

# Becoming a Dietitian (RDN)

A registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN, also known as an RD) is a food and nutrition specialist who has completed specific requirements set forth by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND).

These three steps are essential.

1. Complete an ACEND accredited didactic program in dietetics to receive a Bachelor of Science degree and verification statement of completion of specific courses, required to apply to a supervised practice program.
2. Complete an ACEND accredited supervised practice program, which includes a minimum of 1200 hours of supervised practice; many include a pathway for a master's degree. Application to a supervised practice program is a separate process completed in the senior year. A special course, NUTR 497, Dietetic Internship Seminar, helps students navigate and prepare their supervised practice application.

— 100% OF APPLICANTS OVER PAST FIVE YEARS HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO SUPERVISED PRACTICE WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF GRADUATING.

3. Pass the National examination for Dietitian Nutritionists and continue to maintain competency by participating in 75 hours of professional development activities in a 5-year period. Starting in 2024, eligibility to sit for the National Registration Exam for Dietitian Nutritionists will require completion of a master's degree.

— THE RIT PROGRAMS RANKS IN THE 88<sup>TH</sup> PERCENTIL OF ALL DPDs FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> TIME PASS RATE OVER THE PAST 5 YEARS.



The Dietetics & Nutrition curriculum has been granted accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition & Dietetics (ACEND), a division of the Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics, 120 Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606-6995; 312-899-0040 ext 5400. RIT has had an accredited program training RDNs for over 100 years. The program has full re-accreditation through June 2023.

[www.rit.edu/dieteticsnutrition](http://www.rit.edu/dieteticsnutrition)

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

# Why Study Nutrition @ RIT

- 100% of graduates over the past 5 years employed in the field within 6 months of completing dietetic internship.
- RIT partnership with Rochester Regional Health, an integrated healthcare system provides opportunities for student co-op work experiences, practicums, and research.
- Small program size and dedicated faculty ensure individualized attention.
- Historical relationship with RIT's Hospitality Management program emphasizes culinary expertise, management, and leadership training, fostering a unique skill set for the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN).
- Interaction and collaboration with Rochester nutrition and healthcare communities provide students significant experiential learning opportunities in upper division courses.
- Curriculum equally emphasizes clinical nutrition, community nutrition, and food management preparing students for diverse employment opportunities.
- Strong undergraduate research component – each student completes two individual and one group research project with frequent dissemination of student research at the New York State Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics annual meeting.
- Requirement of co-op work experiences in food and nutrition supported by RIT's Office of Career Services and Cooperative Education.
- State-of-the-art facility provides significant opportunities for interdisciplinary experiences with other healthcare programs and “real world” experience for students via actual health clinics and a simulation laboratory.
- Originating in 1892 with a significant history in RIT.

## RIT

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Health Sciences  
and Technology

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Nutrition**



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