

***Dietetics Program Questions & Answers***  
**What type of dietetics program does Olivet offer?**

**Why should I choose Olivet's DPD?**

Highlights of Olivet's dietetic program:

- A Christian perspective is integrated into the dietetics curriculum.
- Program size allow for personal attention from professors.
- Food and nutrition instructors are Registered Dietitians who have experience in the field.
- Preparation for food and nutrition careers occur through 125 practicum hours
- Technology – students use up-to-date software and equipment during the program.
- The program is located near multiple facilities where registered dietitians work, including Olivet DPD graduates.
- Registered Dietitian: Registration Examination for Dietitians, January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2018, 20 out of 23
  - 86.96% first time pass rate
- ACEND Summary of Candidate Testing, RD – Didactic Program in Dietetics within the first year
  - 2016 - 100.00%
  - 2017 – 100.00%
  - 2018 – 100.00%

***Mission Statement of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS)***

The FACS department at Olivet Nazarene University offers a diverse set of specialty programs that have the central mission of enhancing human health and well-being, as well as impacting the quality of goods and services in response to human needs across the life cycle. Teaching strategies that integrate Christian principles are targeted to all levels of environmental systems, including individuals, families, and communities alike. The programs offered in the Department focus on professional preparation while

emphasizing the importance of a liberal education in the arts, humanities, and sciences.

***FACS Theme:***

***All for One and One for All***

*As members of God's family, we may have different interests and gifts, but we have the common goal of sharing our faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God. Family and Consumer Sciences at Olivet Nazarene University include six majors that are joined together as one department. Graduates of the department are prepared for Christ-centered service to all types of individuals, families and communities.*

***Mission Statement for Dietetic Program***

It is the mission of the Didactic Program in Dietetics to prepare students to become entry-level dietetics practitioners through the provision of foundational knowledge, skills, and competencies to aid in a successful application process and completion of their selected dietetic internship as well as successful completion of the Registered Dietitian examination. Further, the program strives to provide dietetic students an academic, spiritual, and personal avenue to grow, develop, lead, and encourage one another in their passion for nutrition and health.

# Dietetics at Olivet Nazarene University

## ***Program Information for Prospective Student***

***Family and Consumer Sciences  
Department***

***Olivet Nazarene University***

***One University Avenue***

***Bourbonnais, IL 60914***

***(815) 939-5398***

***<http://www.olivet.edu/academics/dietetics/>***

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***Professor/Program Director***

***[canstrom@olivet.edu](mailto:canstrom@olivet.edu)***

The Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) at Olivet Nazarene University was granted initial Accreditation at the baccalaureate level through The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics is located at 120 South Riverside Drive, Suite 2190, Chicago, Illinois 60606, (312) 899-0040, ext. 5400. [www.eatright.org/acend](http://www.eatright.org/acend). The program is reviewed and monitored by ACEND for assurance of quality dietetics education. The DPD program at Olivet Nazarene University completed the Self-study document and submitted January 3rd, 2018. The program hosted the reviewers for the accreditation site visit March 17th – 20th, 2018. A letter was received February 8, 2019 from the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) that during it January 23-25, 2019 meeting, the ACEND Board voted to continue full

accreditation of our program for a term of seven years ending June 30, 2026. Accreditation is granted for a Didactic Program in Dietetics at the baccalaureate level for a maximum enrollment of 12 third- and 12 fourth-year students.

### ***Goals of the Dietetics Program at Olivet***

**Program Goal I:** The DPD shall prepare students to be competent in various stages of career readiness culminating with the successful completion of an ACEND accredited SPP and the Registration Examination.

**Program Goal II:** The program will provide a framework in which students can reflect a comprehensive understanding of the dietetic profession and means by which they can become contributing members of society.

For outcomes data on program objectives or general information about the program go to <https://www.olivet.edu/dietetics>

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### **Am I a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) when I graduate with a dietetics degree from Olivet?**

Becoming a RDN is a three step process:

- First, students complete the DPD and receive a Verification Statement. The Verification Statement is provided by the DPD Director upon proof of program completion, including graduation with a BS or BA in Dietetics. The Olivet graduation requirements for dietetics, which are the same for obtaining the Verification Statement from Olivet, are stated in the Student Manual

[https://www.olivet.edu/sites/default/files/pdf/Student%20Dietetic%20Manual%202019\\_2020.pdf](https://www.olivet.edu/sites/default/files/pdf/Student%20Dietetic%20Manual%202019_2020.pdf)

Students must also complete the internship application process and participate in a match to be accepted into the SPP.

Acceptance into this step is competitive. Grade point average, work experience and leadership qualities are considered. This process is covered extensively in FACS 490 Senior Seminar in Dietetics.

<https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/students-and-advancing-education/dietetic-internship-match-students>

- Second, students must complete a SPP after completion of the DPD requirements. *The DPD Program faculty continues to stay in touch and offer assistance as needed.*
- Third, upon completion of the SPP, the student must take and pass the Registration Exam for Dietitians given by the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR). *At this step, the RDN credential is earned. See DI director & state regulatory agency for further licensure details.*

#### **Can I transfer into Olivet's DPD?**

Courses can be evaluated by the Registrar's office for possible credit toward the DPD. Credit hours, content and recency are considered on an individual basis. Food, nutrition and science courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher, and should not be older than five years. The University catalog states current transfer requirements.

[http://catalog.olivet.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=282#Admissions\\_Process\\_for\\_Transfer\\_Students](http://catalog.olivet.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=282#Admissions_Process_for_Transfer_Students)

#### **What does it cost to complete Olivet's DPD?**

The university catalog states current tuition/room and board fees.

[http://catalog.olivet.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=312#Room\\_and\\_Board](http://catalog.olivet.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=312#Room_and_Board) In addition, students are responsible for all costs related to books and materials for required courses, a lab coat for field experience and travel to and from field experience sites. A list of requirements and cost for tests and immunizations are listed in the student dietetic manual appendix. Internship and/or graduate school application fees are listed within the Applicant Guide to Supervised Practice made available the fall of each year in FACS 490, Senior Seminar. Any student may request this resource. Membership fees for professional organizations, are the responsibility of the student. Costs are listed in Student Manual.

#### **How do I apply to be a DPD student?**

Olivet's admission policies and procedures are stated in the university catalog. Once accepted into the university, the interested student should declare a major in dietetics. The registrar's office does not differentiate between pre/dietetic majors. Pre-dietetics is considered to be the 1<sup>st</sup> two years of the program.

Once a pre-dietetic student has completed specified academic course work with a GPA of 3.0, and completed a food safety certification they may apply to the Dietetic program to complete the final 2 years of dietetic specific course work.

#### **Do I need a Master's Degree to become an RDN?**

Students who complete an Accredited program in dietetics, an Accredited SPP and successfully pass the RD exam prior to 2024 do not need a Master's to practice. However, following this 2024 deadline, students will need to earn a

Master's degree with the SPP to be eligible to sit for the RDN examination.

**How do I arrange a campus visit?**

Call the Olivet Admissions office (815) 939-5215 and request an appointment with the DPD Director. Revised 3/2019