

Directions and Information for Application

Texas Christian University Coordinated Program in Dietetics (CPD) and Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD)

Department of Nutritional Sciences
P.O. Box 298600
Fort Worth, TX 76129
(817) 257-7309
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The mission of the Department of Nutritional Sciences at Texas Christian University is to provide a distinctive program of study in all areas of nutrition and dietetics within a traditional liberal arts setting. The faculty of the department affirm their commitment to the education of broadly informed, scientifically competent, self-educating, and ethically responsible professionals who are capable of entering successful careers in nutrition and dietetics, and are cognizant of the needs of the community and society at large.

Accredited Dietetics Programs: The Texas Christian University Coordinated Program in Dietetics (Option I) and the Didactic Program in Dietetics (Option II) are currently granted accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE) of The American Dietetic Association*, recognized by the Council of Higher Education Accreditation and the United States Department of Education. *(American Dietetic Association, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606-6995, 312/899-0040, ext. 5400).

Coordinated Program In Dietetics (Option I): The mission of the Coordinated Program in Dietetics at TCU is to educate competent entry-level dietitians within the liberal arts environment and to provide students with the Foundation Knowledge and Skills and Competencies for Entry-Level Dietitians and the Standards of Education.

The Coordinated Program in Dietetics (CPD) combines course work emphasizing the foundations of dietetic knowledge (communications, physical and biological sciences, social sciences, research, food, nutrition, management, and health care systems) and supervised practice experience. The supervised practice experience involves working with food/nutrition/dietetics professionals for a minimum of 1200 hours to demonstrate performance in nutrition therapy, community nutrition, foodservice systems management, business/entrepreneurial dietetics, and nutrition research. This program offers students the opportunity to attain the required didactic coursework and supervised practice necessary to meet the Foundation Knowledge and Skills and Competencies for entry-level dietitians as specified by the American Dietetic Association. Students who successfully complete the TCU Coordinated Program in Dietetics will receive CPD verification and will be eligible to take the Registration Examination for Dietitians. A passing score allows graduates to qualify for active membership in the American Dietetic Association.

Didactic Program in Dietetics (Option II): The mission of the Didactic Program in Dietetics at TCU is to educate students within a liberal arts environment and to provide Foundation Knowledge and Skills for the didactic component of entry-level dietetic programs.

The Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) combines coursework emphasizing the foundations of dietetic knowledge (communications, physical and biological sciences, social sciences, research, food, nutrition, management, and health care systems). The NTDT curriculum includes human nutrition, food science, food and culture, community nutrition, food systems management, medical nutrition therapy, and nutrition research. These courses are based on a solid science and math background, which include general chemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry, microbiology, physiology, psychology and elementary statistics. This program prepares students for a Dietetic Internship and/or post-graduate studies, and a successful professional nutrition and dietetics career

Eligibility and Program Prerequisites: Students must complete an application process and be accepted into the Coordinated Program in Dietetics (CPD) or the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD). Eligibility for admission to the CPD or the DPD is based on successful completion of at least 60 semester hours with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.7 (based on a 4.0 scale), 45 semester hours of required prerequisites and major courses specified in the TCU Undergraduate Studies Bulletin, and the CPD/DPD application packet. A formal application must be filed by February 1 for entry the

following fall semester. Applicants are notified of provisional acceptance by April 15. Materials and directions for application to the CPD or the DPD are available online from the Department of Nutritional Sciences website (www.nut.tcu.edu). A student's continuation in the CPD or the DPD is contingent upon attainment of a strong academic record and successful completion of the program sequence. Upon graduation, the student must attain a minimum *cumulative* grade point average of 3.0 (based on a 4.0 scale), attain a minimum grade point average of 2.5 in the Associated Requirements, and earn a grade of "C" or better in all NTDT courses and all Associated Requirements.

Courses which *must* be completed by the Fall of the student's entrance into the Coordinated Program in Dietetics (CPD) or the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) include:

CHEM 10113	General Chemistry I	3	NTDT 10003	Contemporary Issues in Nutrition (Lab)	3
CHEM 10125	General Chemistry II (Lab)	5	NTDT 10103	Food Preparation (Lab)	3
CHEM 30123	Organic Chemistry	3	NTDT 20403	Nutrition	3
BIOL 20214	Physiology (Lab)	4	NTDT 21163	Food and Culture	3
BIOL 20223	Microbiology (Lab)	3	NTDT 30123	Nutrition Throughout the Life Cycle	3
PSYC 10213	General Psychology	3			
MATH 10043	Elementary Statistics	3			

It is *preferred* that the following courses also be completed prior to enrollment in the CPD or the DPD:

CHEM 40503	Biochemistry	3
ECON 10223	Microeconomics	3
SOCI 20213	Sociology	3
MANA 30153	Organizational Management	3

Program Costs: Costs for tuition and university fees are available through the Office of Admissions or Financial Services. More detailed costs for students are outlined in the Coordinated Program in Dietetics Student Handbook (~\$1,000-\$1,500) and the Didactic Program in Dietetics Student Handbook (~\$1,000), and include items such as textbooks, lab fees, photocopying, school and office supplies, lab coat, professional dues and insurance, and travel expenses to CPD supervised practice sites.

Students are responsible for their own transportation. CPD students are required to travel to healthcare, foodservice and community facilities in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex (up to 45 miles one way). Prior to beginning courses, a medical release form must be on file for all CPD students. In addition, all students accepted into the Coordinated Program in Dietetics are required to have current CPR certification, a current Food Handler's card, drug screening, criminal background check, and a recent negative TB test.

Selection Criteria: Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee consisting of the nutrition faculty and nutrition professionals. Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview. Students will be selected on the basis of:

- a. Cumulative grade point average (2.7 minimum on all coursework)
- b. Program prerequisites completed
- c. Completed application form (word-processed preferred)
- d. Evaluation of handwritten personal letter and word-processed statement of goals
- e. Evaluation of 3 Letters of Recommendation
- f. Results of the student interview with the selection committee
- g. Evaluation of performance in professionally related work and volunteer experiences

Final approval for admission to the program will be contingent upon the recommendation of the nutritional sciences faculty. All application materials become the property of the Texas Christian University Nutritional Sciences Department. All applicants will be notified of their admission status no later than April 15.

Application Components:

1. Personal letter of application, handwritten. (Include how your academic and personal background influenced your decision to apply for the Coordinated Program in Dietetics and/or Didactic Program in Dietetics)
2. Statement of personal and professional goals (word processed)
3. Completed application form (word-processed preferred)
4. One copy of official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended
5. Three written recommendations should be requested by the student from teachers/employment supervisors. Do not use TCU Nutritional Sciences faculty for reference.

Application and Letters of Recommendation should be submitted to the Annie Richardson Bass Building, Room 106 or mailed to the Department of Nutritional Sciences' address before February 1. Incomplete or late application packets will **NOT** be considered.

NON-DISCRIMINATION:

Texas Christian University does not discriminate on the basis of personal status, individual characteristics, or group affiliation, including but not limited to classes protected under federal and state law.

Application Form

**Texas Christian University
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Fax (817) 257-5849**

For which accredited program are you applying? (You may choose one or both programs.)

- Coordinated Program in Dietetics (CPD)**
- Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD)**

I. Personal Data

Name: _____ Social Security # _____
 (First) (Middle) (Last)

Present Address: _____
 (Number & Street) (City, State, Zip) (Area Code & Tel. No.)

Permanent Address: _____
 (If different from above) (Number & Street) (City, State, Zip) (Area Code & Tel. No.)

Date of Birth: Day _____ Month _____ Year _____

Name of person to contact in an emergency: _____

Address: _____
 (Number & Street) (City, State, Zip) (Area Code & Tel. No.)

II. Education

High School	City & State	Dates Attended	GPA	Rank/ %Rank	Date of Graduation
College or University	City & State	Dates Attended	GPA	# Hours Completed	Degree(s) Received/or Expected & Dates

SAT or ACT Score _____ Cumulative Grade Point Average _____ TCU GPA _____
 (Courses from all colleges/universities applied to your degree should be included in the cumulative grade point average).

Record the grades you received in the courses listed below:

- _____ General Chemistry I
- _____ General Chemistry II
- _____ Organic Chemistry
- _____ Physiology
- _____ Microbiology
- _____ General Psychology
- _____ Elementary Statistics
- _____ Sociology

- _____ Organizational Management
- _____ Microeconomics
- _____ Contemporary Issues in Nutrition
- _____ Food Preparation
- _____ Nutrition
- _____ Food and Culture
- _____ Nutrition Throughout the Life Cycle

III. Academic Plan

List (a) current courses and (b) courses to be completed before entering the Texas Christian University Coordinated Program in Dietetics or the Didactic Program in Dietetics. (Not on official transcript.)

a. Current Courses				
Course #	Course Title	Cr. Hrs.	College/University	
b. Courses to be Completed Prior to Entering the Coordinated Program in Dietetics or the Didactic Program in Dietetics				
Course #	Course Title	Cr. Hrs.	College/University	Semester Planned to Complete

IV. List Campus and Community Involvement (resume optional)

V. Work and/or Volunteer Experience

List all work experience, including types of work and dates. Summer experience is to be included.

Company/Organization	Job Title	Duties and Responsibilities

VI. Letters of Recommendation

Complete the information about the individuals who will write your letters of recommendation.

Name	Title	Address	Phone # Include Area Code