

VA Nutrition and Food Service

Mission: To provide excellent comprehensive and innovative nutrition and food service programs for our Veterans and stakeholders that are evidence based and support the full continuum of healthcare through interdisciplinary collaboration both within and outside the Veterans Health Administration.

VA Nutrition and Food Service

Vision: To deliver premier level nutrition and food service programs to Veterans and stakeholders, using people centered, results driven and forward looking principles.

The mission of the VA Dietetic internship is to prepare competent entry-level dietetics professionals to become Registered Dietitian Nutritionists committed to evidence-based practice in the care of Veterans and the public.



If you are interested in learning about the SAVAHCS Dietetic Internship, contact:

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VA Mission Statement:

To fulfill President Lincoln's promise, "To care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan" by serving and honoring the men and women who are America's Veterans."

SAVAHCS Dietetic Internship



VA



**U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**

Veterans Health
Administration

Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS)

SAVAHCS

The SAVAHCS Dietetic Internship was granted Candidacy Accreditation by ACEND in May 2022.

What to Expect from the SAVAHCS Internship

- 52 weeks supervised practice rotations
- Concurrent graduate degree from University of Arizona (Professional Science Masters)
- Experienced and motivated preceptors

Supervised Practice Rotations

- Acute Care
- Critical Care/Nutrition Support
- Primary Care / Diabetes
- Oncology
- Renal / Dialysis
- Home Based Primary Care
- Rehab/Wound Care
- Women's Health
- Weight Management
- Health Promotion / Wellness
- Food Service Management
- Pediatrics
- School Food Service
- Evidence Based Practice

Application

1. DICAS Application Form
2. Personal Statement (\leq 1000 words)
 - Why are you interested in the SAVAHCS dietetic internship program?
 - What makes you a good 'fit' for our program?
 - What are your strengths and areas needing improvement?
 - What experiences have helped prepare you for a career in nutrition and dietetics?
 - Why do you want to become an RDN?
 - What are your short and long term goals?
3. Transcripts
4. 3 Letters of Reference
5. DPD Declaration of Intent or Verification Statement
6. One-page resume
7. DD214 form, if you are a Veteran

2023 Internship Selection Process

- DICAS Application (Deadline: Feb 2023)
- Virtual Interviews for Top Applicants
- D&D Digital Matching Program Code #969 (Match: Apr 2023)

Best Candidate Fit

- Motivated to learn
- Interested in Veteran healthcare
- DPD GPA > 3.0
- Work &/or volunteer experience in nutrition and dietetics
- Skilled in communications, leadership, and teamwork
- Adaptable, flexible, creative, innovative, organized
- U.S. Citizenship required

**Anticipated Start Date:
Early Sept 2023**

WHY V.A.?

- Caring for our Nation's heroes
- Complex and interesting medical conditions
- V.A. is the largest employer of RDs in the United States
- Career opportunities after graduation
- Most rotations all at one facility
- SAVAHCS trains many healthcare disciplines on site

<https://www.dieteticinternship.va.gov/Tucson/index.asp>