

I. Program Overview

Dietetic education at Auburn University dates back to 1921, shortly after the inception of the American Dietetic Association in 1917 dedicating the profession to helping the government conserve food and improve the public's health and nutrition. In keeping with the Auburn tradition of excellence in nutrition and dietetic education, the Department of Nutritional Sciences offers a Bachelor of Science degree program in Nutrition/Dietetics. The curriculum provides a solid foundation in chemistry, biological and nutrition science, experimental study of food, and nutrient metabolism. The program integrates practical experience and applications within the traditional classroom curriculum in professional courses in food service management, medical nutrition therapy, nutrition education and counseling, and public health nutrition. There is a strong emphasis on the role of food and nutrition in the maintenance of health and treatment and prevention of disease.

DPD Mission Statement

The mission of the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) at Auburn University is to provide a high-quality program that will prepare graduates for supervised practice, leading to eligibility for the CDR credentialing exam to become a registered dietitian nutritionist dedicated to enhancing human well-being and quality of life through food and nutrition.

Auburn University DPD Goals and Objectives

Program Goal 1:

To prepare DPD graduates by emphasizing foundation knowledge and competency in nutrition and dietetics so that graduates of the DPD will successfully apply their undergraduate education in post-baccalaureate supervised practice (e.g., dietetic internships, coordinated master's programs, or individualized supervised practice pathways), graduate/professional studies, and entry-level practice.

Program Objectives for Goal 1:

- Within 3 years of admission to the professional-DPD curriculum, 80% of students will complete the requirements to receive a Verification Statement of DPD program completion.
- 60% of DPD graduates will apply to dietetic internships/supervised practice prior to or within 12 months of graduation.
- 60% of DPD graduates applying to dietetic internships/supervised practice are admitted to a supervised practice program within 12 months of graduation.
- The DPD 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 will be at least 80%.
- 90% of DPD graduates who complete a dietetic internship/supervised practice experience will be rated by their program directors as having met