

Suggested Rotation Schedule

All interns are required to complete a minimum of 1,000 hours in 32 weeks of full-time (40 hours per week) supervised practice rotations.

Rev. September 2026 • Supersedes Rev. 4-11-22 • Nutrition Ink Dietetic Internship Program

SUPERVISED PRACTICE 1,000 hours	FULL-TIME SCHEDULE 32 weeks	WEEKLY COMMITMENT 40 hours	VACATION 3 weeks
---	---------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------------------------

ROTATION CHART

ROTATION	HOURS	LENGTH
Orientation (summer)	Summer reading and orientation assignments	4 weeks
Foodservice management	160	4 weeks
Community nutrition	160	4 weeks
Clinical	560	14 weeks
Elective	80	2 weeks
Research	40	1 week
Vacation	—	3 weeks
Total	1,000	32 weeks

Orientation and vacation weeks do not count toward the 1,000 supervised practice hours.

SEQUENCE OF ROTATIONS

Interns are recommended, but not required, to start with the foodservice and community nutrition rotations before clinical practice. When proceeding to the clinical rotation, it is suggested that the intern first become acquainted with the diet office and screening procedures. In this way the intern can begin to relate the activities performed in the diet office and by the NDTRs to those performed by the clinical dietitian. Following this experience, interns observe the preceptors and are encouraged to seek out answers to their questions through research or the use of references. During the following weeks the intern is expected to perform an increasing number of nutrition care activities and to assume responsibility for an increasing number of patients. During the final weeks of the clinical rotation, interns work on the MNT concentration in nutrition support and staff relief. Typically, the research and medical library rotation and the elective rotation may be done in any order during the internship.

SUPERVISED PRACTICE EXPERIENCES

PRACTICUM HOURS	LOCATION / SPECIALTY	SUPERVISED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE
160 h Foodservice management	Hospitals; long-term care facilities; schools, colleges and universities; child and adult care food programs; congregate and home-delivered feeding programs for older adults; correctional facilities; and military operations.	Theme meal, recipe development, human resources, safety and sanitation, comprehensive tray assessment, productivity ratios study, plate waste study, meal satisfaction survey, and a safety, disaster and emergency assignment.
160 h Community nutrition	Outpatient individual and group education; long-term care facilities; schools, colleges and universities; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Women, Infants and Children (WIC); child care centers; Head Start; congregate and home-delivered feeding programs for older adults; Child and Adult Care Food Programs; food banks and food pantries; health clubs; fitness centers; corporate wellness programs; grocery stores; sustainable food systems and food cooperatives; homeless shelters.	Advocacy, participation in a community organization, observing a group class, individual and group nutrition counseling and education, community outreach, community needs assessment, and client education material development.
560 h Clinical nutrition	Hospitals; post-acute care; long-term care; skilled nursing facilities; extended care; rehabilitation facilities; clinics; private practice.	Billing and coding MNT, staff relief, and the MNT concentration in nutrition support. Quality management, written case report, ethics case study, clinical skills demonstration, professional development portfolio, role play and mentoring exercise, performing the nutrition care process, nutrition focused physical exam, oral case report, and informatics.
40 h Research / medical library	All interns should have the core experiences that prepare them to properly interpret research literature and apply it to practice, document the value of their services, and contribute to the body of scientific knowledge on nutrition, health and wellness. The ultimate purpose of dietetics research is to improve patient care and outcomes by collecting, evaluating and analyzing data from different nutrition interventions, and to provide a foundation for evidence-based dietetics practice. Interns have two options to complete this program requirement: (1) write up your research study, or (2) write a narrative review (literature review) based on the scientific literature.	
80 h Elective	The program requirement for the elective is 80 hours. Interns complete a minimum of 3 competencies in the specialty area of their choice. The choices for the elective are consistent with the practice areas listed on the current version of the Academy membership application.	

Questions about scheduling go to the internship coordinator, elissa@nidip.org, or the program director, matt@nidip.org · (951) 849-5150