

Application Guidelines for the Sea Mar Community Health Centers Dietetic Internship

Application Requirements:

1. Students must have a **Declaration of Intent to Complete** or a **Verification Statement from an ACEND-accredited Dietetics Didactic Program (DPD)** or Foreign Dietitian Education* (FDE) program **and** have earned at least a **Master's degree**** granted by a U.S. regionally accredited college/university or foreign equivalent.

**Students with degrees obtained outside the United States and its territories must review ACEND's guidelines for international applicants. The Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) requires individuals with foreign degrees to meet specific requirements to obtain the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) credential. Please refer to ACEND's website for International Students: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/students-and-advancing-education/international-students>*

****As of January 1, 2024, the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) requires a minimum of a Master's Degree to be eligible to take the credentialing exam to become a Registered Dietitian (RD).*

Application Process:

1. To apply to the Sea Mar Dietetic Internship, submit your application via the Dietetic Internship Centralized Application Services (DICAS) website: [DICAS Application Portal](#).
2. Applications are accepted **between August 5, 2024, and February 15, 2025**. Complete applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis.
3. Applicants will be **notified of their appointment status on or before March 1, 2025**.
4. Applicants must accept or decline appointment on **March 15, 2025**.
5. If any spots remain open after March 15, 2025, waitlisted applicants will be offered these positions.

Fees associated with DICAS are \$50 for the first application and \$25 for each additional application.

The application team evaluates qualified applicants on the following criteria:

1. **Overall GPA** - Applicants must have an overall GPA greater than 2.75. The program does not track average GPA of accepted interns.
2. **DPD GPA** >3.0 desired
3. **Work/Volunteer experience** in clinical nutrition (hospital/long term patient care), foodservice or community nutrition (1+ years of experience receives maximum points), experience working with multicultural populations and expressed desire to work in a community or public health career.
4. **3 Letters of Recommendation** (2 Professional, 1 Academic)
5. **Personal statement** (1,000 words, addressing all 7 questions below)
 - a. Why do you want to enter the dietetics profession?
 - b. What experiences have helped to prepare you for your career?
 - c. What are your short-term and long-term goals?
 - d. What are your strengths and weaknesses or areas needing improvement?
 - e. What are your reasons for applying to the Sea Mar internship specifically? Would you stay in Seattle after the internship? Would you consider working for Sea Mar?
 - f. Share experiences working with diverse populations.
 - g. Language skills – indicate any languages you speak, how you obtained those language skills, and the level at which you speak (i.e. high school and/or college courses and time frame for all, time spent in non-English speaking countries, fully bilingual, bicultural, etc.)
6. **Interview** (if applicable) - Evaluation of candidates via video or telephone interview. After reviewing your application, you will receive an email with available dates/times for an interview.

Note: Bilingual and bicultural applicants receive additional points on the application screening form in those categories. At Sea Mar, we support the education and employment of dietitians in clinics serving a multicultural population. Therefore, students who have taken Spanish-language classes or possess other second/multi-language skills beneficial to serving our client populations are awarded extra points during the application process. However, Spanish language proficiency is not a requirement for interns. We encourage all students with a strong passion and desire to work in community health to apply, regardless of language skills. **Final candidate selection will be based on the qualifications of the entire applicant pool.**

Good luck on the internship application process!

Please reach out to Marisol Thomas – Sea Mar DI Director – if you have any questions and/or would like to attend our Virtual Open House in the summer or fall!

MarisolThomas@seamarchc.org