



London Health Sciences Centre

Dietetic Internship Program 2019-20

Caring for You. Innovating for the World®

“The dietetic internship program at LHSC is enriching in so many ways! The program has supported my development into a confident, well-rounded and knowledgeable professional who has the necessary skills to succeed in the workplace. The LHSC dietetic internship offers interesting placement opportunities with a brilliant group of preceptors to support your learning along the way.” Program Graduate

The London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC) offers a comprehensive Dietetic Internship Program to eight students. Dietetic interns will have an opportunity to practice dietetics in the most current clinical and food services environment.

Our Program offers many interesting and challenging opportunities for professional and personal growth, in an innovative and supportive learning environment. Interns will be active participants in this learning journey!



Victoria Hospital Site

Dedicated to excellence in patient care, teaching, and research, LHSC has a capacity of 1087 beds, 36 bassinets and includes the Children’s Hospital of Western Ontario as well as two community-based Family Medical Centres. Our affiliation with Western University and other schools supports education and research in an interprofessional environment.

LHSC is one of Canada’s largest multi-site teaching hospitals. Visit <http://www.lhsc.on.ca/> for additional information about our organization. As part of our healthy workplace focus, interns will have access to our onsite fitness program.

Internship Program

Our program offers experiences to support eight interns to develop competence in Professional Practice, Communication and Collaboration, Nutrition Care, Population and Public Health and Management consistent with *The Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice (ICDEP)*. This dietetic education program is accredited under the **Partnership for Dietetic Education and Practice (PDEP)** and prepares students for eligibility for registration with a provincial dietetics regulatory body.



University Hospital Site

The Dietetic Internship Program is **forty-four weeks** in length, beginning in October, and finishing in August of the following year. At times, an extension of the program may be required to allow individual interns to complete the required competencies.

Clinical Nutrition

Clinical Nutrition at LHSC is committed to high quality education and research. Clinical dietitians are respected members of inter-professional health care teams. The dietitians are recognized for their expertise in nutritional assessments and developing individualized nutrition care plans in both inpatient and outpatient settings. Clinical placements will provide opportunities to work with diverse populations across the lifecycle. Our community partners support dietetic intern training in specialized clinical areas including Diabetes and Long Term Care.

Examples of clinical placements opportunities include:

<i>Cancer Care</i>	<i>Children's Care</i>	<i>Clinical Neuroscience</i>	<i>Critical Care</i>
<i>Eating Disorders</i>	<i>Family Health Care</i>	<i>Long Term Care</i>	<i>Medicine</i>
<i>Mental Health</i>	<i>Renal Care</i>	<i>Surgical Care</i>	<i>Women's Care</i>

Patient Food Services/Management

Food Services leadership (administrative dietitians, coordinators) manage the Patient Food Services rotations, which offer experiences in:

- Food procurement, food handling and related audits,
- Personnel management and scheduling,
- Budget planning, project management,
- CBORD systems to manage food service operations (i.e. purchasing/inventory, costing),
- CBORD systems diet office automation (i.e. diet/food compliance, menus, tray tickets),
- Legislated and mandatory staff training and practices.

This rotation provides opportunities for the interns to engage in departmental project work requiring critical thinking and analysis to address current issues. Food Services Administration rotations may be at LHSC or at St. Joseph's Health Centre (SJHC), where a combination of different food services systems are utilized.

Health Promotion/Community Nutrition

The achievement of health promotion competencies is supported by community partners in Public Health Units/Community Health Centres and industry. We are not able to guarantee a health promotion/community placement in London.

Research

Interns will develop research skills through formal and informal education opportunities and complete a research project during their program. The interns will select research projects led by LHSC dietitians; we have also supported development of evidence pathways for PEN®

"I never imagined that I'd build such genuine relationships with others that share a common passion. As I walk into my career as a dietitian, I feel confident, capable and reassured, knowing that I'll always have the support from my incredible colleagues, preceptors, and mentors." Program Graduate

"Since LHSC is a teaching hospital, the patients were accepting of me as an intern involved in their care and the staff were patient and supportive as I developed my skills." Program Graduate

Internship Outline

Orientation	2 Weeks
Food Services Administration/Management • Patient Food Services	7 Weeks
Clinical Nutrition • Diabetes • Interns will complete four week rotations in 4 of the following areas: Cancer Care, Children’s Care, Clinical Neurosciences, Critical Care, Eating Disorders, Family Health Care, Long Term Care, Medicine, Mental Health, Renal Care, Surgical Care and Women’s Care. Refer to LHSC programs http://www.lhsc.on.ca/About_Us/LHSC/Programs_Services/index.htm	4 Weeks 16 Weeks
Health Promotion/Community Nutrition: • Public Health Units/Community Health Centres or Industry	6 Weeks
Research (time is spread across program in 1 week units)	4 Weeks
Supervised Staff Relief	3 Weeks
Class Days (built into the program)	
Vacation	2 Weeks
TOTAL	44 Weeks

Schedule

Interns will be on-site an average of 37.5 hours per week. There may be some weekend hours and schedules will vary according to the area in which the intern is placed. Interns will be expected to complete readings and some assignments outside of placement hours. Regular attendance is expected, it may be necessary to make up absences.

Accommodation and Travel

Interns are responsible for securing their own accommodation. Placements will take place at different locations throughout London and travel within London is required. Population health placements may require relocation to another community for a 6 week duration and may require access to a vehicle. The intern will need to arrange accommodation and will be responsible for all transportation and accommodation costs.

Learn more about London, Ontario at <http://www.london.ca/>

Fees

- Application fee \$25 submitted through the Dietitians of Canada internship Program Match.
- Tuition Fee (paid by those selected - due when the program begins) - \$3500
- Parking - \$60.00 per month plus \$20 deposit. Incidental costs - \$75.00 (approx.)
- Professional Development Days - \$125.00 (approx.)
- Student Membership in Dietitians of Canada (DC) is required
- Liability and Accident Insurance: Interns are required to carry DC Liability Insurance and Accident Insurance.

“LHSC provides a comprehensive program with a strong clinical focus. There are many supports to assist interns throughout the year including preceptors, the program coordinator, mentors, fellow interns and other staff. The wide range of rotations helps to develop confidence, independence and a strong foundation for a career as a dietitian.” Program Graduate

Applying for Internship

Applications will be managed through the Dietitians of Canada (DC) internship Program Match process. Complete instructions regarding the application process, timelines and \$25 application fee submission will be provided through DC. Additional information about our program will be available during the DC webinar events and on our website

http://www.lhsc.on.ca/Research_Training/Clinical_Nutrition/Training.htm

Academic Performance: Strong academic standing with minimum 75% average during the last 2 years of undergraduate education (10 full time course equivalents).

A bachelor’s degree is required with a Dietitians of Canada recognized curriculum. Course selection must be in accordance with DC requirements for the comprehensive program. This must be verified by an official transcript prior to admission to the program. All course work must be completed in advance of the internship start date.

Selection Process 2019-20 Class

Application packages will be reviewed with consideration given to academic performance, experience (work/volunteer) and references. A short-list of applicants will be invited to participate in a multi-mini interview process. Selected candidates will be ranked and the results will be submitted to Dietitians of Canada. Notification of acceptance will be managed by Dietitians of Canada.

Additional Information may be obtained by contacting:
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