

Dietetics Application Instructions

The Dietetics Specialization within the Nutrition major is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) and meets the first requirement for becoming a registered dietitian. The Dietetics Specialization is a Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD), which means through academic coursework and activities you will receive specialized knowledge and training targeted towards a career as a registered dietitian. Graduation from an undergraduate DPD will allow you to apply to ACEND accredited dietetics master's programs and/or to an ACEND accredited internship. Both a master's degree and supervised practice (included in some master's programs or achieved through an internship) are required to become a registered dietitian.

Who should apply?

Only apply if you have completed or will complete requirements listed below prior to Fall 2026 and have not taken any 3000 level nutrition courses. *If you have completed the below requirements but have less than 3 semesters until graduation, contact your advisor for further direction before applying.* If you have taken any 3000 level nutrition courses, you may be required to complete extra work to meet accreditation requirements, but may still apply to the program. If your grade in NTR 2700, NTR 2750, any 3000 or 4000 level nutrition course is less than a C, you will need to retake that course. Please contact the program director Dr. Amanda Lynch to discuss further.

Admission Requirements

Admission into the Specialization is competitive. Applicants must have completed the prerequisite courses (see below) and have earned a B- or higher in NTR 2500. There is no minimum GPA required to apply; however, *competitive* applicants will have a GPA of a 2.0 or higher in all science classes and a cumulative GPA of 2.8 or higher.

The following courses **MUST BE COMPLETED** prior to the start of the Fall 2025 semester. Courses included in the science requirements are marked with an *. Courses taken at institutions other than OU must be direct transfers or receive Program Director approval. Accepted applicants who do not successfully complete these courses will be deferred until the next application cycle.

BIO 1200 - Biology I *
BIO 2006 - Clinical Anatomy and Physiology * or BIO 2600 AND BIO 3621
CHM 1440 - General Chemistry I *
CHM 1450 - General Chemistry II *
CHM 1470 - General Chemistry Laboratory I *
CHM 1480 - General Chemistry Laboratory II*
CHM 2340 - Organic Chemistry I *
EHS 2550 - Basic Statistics for Health Sciences or STA 2220

HS 2000 - Introduction to Health and Health Behaviors *
 NTR 1000 - Careers in Nutrition
 NTR 2500 - Human Nutrition and Health *
 NTR 2650 - Nutrition Assessment Methods
 NTR 2651 - Nutrition Assessment Methods Laboratory
 WRT 1060 - Composition II (4)

To ensure timely program completion, it is recommended that students have also completed:
 CDS 3300 - Microbiology of Infectious Diseases OR BIO 3500 OR BIO 3520
 PH 3000 Introduction to Public Health
 HS 3500 Health Behavior Theories

Instructions

Applications must be typed. Only MS Word documents or Adobe pdf file formats will be accepted. These must be submitted via OU forms (see Submission Instructions below) by 11:59 pm March 15, 2026. *Late applications will be considered only if there are still spaces in the program.* Oakland's Dietetics Specialization has been accredited for a maximum of 20 students.

Documents Required for Submission - All documents must be in MS Word or PDF

- Completed application (with personal statement) - Download this form and complete
- Degree Works Progress to Degree
- Resume

Submit application and required documents through Perfect forms:

1. Go to: <https://www.oakland.edu/uts/efficient-processes-forms/forms/>
2. Scroll down to "D" and click on the Dietetics Specialization Application form.
3. Complete the information and attach your documents
4. When ready to submit, route the form to **dietetics@oakland.edu**

Application Overview. The entire application will be reviewed. While grades in courses are an important factor in admissions decisions, students' applications will be evaluated for evidence of and authentic voice, passion and understanding for the profession and relevant experiences within the field of nutrition. Spelling, grammar, presentation, and formatting will be considered as evidence of organization and attention to detail, so students should be sure the documents are error free and clearly formatted.

Your application must include the following (all documents must be in MS Word or PDF)

1. Completed application (with personal statement) - [OU Dietetics Specialization Application](#) Download this form and complete
2. Degree Works Progress to Degree
3. Resume (limit to one page)

Incomplete Application Packets will be returned to students. This may delay or prevent your application from being considered. Double check that your application packet is complete.

The following pages will provide you with an overview of the whole application and specific instructions for the personal statement and resume. Please download the application

Part 1 Student Information

Name (First, Middle Initial, Last):

Current Address:

Phone number:

OU email address:

G Number:

Gender ☐ Female ☐ Male ☐ Nonbinary ☐ Choose not to answer

Race (select all that apply)

☐ White ☐ Black or African American ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native

Asian ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ☐ Other

☐ Choose not to answer

Ethnicity (select one, optional)

☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino ☐ Choose not to answer

Part 2 Courses and GPA

Complete the following table of courses, including the semester and year for each course taken, and letter grade. If a course is in progress or will be taken over the summer, you will need to submit evidence of completion. Acceptance is conditional upon completion of all prerequisites.

Required Science Courses					
Course (or equivalent)	Credits	Semester	Year	Grade ¹	If non-OU course, indicate course name, Number, and location
NTRXXX	3	Fall	2022	A	Nutrition for beginners, NT 1000; Oakland Community College

Required Science Courses					
Course (or equivalent)	Credits	Semester	Year	Grade ¹	If non-OU course, indicate course name, Number, and location
BIO 1200					
BIO 2006					
BIO 2600 ²					
BIO 3621 ²					
CHM 1440					
CHM 1450					
CHM 1470					
CHM 1480					
CHM 2340					
¹ -Indicate in progress (IP) or in summer as appropriate ² -Write N/A if you took BIO 2006 (or N/A for BIO 2006 if you took BIO 2600 & 3621)					

Other Pre-requisite Courses					
Course (or equivalent)	Credits	Semester	Year	Grade	If non-OU course, indicate course name, Number and location
HS 2000					
NTR 2500 ³					
NTR 2650					
NTR 2651					
WRT 1060					
³ Must be a B- or higher					

Applicants must include a Progress to Degree document (through Degree Works, accessible through MySail) with their application to document courses taken and in progress. If any prerequisite courses were taken at another institution, you may need to provide your transcript, if Degree Works does not indicate the grade. Please meet with your SHS adviser to review your courses or if you need help downloading a Progress to Degree document. *Students accepted into the Dietetics Specialization MUST update their catalog year to the semester and*

year they matriculate into the specialization. This ensures students are following the current, approved curricula for this accredited program. Please note, this may change required courses for the program, including non-nutrition course requirements so please meet with your advisor.

Optional

If you feel you need to explain any grades, withdrawals, or incompletes on your transcripts and degree audit, you will have an opportunity here. Please limit your explanation to 1/2 page, double spaced.

Part 3 Personal Statement

Personal statements should reflect 1) specific strengths or experiences that make you a good candidate for the specialization, 2) interest and/or experience in the field of dietetics and nutrition, 3) post-graduation plans or goals related to career or employment in the field of dietetics, and 4) what you hope to contribute to the profession.

As you craft your narrative, include actions, examples, or stories, not just adjectives to let us know more about you as an individual. We want to hear your authentic voice and strongly suggest against using AI in writing; you are not assessed on “professionalism but rather that you have put thought into why you want to go into this profession, where your interests are right now and what you think you want to focus on in your career. Be specific and genuine.

We do want to read a well-written narrative! Please proofread for grammar, spelling, and organization. This is a reflection of your attention to detail and academic aptitude. Consider showing personal statements to others for feedback or contact the Writing Center for individualized assistance.

The Pre-professional Advising Website has information on preparing personal statements which you may find useful: <https://oakland.edu/pre-professional/application-preparation/>

Writing and File Formats

Personal statements must be typed into the application. They must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Maximum one page, double spaced
- 1 inch margins
- Typed using 11 or 12 point font (Arial, Times New Roman, or Calibri)

Part 4 Resume

Students must submit a 1-page resume as an MS Word or pdf document. References ARE NOT NECESSARY. While there are many ways to organize and format a resume, in general, you should include sections that highlight your educational background, work and/or volunteer experiences, other activities (e.g. sports teams), and relevant skills.

For assistance in developing or tailoring your resume, consider making an appointment with Career Services or looking at their resources on Handshake:

<https://www.oakland.edu/careerservices/>

What happens next?

Applicants will be notified in early April with a decision via e-mail. ***E-mails will only be sent to a student's Oakland University email address.*** Please be sure to check email regularly.

Students will need to acknowledge their acceptance into the program and their desire to matriculate into the Specialization. Upon acceptance into the program, SHS advising will be notified of the decision. Students are encouraged to contact their advisor to make sure their course schedule for 2026-2027 is in alignment with the current degree plan to ensure a timely graduation. A suggested 2-year course plan will be included in the acceptance letter.

Upon confirmation of acceptance into the specialization, students will be provided with a student handbook. They will also be automatically enrolled in NTR 3100: Dietetics Seminar. This is a required, 1 credit course that meets in person 12-1pm on Thursdays in the Fall. There will be an orientation to the program on the first day of class in NTR 3100. **Dietetics Specialization students must attend this first day of NTR 3100.**

Graduation Requirements

Once accepted into the Dietetics Specialization, students must change their catalog year to reflect the year they matriculate into the specialization. Please be aware, this MAY CHANGE graduation requirements, so please check with your advisor.

A DPD Verification Statement will be required by internships, some graduate programs, and the Commission on Dietetics Registration. To receive a DPD verification statement, students must meet all graduation requirements for Oakland University and program specific criteria:

1. Earn a C or higher in ALL Nutrition courses in the Dietetics Specialization
2. Demonstrate they have met the Knowledge Requirements required for the program
3. Earn a B- or higher in NTR 4600 Community Nutrition Practicum
4. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher
5. Participate in a minimum of 20 hours of nutrition-focused community service

If graduation requirements are not met for the dietetics specialization, a Nutrition BS degree will be achievable through standard graduation requirements. However, the Nutrition degree may not be acceptable to meet requirements to become a Registered Dietitian.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the program director, Dr. Amanda Lynch, lynch3@oakland.edu.