travel from outside the local area.

- If you decide to engage in public activities, continue to protect yourself by practicing everyday preventive actions described in the following information.
- Be prepared to truthfully report in daily self-monitoring questionnaires about the activities and numbers of persons involved.

**Wear a mask**
- Recent evidence has shown that some people may spread the coronavirus when they have no symptoms or before they develop significant symptoms, putting others around them at risk. As a result, the CDC recommends that the general public wear cloth face coverings (masks) in public areas in which physical distancing is difficult, such as at the grocery store or the pharmacy, especially in areas that have been highly affected by COVID-19. The CDC has a detailed explanation on how masks impact transmission.
- CDC recommends that people wear cloth face coverings in public settings and when around people who don’t live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
  - Surgical masks and homemade cloth face coverings are intended to prevent the wearer from spreading the virus to others.
  - Cloth face coverings are most likely to reduce the spread of COVID-19 when they are widely used by people in public settings.
  - Cloth face coverings/ masks should be washed daily
  - Cloth face coverings should NOT be worn by children under the age of 2 or anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.

**Wash hands often**
- Everyone should wash their hands for at least 20 seconds at the beginning and end of an activity exposed to objects or people in public settings and whenever you think your hands may have become contaminated.
- If soap and water are not readily available, such as with outdoor visits or activities, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Remind guests to wash or sanitize their hands before serving or eating food.
• Use single-use hand towels or paper towels for drying hands so visitors do not share towels. Have a no-touch trash can available for guests to use.

Limit contact with commonly touched surfaces or shared items
COVID-19 can live for hours or days on a surface, depending on factors such as sunlight, humidity, and the type of surface. It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or eyes. However, this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads. Social distancing helps limit opportunities to come in contact with contaminated surfaces and infected people outside the home.
• Clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces and any shared items between use.
• If you choose to use any shared items that are reusable (e.g., seating covers, tablecloths, linen napkins), wash, clean, and sanitize them after the event.

Social/ Physical Distance
• Social distancing, also called “physical distancing,” means keeping a safe space between yourself and other people who are not from your household.
• Many people have personal circumstances or situations that present challenges with practicing social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Please see the following guidance for additional recommendations and considerations:
  • Households Living in Close Quarters: How to Protect Those Who Are Most Vulnerable
  • Living in Shared Housing
  • People with Disabilities
• When going out in public (indoor and outdoor), it is important to stay at least 6 feet away from other people and wear a cloth face covering to slow the spread of COVID-19.
• Consider the following tips for practicing social distancing when you decide to go out.
  • Know Before You Go: Before going out, know and follow the guidance from local public health authorities where you live.
  • Prepare for Transportation: Consider social distancing options to travel safely whether walking, bicycling, wheelchair rolling, or using public transit, rideshares, or taxis. When using public transit, try to keep at least 6 feet from other passengers or transit operators. When using rideshares or taxis, avoid pooled rides where multiple passengers are picked up, and sit in the back seat in larger vehicles so you can remain at least 6 feet away from the driver. Follow these additional tips to protect yourself while using transportation.
  • Limit Contact When Running Errands: Only visit stores selling household essentials in person when you absolutely need to, and stay at least 6 feet away from others who are not from your household while shopping and in lines. If possible, use drive-thru, curbside pick-up, or delivery services to limit face-to-face contact with others. Maintain physical distance between yourself and delivery service providers during exchanges and wear a cloth face covering.
Choose Safe Social Activities: It is possible to stay socially connected with friends and family who don’t live in your home by calling, using video chat, or staying connected through social media. If meeting others in person (e.g., at small outdoor gatherings, yard or driveway gathering with a small group of friends or family members), stay at least 6 feet from others who are not from your household. Follow these steps to stay safe if you will be participating in personal and social activities outside of your home.

Keep Distance at Events and Gatherings: It is safest to avoid crowded places and gatherings where it may be difficult to stay at least 6 feet away from others who are not from your household. If you are in a crowded space, try to keep 6 feet of space between yourself and others at all times, and wear a cloth face covering. Cloth face coverings are especially important in times when physical distancing is difficult. Pay attention to any physical guides, such as tape markings on floors or signs on walls, directing attendees to remain at least 6 feet apart from each other in lines or at other times. Allow other people 6 feet of space when you pass by them in both indoor and outdoor settings.

Stay Distanced While Being Active: Consider going for a walk, bike ride, or wheelchair roll in your neighborhood or in another safe location where you can maintain at least 6 feet of distance between yourself and other pedestrians and cyclists. If you decide to visit a nearby park, trail, or recreational facility, first check for closures or restrictions. If open, consider how many other people might be there and choose a location where it will be possible to keep at least 6 feet of space between yourself and other people who are not from your household.

Travel

• Traveling can increase your chances of becoming infected with COVID-19 or spreading it to others.

• You can be exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 in the air and on surfaces in buildings, such as airports, bus and train stations, and rest stops. It may also be more difficult to keep a six-foot distance from other people in these environments.

• Although traveling by car can help you avoid continuous contact with people who are unknown to you, you may face exposure from people and surfaces at rest stops, gas stations, convenience stores, and fast food restaurants.

• For travel inside the US, the CDC recommends considering:
  o Learning how widespread COVID-19 is in your local area or in any of the places you plan to visit. Please refer to the CDC and Johns Hopkins maps for the latest information on affected areas.
  o How you plan to travel and the mode of transportation, such as by car, bus, train, or RV.

• The CDC recommends that people at higher risk for severe illness take extra precautions when traveling.

Treatment

Are there any treatments for COVID-19?

• There are no medications approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to prevent or treat COVID-19 at this time.
Most people recover from COVID-19 at home. For individuals who are hospitalized, care typically involves supportive measures such as intravenous fluids, supplemental oxygen, and mechanical ventilation, if necessary.

Treatment guidelines from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) recommend the antiviral medication Remdesivir under certain circumstances for people who have been hospitalized with severe COVID-19. Remdesivir is an investigational drug that has been approved by the FDA for emergency use during the crisis.

Numerous drugs are in development as possible COVID-19 treatments.

**Quarantine** is used to keep someone *who might have been exposed to COVID-19* away from others. Quarantine helps prevent spread of disease that can occur before a person knows they are sick or if they are infected with the virus without feeling symptoms. People in quarantine should stay home, separate themselves from others, monitor their health, and follow directions from their state or local health department.

**What’s the difference between quarantine and isolation?**

Quarantine keeps someone who might have been exposed to the virus away from others. **Isolation** separates people who are infected with the virus away from people who are not infected.

**Who needs to quarantine?**

Anyone who has been in **close contact with someone who has COVID-19.** This includes people who previously had COVID-19 and people who have taken a serologic (antibody) test and have antibodies to the virus.

What counts as close contact?

- You were within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for at least 15 minutes
- You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
- You had direct physical contact with the person (touched, hugged, or kissed them)
- You shared eating or drinking utensils
- They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you

**Stay home and monitor your health**

- Stay home for 14 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19
- Watch for fever (100.4°F), cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19
- If possible, stay away others, especially people who are at higher risk for getting very sick from COVID-19

**When to start and end quarantine**

You should stay home for 14 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19. See scenarios below to determine when you can end quarantine and be around others.

**For all of the following scenarios, even if you test negative for COVID-19 or feel healthy, you should stay home (quarantine) since symptoms may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus.**
Scenario 1: Close contact with someone who has COVID-19—will not have further close contact

I had close contact with someone who has COVID-19 and will not have further contact or interactions with the person while they are sick (e.g., co-worker, neighbor, or friend).

- Your last day of quarantine is 14 days from the date you had close contact.
- Date of last close contact with person who has COVID-19 + 14 days = end of quarantine

Scenario 2: Close contact with someone who has COVID-19—live with the person but can avoid further close contact

I live with someone who has COVID-19 (e.g., roommate, partner, family member), and that person has isolated by staying in a separate bedroom. I have had no close contact with the person since they isolated.

- Your last day of quarantine is 14 days from when the person with COVID-19 began home isolation.
- Date person with COVID-19 began home isolation + 14 days = end of quarantine

Scenario 3. Under quarantine and had additional close contact with someone who has COVID-19

I live with someone who has COVID-19 and started my 14-day quarantine period because we had close contact. What if I ended up having close contact with the person who is sick during my quarantine? What if another household member gets sick with COVID-19? Do I need to restart my quarantine?

Yes. You will have to restart your quarantine from the last day you had close contact with anyone in your house who has COVID-19. *Any time a new household member gets sick with COVID-19 and you had close contact, you will need to restart your quarantine.*
Section 3– FORMS

- Date of additional close contact with person who has COVID-19 + 14 days = end of quarantine

Scenario 4: Live with someone who has COVID-19 and cannot avoid continued close contact

I live in a household where I cannot avoid close contact with the person who has COVID-19. I am providing direct care to the person who is sick, don’t have a separate bedroom to isolate the person who is sick, or live in close quarters where I am unable to keep a physical distance of 6 feet.

- You should avoid contact with others outside the home while the person is sick, and quarantine for 14 days after the person who has COVID-19 meets the criteria to end home isolation.
- Date the person with COVID-19 ends home isolation + 14 days = end of quarantine

Content source: National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Division of Viral Diseases

If you are sick with COVID-19, have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, inform your director immediately and follow the guidelines listed on the following pages, 9 – 12.

If you have been EXPOSED to someone with COVID-19, follow the steps below to monitor your health and avoid spreading the disease to others:

**How do I know if I was exposed?**

You generally need to be in close contact with a sick person to get infected. Close contact includes:

- Living in the same household as a sick person with COVID-19
• Caring for a sick person with COVID-19
• Being within 6 feet of a sick person with COVID-19 for about 10 minutes or longer

• Being in direct contact with secretions from a sick person with COVID-19 (e.g., being coughed on, kissing, sharing utensils, etc.)

**Communicate with your Site Preceptor, Program Director and Murray State University Health Services**

- Stay home until your test results are received and follow CDC guidelines to quarantine.
- Provide appropriate documentation to your Program Director.
- You may receive a call from public health if you have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19. They will explain quarantine guidance and answer any questions you have.
- Contact your Program Director immediately to let them know you have been exposed to COVID-19.
- Notify your preceptor at your clinical site who can provide instruction on when to return to work.
  - Your clinical site may require you be tested before returning to the site.
- If you have any additional questions, contact Murray State University Health Services.

**Quarantine Yourself**

- You should stay home for 14 days after your last contact with the person with COVID-19. If your contact is a household member, you may need to stay home for longer.
- Do not go to work or school, and avoid public places for 14 days.
- If possible, get others such as friends or family, to drop off food or other necessities.

**Monitor Your Health**

- Watch for fever, headache, body aches, cough and shortness of breath during the 14 days after the last day you were in close contact with the person with COVID-19.
- If you develop these symptoms within 14 days of last contact with a person with COVID-19, you may have COVID-19.
- If your symptoms are mild, stay home and monitor your health. If you need medical assessment, call the health center or hospital before you arrive and tell the provider that you are a contact to a person who was diagnosed with COVID-19.

**Practice Healthy Habits**

- Follow all the appropriate social distancing recommendations.
- Wear a cloth face covering in public settings where other distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
- Cover your cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces regularly, including your phone.

**Learn More**

If you have been TESTED and are awaiting the results for COVID-19, follow the steps below to monitor your health and avoid spreading the disease to others:

**Communicate with your Site Preceptor, Program Director and Murray State University Health Services**

- Stay home until your test results are received and follow CDC guidelines to quarantine.
- You may receive a call from public health if you have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19. They will explain quarantine guidance and answer any questions you have.
- Contact your Program Director immediately to notify them you have tested positive for COVID-19 and provide appropriate documentation.
- Notify your preceptor at your clinical site who can provide instruction on when to return to work.
  - Your clinical site may require you be tested before returning to the site.
- If you have any additional questions, contact Murray State University Health Services.

**Quarantine Yourself**

- You should stay home until at least you receive your test results and then follow guidelines depending on confirmed results and/or exposure to possible COVID-19 case.
- Do not go to work or school, and avoid public places until you receive your test results.

**Monitor Your Health**

If you develop any of the following symptoms within 14 days of last contact with a person with COVID-19 or while you await your test results, you may have COVID-19.

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Nausea
- Diarrhea

If you do not have any symptoms (are asymptomatic):

- You are not required to isolate yourself while awaiting results UNLESS:
  - You have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days or
  - You have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 symptoms in the last 14 days
  - If you develop any symptom(s) while waiting for your results

**Isolate Yourself**

- Stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home to the extent possible. Use a separate bathroom, if available. Household members can consider staying in a separate location, if available, to decrease their risk of exposure.
- Where possible, ask others such as friends or family, to get food or necessities for you.

**Medical Care**
• If your symptoms are mild, stay home and monitor your health.
• If you need medical assessment, call the health center or hospital before you arrive and tell the provider that you have been tested for COVID-19.
• Get plenty of rest, stay hydrated and, if needed, take medication to reduce your fever.
• If your symptoms get worse and you need medical assessment, call the health clinic or hospital before you arrive and tell the provider that you have been tested for COVID-19. This will help the healthcare provider’s office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Practice Healthy Habits
• Cover your cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue.
• Wash your hands often with soap and water for ≥ 20 seconds, or use alcohol-based hand rub if soap and water are not available.
• Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces regularly, including your phone.

Learn More Online

If you have been DIAGNOSED with COVID-19, follow the steps below to monitor your health and avoid spreading the disease to others:

Communicate with your Site Preceptor, Program Director, and Murray State University Health Services
• Stay home until your test results are received and follow CDC guidelines to quarantine.
• Provide appropriate documentation to your Program Director.
• After your diagnosis, you will receive a call from public health. It may take a few days for health center to contact you, and they will ask about your activities before and after you became ill.

Isolate Yourself
• You should strictly isolate yourself at home for at least 10 days after you became ill, and you should be fever and respiratory symptom free without meds for the last 3 days of your 10 day isolation before resuming normal activities.
• Other members of your household should also stay home, and no visitors should be allowed.
• Stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home to the extent possible. Use a separate bathroom, if available. Household contacts can consider relocating to a separate, uninhabited housing location if available to decrease their risk of exposure.
• Where possible, ask others such as friends or family, to get food or necessities for you.
• If you must leave home, such as to seek medical care, wear a surgical mask if you have one.

Inform Your Close Contacts
• Your close contacts will also need to stay home for 14 days after their last contact with you.
• Close contacts include anyone that you were within 6 feet of for >10 minutes while feeling ill.

**Monitor Your Health**
- There is no specific treatment for COVID-19.
- Get plenty of rest, stay hydrated and, if needed, take medication to reduce your fever.

**Arrange for Care**
- If your symptoms get worse and you need to seek healthcare, call ahead and tell the provider that you have been diagnosed with COVID-19. This will help the healthcare provider’s office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

**Practice Healthy Habits**
- Cover your cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for ≥ 20 seconds, or use alcohol-based hand rub.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces regularly, including your phone.

**Returning to Regular Activities**
- Once you’ve completed your isolation period at home (minimum of 10 days, with at least 3 days of feeling well), you can return to your regular activities.
- You do not need to be retested in order to resume your regular activities.
- This recommendation is consistent with CDC’s [Symptom Based Strategy](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov). 

**Learn More**
- Indiana Department of Health: [https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/](https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/)
- Kentucky Department of Health: [https://govstatus.egov.com/kycovid19](https://govstatus.egov.com/kycovid19)
- Tennessee Department of Health: [www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov](http://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov)

I have read and understand the COVID-19 information as written. I further agree to abide by the COVID-19 procedures as written if exposed, tested, and/or diagnosed with COVID-19 during my time in the Murray State University Dietetic Internship.

__________________________  _______________________
Intern Name                  Date
MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY
Preceptorship, Internship, Fieldwork, and Clinical Site Informed Consent Form

I am currently enrolled in a program of the School of Nursing and Health Professions, specifically the Dietetic Internship Program, at Murray State University. I understand that a national health emergency has been declared because of the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 is a highly contagious disease, and there is currently no vaccine available. The virus may spread through contact with others even if such persons do not exhibit symptoms, or through contact with surfaces exposed to the virus.

Being aware of the foregoing, I am voluntarily, and for my own interests and benefit, electing to return to my academic program with knowledge of the danger involved, and hereby agree to accept any and all risks of personal injury, death, or negative financial impacts.

I further understand that

a. I may be required to be screened or tested for COVID-19 prior to attending clinical experiences;
b. I may be exposed to COVID-19, just as I might if I were a working professional in my field at this time;
c. If I am exposed to COVID-19, I may be quarantined in place or told to quarantine at home;
d. I accept the risk of quarantine and/or illness and do so voluntarily;
e. The healthcare facility may not cover any expenses of quarantine or treatment if I am exposed or become ill;
f. MSU School of Nursing and Health Professions will not cover any expenses of quarantine or treatment if I am exposed or become ill;
g. I am obligated to follow all facility, school, and professional rules that limit my risk of exposure to COVID-19;
h. I am responsible for reporting any symptoms of illness at their first appearance to staff at the healthcare facility and to my program faculty; and
i. Failure to report exposure or symptoms may result in personal liability.

I, on behalf of myself, my estate, heirs, personal representatives, executors, administrators, and assigns, do release and discharge and covenant not to sue Murray State University; Murray State University Board of Regents; any of its regents, employees, instructors, or agents; and any and all other persons or entities whatsoever associated in any way with Murray State University [herein referred to as the “Released Parties”] from and with respect to any and all present and future claims, of whatever nature or kind, regardless of the basis therefor and including but not limited to any
claim based upon any wrongdoing or negligence, including ordinary and/or gross negligence, on the part of the Released Parties, or any of them, and including but not limited to any claim for injury to property or injury or death to person, arising from or related, in any manner, to the Program, my participation in the Program, any activities, including lodging and traveling to or from the Program, related or incidental in any manner thereto, and/or the conduct, including reckless conduct, of others. [Collectively referred to as the “Released Claims”]

I understand that Murray State University has put in place new safety rules and precautions in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, which rules and precautions may be updated at

less and precautions may or may not be fully effective in mitigating the spread of COVID-19, I agree to comply with such rules and precautions, which may include, but are not limited to, mask wearing, hand washing, hand sanitizing, and social distancing.

I agree that if I am exhibiting symptoms of acute respiratory illness, a fever of 100.4°F or higher, or signs of a fever, I will remain isolated and self-quarantine until I have been fever- free for 72 hours without the use of medication. In the event the University’s rules require me to self-quarantine because of symptoms, or I otherwise determine based on my own judgment or that of a medical professional to self-quarantine, I will notify the Dietetic Internship Director.

By signing this agreement, I acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19, the fact that it can be difficult to identify in another, and the inherent risks of exposure at the University to those who may be infected with COVID-19. I voluntarily assume the risk that I may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by returning to the Program, and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and/or even death. I understand and acknowledge that given the unknown nature of COVID-19, it is not possible to fully list each and every individual risk of contracting COVID-19.

I agree, on behalf of myself, my personal representatives and heirs, not to make any type of legal or equitable claim on University, or any of its trustees, officers, employees, agents or contractors with respect to any exposure I may have to COVID-19, whether or not it arises through the negligence, omission, default or other action of anyone affiliated with the University, including fellow students. I further agree that if any such claim is made, I will indemnify and defend University with respect to any such claim

This Waiver and Release of Liability is governed by the laws of Kentucky. I understand that this Waiver and Release of Liability is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of Kentucky and agree that if any portion is held invalid, the remainder will continue in full legal force and effect.

I affirm that I am eighteen (18) years of age or older and am freely signing this agreement. I have read this form and fully understand that by signing this form I am giving up legal rights and/or remedies which may be available to me against the Released Parties.
Printed Name of Participant: ________________________________

Signature of Participant: ________________________________ Date: _________

Witnessed: ________________________________
CONFIDENTIALITY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
RE: PROTECTED HEALTH/PROPRIETARY INFORMATION
AND
AGREEMENT RE: STUDENT CLINICAL EXPERIENCE AND
RELEASE OF EDUCATION RECORDS

I understand that by virtue of my participation and/or enrollment in Course No(s). __________________________ at Murray State University, I will be assigned to the following facility(s):

__________________________________________________________________.

In connection with such assignment and for the purpose of providing documentation/information to the Facility(ies) to receive permission from the Facility(ies) to be assigned to same for such clinical/experiential/internship assignments, [hereinafter “Facility”, or “Facility(ies)”], I hereby authorize Murray State University to provide such education records/information concerning me as may be required by the Facility(ies), including but not limited to, documents/information containing grade information and classification status, criminal background check(s) and drug test information as well as documentation/information as to immunizations and such other medical or other documentation/information as may be required by the Facility(ies). I further understand and hereby authorize the use of my student records and release of same to other third parties by each Facility in furtherance of such Facility’s legitimate business purpose(s) or as may be required by applicable law.

In connection with such assignment(s), I also agree to adhere to the following:

In connection with my clinical experience, I recognize that I may have access to oral information and review of records and charts of patients/clients (hereinafter “patients”), whether by paper copy or computer/electronic files, which may contain protected health information, the unauthorized disclosure of which is prohibited by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.
Section 3– Forms

(“HIPAA”), as well as other proprietary/confidential information of the clinical experience Facility(ies) including but not limited to policies, procedures, trade secrets, trade information, business practices, information systems, security passwords, financial information, and other proprietary information. I further acknowledge that in certain Facilities I may also have access to student information/documents (whether oral, paper/hard copy or electronic) which constitutes confidential information under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and other state laws. I hereby acknowledge that all such patient information, student information and proprietary facility information as set forth above is confidential information and hereby agree to maintain the confidentiality of same [hereinafter referred to collectively as “confidential/proprietary information”]. I further agree and acknowledge that I will not remove any documents, papers, electronic files or data from the Facility(ies) at which I am engaging in my clinical experience, nor will I copy any such documents or electronic files/data for use or disclosure other than as directed by appropriate staff at the clinical experience Facility(ies) and will only access information on a “need to know” basis. I further agree to abide by all policies of Murray State University and the Facility(ies) to which I am assigned and that I will not publish or submit for publication (other than educational reports to Murray State University) any material related to my clinical experiences without prior written approval of Murray State University and the Facility. I further agree that any such educational reports to Murray State University shall be de-identified. I understand that the confidential/proprietary information to which I am privy shall remain confidential after completion of the course(s). I understand that any disclosure by me of such confidential/proprietary information, at any time, whether orally, hard copy/paper or electronically, including removal of same, could subject me to substantial civil as well as criminal penalties imposed by law. I further acknowledge and fully understand that the disclosure by me of confidential/proprietary information to any unauthorized person is also a violation of Murray State University’s policy and could subject me to academic discipline
Section 3– Forms

and other disciplinary action by Murray State University. It is hereby acknowledged that my responsibility to maintain the confidentiality of such confidential/proprietary information shall apply to any Facility in which I am placed for clinical training/instruction/observation during my tenure as a student/intern at Murray State University regardless of whether or not said Facility is specifically listed above.

I further agree that should confidential/proprietary information be disclosed by me in any manner or form or copies made or distributed (paper or electronic) by me in violation of this agreement, FERPA, or any rules or policies of Murray State University or the Facility to which I am/have been assigned, HIPAA, or any other applicable laws or regulations, I will immediately notify the faculty person assigned to me/my clinical experience or the Department Chair. In such event (as well as any situation where Murray State University becomes aware of a breach or allegation of a breach of confidentiality by any other means which involves me or is alleged to involve me), I hereby authorize Murray State University to inform the clinical Facility whose confidential/proprietary information has been or may have been breached and provide to that Facility any information/records, including education records, regarding myself and said breach of confidentiality or allegation thereof as may be deemed appropriate by Murray State University in its sole discretion.

By signature below, I hereby acknowledge that I am 18 years of age or older and that I agree to the terms and obligations as set forth above.

________________________________________________________________________
Print Intern’s Name Intern’s Signature

Date Signed____________________________
Social Media Policy

Definition of Social Media: For the purposes of this policy, social media should be understood to include any website or forum that allows for the open communication on the internet including, but not limited to:

- Social Networking Sites (LinkedIn, Facebook)
- Micro-blogging Sites (Twitter)
- Blogs (including personal)
- Video and photo-sharing Websites (YouTube; Flickr)

Think Before Posting:
In general, interns should think carefully before posting online, because most online social platforms are open for all to see. Despite privacy policies, interns cannot always be sure who will view, share or archive the information that is posted. Before posting anything, interns should remember that they are responsible for what is posted online. Interns should carefully consider the risks and rewards with respect to each posting. Interns should remember that any conduct, online or otherwise, that negatively or adversely impacts the intern’s job performance or conduct, the job performance or conduct of other co-workers or adversely affects clients, customers, colleagues or associates of Murray State University (MSU) and/or the intern’s supervised practice training site may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination. If interns have any doubt about what to post online, it is probably best not to post, since once something is placed in cyberspace, it is often difficult to retract the information. Interns should use their best judgment and exercise personal responsibility when posting to any social media websites.

Using Social Media at Work:
Interns should not use social media during working hours or on equipment provided by your supervised practice site unless such use is work-related or authorized by a preceptor. Employees should note that this provision is not meant to prohibit interns from engaging in concerted protected activity, which is lawful under Section 7 of the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA).

Murray State University and Supervised Practice Training Sites Reserves the Right to Monitor:
Where applicable law permits, MSU and the supervised practice training site reserves the right to monitor the intern’s use of any social media and take appropriate action with respect to inappropriate or unlawful postings. In monitoring social media, MSU and the supervised practice training site will not in any way interfere with any intern rights under Section 7 of the NLRA.

Do NOT Post Confidential Information:
Section 3– Forms

Interns should aim to protect MSU and the supervised practice training site’s private, confidential and proprietary information. Interns should make sure that online postings do not violate any non-disclosure or confidentiality obligations or disclose any confidential and/or proprietary information of MSU or the supervised practice training site.

**Act Appropriately:**
Interns should act appropriately when posting online. Any online behavior should be consistent with MSU and the supervised practice training site’s policies and practices with respect to ethics, confidential information, discrimination and harassment. Because online tone can be interpreted in different ways by readers, interns should not engage in any online conduct that would not be acceptable or appropriate in the workplace, including derogatory or discriminatory remarks, threats, intimidation, harassment, insults, slander, defamation or pornography.

**Demonstrate Respect:**
When posting anything online, interns should always be fair and respectful to co-workers, clients, customers, colleagues, preceptors and other individuals who may work on behalf of MSU and the supervised practice training site. Interns should demonstrate proper respect for the privacy of others. If an intern decides to post a complaint or criticisms, the intern should avoid using any statements, photographs, video or audio that may be viewed as malicious, obscene, threatening, harassing or abusive of co-workers, clients, customers, colleagues, preceptors or other individuals that work on behalf of or are associated with MSU or the supervised practice training site. Interns should refrain from engaging in offensive postings that may create a hostile and abusive work environment based on race, sex, religion or any other protected class.

**Be Accurate and Honest:**
Interns should always be accurate and honest in posting any news or information to social media and quickly correct any mistakes or errors. Interns should never post any information which is known to be false about MSU, the supervised practice training site, co-workers, clients, customers, colleagues, preceptors or other individuals that work on behalf of or are associated with MSU and the supervised practice training site.

I have read and understand the Social Media Policy as written.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Intern Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
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Murray State University Dietetic Internship Program
Handbook Acknowledgement Form

I hereby agree that I have read the Murray State University Dietetic Internship Program Handbook containing the policies and procedures governing the internship. I acknowledge that I am responsible for knowing, understanding, and abiding by the policies and procedures governing the Murray State University Internship program. I understand that failure to follow any of the policies and procedures will result in disciplinary action.

Printed Name: ____________________________________________________

Signature: ________________________________________________________

Date: ___________________________________________________________

Murray State University Dietetic Internship Program
Code of Ethics Acknowledgement Form

I, _______________________________________________________________, am a Dietetic Intern in the Murray State University Dietetic Internship Program. I have read the Code of Ethics for the Profession of Dietetics. I understand its guidelines, and I agree to uphold its ethical principles. As a student member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and as a future ACEND-credentialed dietetics practitioner, I agree to abide by the Code. I understand that failure to follow the Code of Ethics will result in disciplinary action.

Printed Name: ____________________________________________________

Signature: ________________________________________________________

Date: ___________________________________________________________
Release and Authorization
for use of information

I, ____________________________________________, in consideration of any photograph, video image or other likeness of me and information about me, said

information consisting of the following: ____________________________

(all such photographs, etc., hereinafter collectively “my information”), hereby authorize Murray State University and its employees, agents, personnel and any others who are acting on its behalf (hereinafter collectively “Murray State”) to use my information for any and all purposes whatsoever. I understand that my information may be copied and distributed by Murray State using any means, including but not limited to video presentations, television, news bulletins, billboards, signs, brochures, magazines, websites, digital materials, social media platforms and newspapers.

I understand and agree that when Murray State uses my information, others who are not subject to Murray State’s supervision and control may further disseminate my information.

I release Murray State from any and all liability related to dissemination of my information. I specifically allow release of my information that is subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, et seq., and other statute, rule or regulation.

I have read this document and understand its contents.

Dated ___________ Signature of subject ______________________________________

Dated ___________ Signature of Murray State representative ______________________
## Emergency Contact Form

**PLEASE PRINT ALL DETAILS CLEARLY**

**Date:** _____________________  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Middle Name</th>
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**Home Address:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip Code</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
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**Cell Phone:** Area Code ( ___________ )  
**Home Telephone:** ( __________________ )

### INSURANCE INFORMATION:

**Carrier Name:**

**Insurance member ID:**

Please list the people you would like to be notified in case of emergency, including a local contact.

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CONTACT:**

(1) **Name & Relationship**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip Code</th>
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</table>

**Telephone** (________) __________________________  
**Daytime Phone #** (________) __________________

(2) **Name & Relationship**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip Code</th>
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**Telephone** (________) __________________________  
**Daytime Phone #** (________) __________________
MEDICAL INFORMATION:

Are you allergic to anything?  Yes / No _____________
If yes, please list all allergies including food(s) and medicine(s):

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Are you taking any prescription medication(s)?  Yes / No _____________
If yes: Please list all medication(s):

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Do you have any medical/mobility/mental health concerns of which we should be aware?
Yes / No _____________
If yes, please list medical/mobility/mental health concerns that we should be aware of:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

The information requested is confidential and for emergency use only. In the event of a medical emergency, this information will be used by authorized emergency personnel. Please be honest when completing all pertinent information.

In the case of emergency, I give permission for my information to be released to emergency personnel. I also agree that any of my emergency contacts listed on this card may be notified in an emergency, as needed.

Printed Name: ___________________________ Signature: ___________________________
Date: ___________________________
Professional Behavior and Conduct Guidelines

Murray State University (MSU) Dietetic Interns will be representing the University, College of Nursing and Health Professions and the Department of Applied Health Sciences at all times. One must endeavor to treat patients, students, employees, administrators, faculty and all other individuals with respect and courtesy.

Patient/Client Interaction:
With regard to patients/clients, remember to follow patient/client rights and medical ethics, as follows:

a. Patient medical records are privileged information. Dietetic interns may interpret diet information to the patient, but relaying any other information should be left to the discretion of the patient’s physician. Patient charts and all other patient records should be kept out of reach of unauthorized persons. Patient charts cannot be copied and are not allowed to be taken from the patient’s medical unit. Violations of patient’s confidentiality will result in immediate termination from the facility and program.
b. Do not discuss matters pertaining to patients in public places such as elevators, corridors or lounge areas.
c. Always speak directly to a patient when discussing his/her dietary needs. Conversation not intended to be heard by the patient should take place away from the patient’s hearing.
d. Each facility may have other patient/client rights, which must be followed. i.e.: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).
e. All contact with patients is done only under the supervision of the designated facility preceptor.
f. Any information pertaining to the patient’s health obtained from patients, patient family members, or other medical personnel should be shared with the facility preceptor.

Facility:
In regard to the facility, an intern must remember:

a. Employees are to be treated with respect at all times. If a situation occurs resulting in a misunderstanding, the intern should immediately inform their facility preceptor.
b. Employees are not to be taken advantage of by the intern to facilitate completion clinical assignments.
c. Confidential information obtained within the facility must be kept between the intern and preceptors.
d. All personnel policies and procedures of the facility should be observed.
e. To adhere to Scope/Standards of Practice for the Profession of Nutrition and Dietetics.
f. To adhere to the Code of Ethics for the Profession of Dietetics to reflect the values and ethical principles guiding the dietetics profession.

Facility/Dietetic Intern:
Facilities maintain the right to set specific criteria for intern selection at a particular institution including an interview prior to any agreement to hosting the dietetic intern for a rotation. In regard to each facility the interns should keep in mind that her/his performance and attitude is directly related to the continued participation and cooperation of that facility and its staff in educating MSU interns.

**Intern responsibilities include but are not limited to:**

a. Prepare for and participate in all supervised practice activities and assignments.

b. Take responsibility as a self-learner and self-direct learning to meet requirements, expectations and objectives.

c. Demonstrate strong communication, professional, organizational and critical thinking professional traits.

**Intern Progression of Learning**
The supervised practice experience is designed to build intern skills to perform entry-level competency while building on the intern’s existing foundation of didactic knowledge. The goal is to gradually increase the intern’s level of:

- Responsibility
- Proficiency
- Independence
- Competence

The supervised practice experience may start out with observation but should go beyond that with the intern gradually taking on more roles. In addition, workload and rate at which an intern accomplishes tasks should increase similarly. Each of the major rotation descriptions provides an example of learning activities and progression of learning. However, it will be up to the preceptor’s discretion to advance and/or limit experiences and responsibilities as they see appropriate.

**Facility Preceptors:**
Remember that MSU supervised practice experience preceptors volunteer their time in the interest of the intern’s professional development. Maintaining a good relationship with preceptors include:

- Share information obtained regarding the client’s health care at the facility with preceptors.
- Communicate regularly with preceptors regarding expectations, challenges, progress, and questions.
- Tailor project assignments to fulfill a need at the facility.
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- Maintain a positive, engaged attitude when interacting with others at the facility at all times.
- Be respectful of preceptors’ willingness to serve as preceptors and understand that their full-time commitment and priority is providing patient care.

**Professional Appearance:**

a. The dietetic intern should follow the dress code of the facility and wear their MSU nametag unless the facility provides other identification.

b. Clothing should reflect good taste. Please refer to the dress code policy of the facility for specific guidelines as needed.

c. Excessive jewelry is not to be worn; engagement/wedding rings are allowed. Specific instructions may be given with each rotation. Good grooming is a necessary component to professional appearance and the intern must remember to follow Health Department regulations in food production areas.

d. Good grooming also means good health and body cleanliness. Visual tattoos must be covered and body piercing (except for earrings) must be removed. Hair and body should be free of odor and clothes clean and free of stains, rips or tears. Please refer to the dress code policy of the facility.

e. Absolutely no smoking during work time or in the classroom. Gum chewing or other distractive behaviors in the facility or during seminars are not considered to be professional behaviors.

**Compliance with the professional behaviors and conduct guidelines is expected; non-compliance will result in removal from the facility or classroom for that day and a formal warning will be issued. A second occurrence of non-compliance will result in termination from the facility and/or program.**

I have read and agree to abide by all the above guidelines.

---

Printed Name

---

Signature

---

Date
## Tips for Success During Supervised Practice Training

### Self-Assessment: Acceptance of Placement

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<tr>
<th><strong>DO</strong></th>
<th><strong>DON’T</strong></th>
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</table>
| 1. Analyze your interests, values & goals.  
2. Despite temporary placement and student status, regard yourself as a professional and a member of the staff.  
3. Prepare yourself to expect and accept that problems and frustrations will occur.  
4. When problems occur, be patient and pleasant; cope with problems with an attitude toward solution and negotiation. | 1. Do not act as if you know all the answers. Remember as an intern you are placed in the facility for a learning experience.  
2. Do not let yourself become involved in internal conflicts. |

### Routine Office Matters

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<th><strong>DO</strong></th>
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| 1. Find out where you are to work – office, desk space, chair, telephone, etc. So you know your operational base.  
2. Be aware of office practices and policies regarding dress, call in protocol, absenteeism, office hours, flexibility, holidays, etc. Follow rules set for regular staff. | 1. Do not expect any special treatment.  
2. Do not let yourself take sides in office politics. |

### Orientation

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| 1. Request and read information you need regarding the organizational structure, names of key people, office policies and procedures to facilitate your orientation to the facility.  
2. Become familiar with the entire facility so you can see where you fit. | 1. Do not take too long to familiarize yourself with the facility, staff, etc.  
2. Do not be critical of the nutrition staff if documents and plans do not follow the format learned in school. Format and procedures for such documents as plans, budgets, etc. are usually dictated by the facility or a higher governmental entity. |

### Integrating into the New Environment

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| 1. Gain an appreciation for the clerical and secondary functions of the facility, for they are the building blocks of the primary mission. A finished project or assignment can be delayed, altered or expedited depending upon the inclination of the clerical staff!  
2. Develop a list of persons to know in your working environment so when you need to contact them, you have their numbers/emails.  
3. Learn quickly the people who facilitate the work-flow in your facility.  
4. Take notes when you are with your preceptors! This shows you are paying attention and will assist you with future preparation and work. |
### Section 3– Forms

#### DON’T

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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Do not become assertive as to threaten other employees; appear competent enough to establish a basis for receiving favorable recommendations. Remember EVERY single person you meet throughout your time in the internship is a potential employer, peer, or reference.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Do not exercise authority; offer suggestions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Do not become complacent; expand your knowledge by asking questions, gain insight into things you don’t understand, learn about other professions and how the nutrition professional fits into the team, etc.</td>
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#### Establishing the Task(s) and Assignments

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<td>1.</td>
<td>Establish the expectations, limitations, and directions of the competencies with your preceptor at the beginning of your rotation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Evaluate your assignments in terms of the amount of time available during your rotation. Make a plan to accomplish a certain number of competencies each day/week.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Plan carefully around the time available to you so time limitations will not be a problem.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Remain pleasant and complete the entire task when asked to perform routine work. EVERY experience will have value and merit!</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DON’T</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Do not allow yourself to be overloaded with tasks because you have not scheduled your time efficiently.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Do not pretend you have performed a certain type of task when, in fact, you have not; do not hesitate to ask questions until you understand the task at hand.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Do not hesitate to contact the internship director if you have questions about experiences and how they fit within the competencies.</td>
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#### Developing Intern/Preceptor Rapport

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<td><strong>DO</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Establish a good working relationship so you will be able to talk freely about what you are receiving or lacking from the experience.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Assure your preceptor you have a desire to learn and you are putting forth all efforts to make the experience worthwhile.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>If you suffer from “lack of guidance,” remedy the situation by approaching and discussing the situation with your preceptor first and then the internship director if you are not satisfied with the outcome.</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DON’T</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Do not talk about your preceptor(s) to others in a negative way.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Do not avoid speaking with your preceptor(s) if issues arise that need to be addressed.</td>
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### Vital Elements of Successful Experience

**DO**

1. Gain as much experience and knowledge as possible, and at the same time make a meaningful contribution to the facility.
2. Follow through on whatever job you undertake; deadlines are important and should be strictly adhered to.
3. Develop and maintain careful, quality work habits.
4. Be flexible when learning “real world” knowledge. Classroom theories are helpful, but be aware that educational training is an important tool to be used in the working world.
5. Keep a positive attitude!
6. Be mindful that preceptors and others are busy; be thoughtful and ask if you can assist in any way, provide requests several days in advance, and be self-directed and motivated to accomplish competency assignments or other projects independently.

**DON’T**

1. Do not become discouraged or defensive when assignments, projects, etc. are reviewed by staff and refinements are requested. Remember, they are the experts and know what is needed. Your job is to gain experience and knowledge while keeping an open mind.
2. Do not refrain from contributing; preceptors welcome your fresh ideas and insight.
3. Do not become defensive when mistakes are made. You are bound to make a few or several throughout your time in the internship. Remember, you are there to develop your talents and skills.
4. Do not allow yourself to become involved in issues which came to friction before you came on board, nor become involved in office politics. Remain an impartial observer and learn!
5. Do not expect to be an expert upon completion of your supervised experiences. Realize you will be “practice-ready” as an entry level dietitian!