

USU Dietetics Programs

CPD vs. DPD: Which one works best for me?

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	CPD	DPD
Commonalities between CPD and DPD:	<p>Both programs result in a BS in Nutrition Dietetics and Food Sciences in preparation towards becoming Registered Dietitian who can work in any area of practice.</p> <p>Both programs have the same application process/criteria for acceptance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-requisite coursework (completed with a C- or better) plus a GPA of 3.0 or higher • 200 hours of dietetics-related experience completed • Demonstrated excellent communication skills (oral and written) and math skills <p>Both programs require students to be self-motivated, active learners who can work independently as well as in teams</p> <p>Both programs are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics and are both recognized for consistent near-100% first-attempt pass rates on the national registration exam (average first-attempt pass rate nationwide is ~85%).</p> <p>Graduates from both programs have excellent job placement and/or acceptance into graduate school.</p>	
Supervised Practice	<p>1200 hours of supervised practice are required prior to taking the Registration Examination required to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist. Supervised practice must provide experiences in clinical nutrition, foodservice management, and community nutrition, regardless of a program's emphasis.</p>	
Differences between CPD and DPD	<p>1200 hours of supervised are incorporated into the CPD program and required for the bachelor's degree. Graduates of the CPD are able to take the examination for becoming a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist.</p>	<p>Supervised practice is NOT part of the DPD program and/or completion of the bachelor's degree. Graduates of the DPD must complete 1200 hours of supervised practice in an accredited Dietetics Internship to be eligible to take the Registration Examination for becoming a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist.</p>
Primary decision in choosing CPD vs. DPD is related to TIMING of Supervised Practice:	<p>Supervised practice is completed during junior and senior years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 hours/week junior year • 32 hours/week fall semester senior year (fall rotations during senior year are in Salt Lake City/Ogden so students must re-locate) • 16-20 hours/week spring semester senior year 	<p>No supervised practice experiences occur within the degree program. Supervised practice is completed during a Dietetic Internship following graduation.</p> <p>Therefore, DPD students must complete a Dietetic Internship</p>

	<p>Therefore, CPD students are ready to take the Registration Exam immediately following graduation.</p> <p>Due to the time-intensive nature of the concurrent supervised practice hours, it is recommended that students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work fewer than 10 hours/week • must not pursue a minor/certificate or take additional coursework • not participate in high-level athletics or extracurricular activities. Life circumstances or health concerns that limit time and energy make the CPD extremely challenging. <p>The supervised practice rotations are required and are standardized with limited flexibility in times/locations. Make-up experiences for missed rotations cannot be guaranteed.</p>	<p>following graduation prior to taking the Registration Exam.</p> <p>Since supervised practice rotations are not included in the DPD, this program is more adaptable to the schedules of students who have significant extracurricular demands on their time such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • employed 10+ hours per week • pursuit of a minor/certificate or taking additional coursework, • involvement in high-level athletics • inflexible and exacting schedules due to demands of family, health, or work
<p>Program Emphases:</p>	<p>The emphasis of the CPD is Lifespan Nutrition. Students work with persons of all ages in a variety of settings.</p> <p>Rotations providing 1200 hours of supervised practice include:</p> <p>50-60%: Clinical facilities: (IHC Hospitals, Primary Children’s Hospital, U of U Hospital, etc.) Many facilities are “high acuity” and care for critically ill/complex patients needing high-end medical care.</p> <p>40-50%: Community and Foodservice facilities (WIC, long term care centers, health departments, etc.)</p>	<p>The DPD prepares students to complete Dietetic Internships of their choice after graduation. Internships are located nationwide and have a variety of program emphases including but not limited to: <i>Clinical Nutrition, Community and Public Health Nutrition, Health Promotion, Medical Nutrition Therapy, Food Systems Management, Child Nutrition Programs, Research, Wellness, Advocacy and Public Policy, Adult Acute Care, Pediatrics.</i></p> <p>USU DPD has a pre-select agreement with USU’s Dietetic Internship. This allows USU DPD students to apply early for the internship and enjoy a much higher acceptance rate than the national average of 50%. This internship’s area of emphasis is Child Nutrition Programs and School Foodservice System Management. It is a distance program so supervised practice rotations can be completed in the location of choice.</p>
<p>Supervised Practice Costs:</p>	<p>Supervised practice during junior/senior years = \$6500 in course fees for required labs</p>	<p>Supervised practice (during Dietetic Internships): Average costs = \$9000 and up; average duration 9-12 months. Some internships are paid</p>

	<p>NOTE: CPD requires additional lab courses (29 credits) that provide the Supervised Practice, but additional costs are usually minimal through the tiered tuition fee schedule.</p> <p>NOTE: Students may not be paid for supervised practice hours.</p>	<p>(such as VA internships) but this is rare.</p> <p>NOTE: Most internships require students to complete dietetics-related experience hours in preparation for the internship application process. Requirements vary among internships and can be up to 1040 hours. The 200 hours required for acceptance into USU's DPD program can be counted towards those hours, and the additional hours can come from approved elective coursework, volunteer experiences, or paid work experiences.</p>
Program Maximum Enrollment:	12 students per year	18 students per year
Other Requirements:	Immunizations current and background check required prior to junior year supervised practice.	Not required until internship
Graduate Studies:	Beginning 2016, CPD seniors can split up to 9 credits taken during their BS degree to count towards earning an MS degree.	<p>Some internships also provide simultaneous graduate degrees, such as University of Utah.</p> <p>The USU Dietetic Internship allows graduates to apply 26 credit hours toward USU's Master of Dietetic Administration degree, requiring only an additional 15-18 credits.</p>