



**Utah State
University**



DIETETIC INTERNSHIP

Utah State University – Morrison MSDI Program

Advance Your Career with a Combined Master’s Degree and Dietetic Internship

Offered Jointly by Utah State University (USU) and Morrison Healthcare Dietetic Internship

A combined master’s degree and dietetic internship is now offered jointly with Utah State University (USU) and Morrison Healthcare Dietetic Internship. Students in this program are simultaneously enrolled in and complete all the requirements for a clinically focused dietetic internship with Morrison Healthcare while pursuing their graduate degree online through USU. The master’s program at USU is a degree focusing on leadership and management, providing value added to your clinical supervised practice experience. Students will earn a Master’s in Dietetics Administration (MDA). Students who successfully complete the internship and the graduate program will be awarded a verification statement from MHC, making them eligible to sit for the Registered Dietitian (RD) Exam. Students will be awarded 9 graduate credits toward their master’s degree for completing their internship with Morrison Healthcare.

Program Format

This flexible online program is designed for busy and motivated graduate students. Fully asynchronous coursework allows you to balance academic demands with your internship rotations.

Total Graduate Credits: 30

Year 1

- Summer 1: Begin with 2-3 fully online graduate courses (4-7 credits).
- Fall 1: Complete two online courses (6 credits) while beginning supervised internship rotations with Morrison Healthcare.

Year 2

- Spring 2: Continue your internship rotations while taking two online courses (6 credits).
- Summer 2: Conclude your MDA coursework with 1-3 online courses based on your previous course schedule. (6-9 credits).

Upon completion in August of Year 2, students graduate from USU with the Master of Dietetics Administration (MDA) and receive their verification statement.

Internship rotations are arranged through Morrison Healthcare and are available at sites across the United States, offering flexibility and diverse clinical experiences.

USU MDA Semester	Summer 1 (May-Aug)	Fall 1 (Aug-Dec)	Spring 1 (Jan-May)	Summer 2 (May-Aug)
USU Credit Hours	4-7 credits *	6 credits	6 credits	6-9
USU MDA Courses (9 credits of graduate credit will be awarded for completing internship experience.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDFS 6450 Dietetics Career Essentials • NDFS 6580 Application of Research Principles in Dietetics • NDFS 6570 Communication Techniques in Dietetics <i>*Credits in summer based on student preference.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDFS 6770 Dietetics Leadership and Management I AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDFS 6800 Motivational Interviewing OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDFS 6320 Advanced Sports Nutrition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDFS 6780 Dietetics Leadership and Management II AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDFS 6470 Global Public Health OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDFS 6210 Advanced Public Health Nutrition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDFS 6980 MDA Master’s Project • NDFS 6580 Application of Research Principles in Dietetics • NDFS 6570 Communication Techniques in Dietetics <i>*Credits in summer are based on student preference and the first summer course completion.</i>
MHC Internship		Start MHC Internship (4 days a week) while continuing with the degree	Continue from MHC Internship (4 days a week)	MHC-UA students will receive their verification statement upon completion of their MS degree



Utah State
University

morrison
healthcare
DIETETIC INTERNSHIP



USU Admissions Requirements:

- No GRE requirement
- Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Completion of an undergraduate DPD program with a verification statement issued.
- Application deadline for Summer 2025: **March 1, 2026**
- Complete online application for Summer 2026 and submit the following application elements:
<https://graduate.ua.edu/prospective-students/apply-now/>
 - Application fee payment
 - Statement of purpose
 - Unofficial transcripts
 - Official copies would be required upon acceptance
 - 3 letters of recommendation
 - Please let individuals know that you will need these letters in addition to those submitted to DICAS.
 - Language scores* (non-native English speakers)
 - Select the Summer/Fall Term

Tuition:

USU MDA Tuition: Utah State University offers competitive graduate tuition, and out-of-state fees are waived for distance learners. The cost is \$535 per graduate credit hour, totaling approximately \$11,200 for the required coursework (plus any applicable college or course-specific fees). Students also receive 9 graduate credits for their internship experience at no tuition cost. A \$50 per-credit review fee applies to these awarded credits, totaling \$450. Tuition is due on a semester-by-semester basis. Deposit to hold spot: \$500, which will be applied to the first semester tuition.

Morrison Healthcare Dietetic Internship Tuition: Deposit to hold spot: \$2500, paid on acceptance into the MSFCS program; remainder tuition fee of \$8356, paid prior to rotations beginning in the second fall.

If you are interested in the USU MDA, please contact Lacie Peterson, the program director, prior to applying.

Contact Information:

Lacie Peterson, PhD, RDN

lacie.peterson@usu.edu

435-797-4244

Program Director, USU Master of Dietetics Administration

Sunitha Zechariah, PhD, RDN, LD, CNSC, FAND

sunithazechariah@iammorrison.com

706-372-4917

Program Director, MHC Dietetic Internship