

FAQs about the M.S. Dietetics at the University of Idaho

Who can apply to the M.S. dietetics program?

Anyone who has completed a bachelor's degree (in any discipline) and has completed the prerequisites:

- Human Anatomy
- Human Physiology
- Chemistry
- Carbon Compounds or Organic Chemistry
- Biochemistry
- Introduction to Microbiology plus Lab
- Introduction to Psychology
- Pre-Calculus Algebra
- Principles of Statistics
- Human Nutrition
- Nutrition in the Lifecycle
- Advanced Nutrition or Macro and Micronutrient Metabolism
- Introductory Foods or Food Sciences with a Lab
- Meal Management or equivalent (this could be taken in the first semester)

Students may be enrolled with up to 15 credits of outstanding prerequisite courses the semester they apply to the program and must demonstrate proof of enrollment in those courses in their application.

Any transfer student without a bachelor's degree will transfer to the University of Idaho and major in food and nutrition for one year before applying for dietetics. During that year, they will take prerequisite courses and additional courses in the food and nutrition curriculum. They will plan to be student U of I for three years. They will graduate with the B.S. in food and nutrition after two years and then graduate with the M.S. in dietetics after the final third year.

Any undergraduate student majoring in food and nutrition who has at least 90 credits and has the prerequisite completed or will complete the prerequisite courses before the dietetics program begins. Undergraduate majoring in food and nutrition would be part of the 3+2. They would graduate with a B.S. in food and nutrition after four years and then graduate with the M.S. in dietetics after the final fifth year.

If I don't have a bachelor's degree in a related field, such as food and nutrition or nutritional sciences, may I still apply?

Yes! If you have completed the prerequisites, you may apply. Students may be enrolled with up to 15 credits of outstanding prerequisite courses the semester they apply to the program and must demonstrate proof of enrollment in those courses in their application.

If I have a degree in food and nutrition from the University of Idaho, but I was not part of the 3+2, may I still apply?

Yes! The first year of M.S. dietetics includes many courses that are part of the last year of the food and nutrition degree. You may have already taken many of the required courses in the curriculum. If you wish to be a full-time student, you will need to find additional courses to take to get to nine credit hours each semester. Your full-time M.S. dietetics degree will take you two academic years and one summer session (between the first and second year).

If I have a degree in an unrelated field, how long will it take to complete the prerequisites?

The time it takes to complete the prerequisite courses varies by individual. Students who have a bachelor's degree in biological science may be able to complete the prerequisites in one year at the U of

I. If you transfer into U of I without any previous biological sciences on your transcript, it will take you up to two and a half years. Work with our professional academic advisor for individual assistance.

Do I have to complete the prerequisite courses at the University of Idaho?

No. You should be able to find all classes at other institutions. If you have a DPD verification statement, you will not need to take meal management at the University of Idaho.

If I want to complete prerequisite courses at another institution, how do I know if they are equivalent to what is offered at the University of Idaho?

See the U of I Transfer Equivalencies [U of I Transfer Equivalencies \(uidaho.edu\)](http://uidaho.edu) If you have questions about a specific course, please don't hesitate to contact our professional academic advisor. A review of the syllabus will be completed.

Does the M.S. dietetics at the University of Idaho require a DPD verification statement as part of the application?

No.

How do I apply to the M.S. dietetics?

If you attend the University of Idaho, you may apply through the University of Idaho College of Graduate Admissions. If you do not attend the University of Idaho, you must apply through DICAS.

What is the deadline to apply to M.S. dietetics?

Apply by Dec. 31 to begin the following fall semester. We have an 18-student cohort that begins in the fall only.

What if I missed the deadline, but I am still interested in beginning the program in the fall?

Please reach out directly to the director of dietetics. If the 18 seats aren't filled, we will accept late applications.

What is the vaccine policy for the M.S. dietetics?

While the University of Idaho does not require students to be vaccinated, vaccines are a requirement of the facilities that we send students to for supervised experiential learning. Before beginning the program in the fall, students must show proof of the following: T-Dap (within last seven years), MMR (two doses or positive titer), Heb B (three or four doses or positive titer), Varicella (two doses or positive titer), Two-Step TB or TB IGRA.

If I complete the 3+2, will I pay undergraduate or graduate tuition during the last year of the BS Food and Nutrition/ first year of the M.S. dietetics?

Once you begin M.S. dietetics, you are considered a graduate student. You will pay graduate tuition. Complete the FAFSA for graduate scholarships and aid. Please note that you will lose previous undergrad financial aid.

How long is the program?

This M.S. dietetics is two academic years plus one early six-week summer session (between year one and year two).

What should I put on my personal statement?

This is **your** personal statement. Graduate admissions has a great resource to get you started writing your statement of purpose [Documental Resources-Graduate Admissions-University of Idaho \(uidaho.edu\)](http://uidaho.edu) Remember that this is a non-thesis degree. You will not be formally conducting research. The purpose of M.S. dietetics is to prepare you for a career as a registered dietitian nutritionist.

If I have already completed many of the courses that are part of the first-year M.S. dietetics curriculum, may I just complete the second-year curriculum and graduate in one year?

No, plan on two academic years and one summer session (between year one and year two).

If I have already completed many of the courses that are part of the first-year curriculum, may I attend part-time for the first year?

Yes, you can attend part-time during the first academic year. You will take Applied Community Nutrition during the first six-week summer session. The second year will be full-time.

What research opportunities are available?

Students can be involved in research for academic credit. They can complete directed study with any of our research faculty.

Is it possible to also complete a thesis?

Yes, if you find a passion for research, we recommend planning an additional academic year as you complete the M.S. nutritional sciences after you have completed the M.S. dietetics curriculum.

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