

**Louis Stokes Cleveland Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center**

**Combined Dietetic Internship/Master’s Degree Program**

The ACEND accredited Dietetic Internship Program at the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center [LSCVAMC] was established in 1965. Since its inception, it has partnered with the Department of Nutrition at Case Western Reserve University [CWRU] and the internship program at University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center [UH-CMC] to provide a Combined Dietetic Internship/Master’s Degree Program [CDI/MDP] within a 16 month time frame.

The LSCVAMC is the 3rd largest VA in the country serving more than 112,000 Veterans in 2016. The Cleveland VA Medical Center acts as a national and regional referral center. The Louis Stokes Cleveland VAMC Dietetic Internship provides more than 1,200 hours of supervised practice over 11 months, a stipend of $14884, and a concentration in **Research Processes and Applications**.

**Mission of the Louis Stokes Cleveland VAMC Dietetic Internship Program:**

The program will provide a foundation in research and evidence-based nutrition practice, interdisciplinary team experiences, and broad exposure to specialty and advanced level practice to prepare graduates to become entry-level Registered Dietitian Nutritionists, with a Master of Science degree in Nutrition, who deliver competent nutritional care to Veterans and the public in a compassionate and ethical manner.

**Supervised Practice Experience:**

Supervised practice experience in medical nutrition therapy, foodservice systems management, and clinical nutrition management are provided over 11 months, from mid-August through mid-July of the following year, and culminates in 3 weeks of staff relief. All rotations are at the LSCVAMC except for the pediatric and optional experiences. While graduate classes are in session, during the fall and spring semesters, dietetic interns are scheduled at the VA hospital from Tuesday through Friday. After classes end in May, the interns are at the hospital Monday through Friday until the internship ends in July. Upon completion of the internship, the interns receive a verification statement allowing them to take the Registration Exam for Dietitians.

**Research Concentration and Master’s Degree:**

Dietetic interns take required graduate classes, concurrently with the internship, during the first fall and spring semester which are credited toward the Master’s degree. Graduate classes are held on Mondays and in the evenings to coordinate with the internship schedule. While enrolled in the CDI/MDP, students work on research and collaborate with a research preceptor to guide them with their research project. During the spring semester, Monday mornings are set aside for working on research projects which culminates in a written research manuscript for program completion. In the final fall semester of the graduate program, interns complete the remaining graduate credits and successfully complete a comprehensive exam to fulfill the Master’s Degree requirements.

**LSCVAMC COMBINED DIETETIC INTERNHIP/MASTER DEGREE PROGRAM OPEN HOUSE:**

DATE/TIME: November 3rd, 2017 at 1:30-3:30PM

ADDRESS: Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center

Main Hospital Atrium (by the information booth), 1st floor

10701 East Blvd.

Cleveland, OH 44106

Please contact the Dietetic Internship Director, Arianna Aoun, at [arianna.aoun@va.gov](mailto:arianna.aoun@va.gov) with questions.

Visit our program website, listed below, for in depth information regarding the LSCVAMC Dietetic Internship program. Please contact the Dietetic Internship Director, Arianna Aoun, MS, RDN, CSR, LD, with questions or if you need further information at [arianna.aoun@va.gov](mailto:arianna.aoun@va.gov). Thank you for your interest in our program.

Arianna Aoun MS, RDN, CSR, LD

Education/Dietetic Internship Director 120(W)

Program Website: <http://www.dieteticinternship.va.gov/Cleveland/index.asp>