

Dietetic Internship

Community Rotation Requirements

COMMUNITY & CONCENTRATION ROTATION LENGTH

Interns will cycle through the following community rotations:

- Community 1 (5 weeks)
- Community 2 (5 weeks)
- Concentration Rotation (5 weeks- typically return to Community 1 site)

Intern schedules vary depending on track/ master's course schedule. Interns will communicate the rotation dates to the preceptor at the time of rotation request. Specific rotation dates can be found on the DI Calendar on the CCC DI website.

TYPICAL SCHEDULES

The intern is expected to complete 32-40 hours per week at the supervised practice site. The intern will complete any onsite experiences with a schedule determined by the preceptor. It is possible that some rotations and facilities will require early morning, late evening, and potential weekend shifts. The preceptor should provide adequate notice regarding expectations for the schedule.

Interns will have a bi-weekly mandatory class day with the program. This is currently scheduled on Wednesdays but is subject to changes based on guest speaker availability.

FACILITIES

The community rotation must be completed at **two different facilities** where the delivery of nutrition/health education and nutrition/health services occurs. At least one facility must provide an opportunity for the intern to counsel patients. For additional details, refer to the Learning Requirements below.

Examples of facilities appropriate to the community rotation include:

- Local Health Bureaus
- Cooperative Extension Offices
- Outpatient Nutrition Facilities or Clinics
- Wellness Centers/Programs
- Grocery Stores
- Senior Centers
- Dialysis Centers
- WIC
- Private Practice RDs
- Food Banks

PRECEPTORS

Interns can work with multiple facilities with a variety of preceptors during the community rotation. At least one of the sites that an intern works with during the community rotation must have a Registered Dietitian as their preceptor. If the intern is working with a non-RD for a portion of the rotation, s/he should hold a position related to the delivery of nutrition services to the public.

LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

Interns must complete *all* activities listed below, but some activities will only be completed at one of the two community sites. It is the intern's responsibility to ensure they have achieved all activities across their two

community rotation sites. The rotation should progress from basic to more complex activities. By the end of the Concentration rotation, interns should function at entry-level competence with minimal supervision.

- Screen individuals for nutrition risk.
- Observe then provide individual nutrition counseling/education to clients under preceptor supervision.
- Document client counseling/education per facility guidelines.
- Contribute to new and existing projects at the community site(s) as a team member.
- Design, implement, and evaluate nutrition presentations or classes to a variety of populations.
- Develop education material for use at the community site.
- Develop and/or modify recipes appropriate for the population at the community site.

The following experiences need to be accomplished at the facility where the Concentration rotation is completed.

- Discuss and review the budgeting process with the preceptor.
- Participate in nutrition interventions that target public health issues among diverse populations.
- Assume responsibilities of a team member in community/ public health related activities.
- Implement the Wellness Project (see description below).

WELLNESS PROJECT

The purpose of this project is to develop a project that can be planned during the **Community** rotation and then implemented during the **Concentration** rotation. The wellness project must add or enhance a significant aspect of the program or services provided at the facility. The program, product, or service should promote consumer health, wellness, or lifestyle management to meet the needs of the population served. This project should allow for development of a resource that can continue to be utilized after an intern leaves the site.

Examples of ideas for wellness projects include:

- Develop an educational program or nutrition presentation series
- Create a new component to an employee wellness program (or a new employee wellness initiative)
- Develop web-based material content
- Design a social media campaign
- Create a comprehensive cookbook for the needs of the site's clients
- Develop a cooking demonstration (education) series
- Set up a food pantry and procedures/campaign
- Organize an event such as a *large* health fair or education event [Must have substantial content compared to a single presentation]

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEEKS

Professional development weeks are built into the rotation schedule at the end of each rotation block. Students will engage in Professional Development activities with Cedar Crest College but will also spend time at their sites. Please be aware that their schedules may vary during these weeks. The interns will communicate their schedules to the preceptors well in advance of professional development weeks.

PRECEPTOR TRAINING

The DI program will provide virtual preceptor training for all incoming and returning preceptors prior to the start of each rotation. Meeting links will be emailed to all preceptors prior to the rotation start.