

Admission Requirements

In order to be eligible for admission into the BHS Dietetic Internship program candidates must meet the following criteria:

Non- Degree Track

1. Master's degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
2. Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
3. Official transcripts of all college and/or university course work with final degree posted.
Candidates are eligible to apply to the Non-Degree Track while in active pursuit of a master's degree so long as they have no more than 12 hours left to completion. If accepted into the program prior to completion of a master's degree, the candidate must provide the official transcript copy with final degree posted prior to completing the internship. Foreign degrees/transcripts must have an official evaluation (i.e., WES, AACRAO) stating equivalency to U.S. degree.
4. An original verification statement from an ACEND approved/accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) or filled out Intent to Complete section of the DICAS.
5. Students whose DPD verification statements are 5 years old or older are required to complete a minimum of 2 academic refresher courses prior to potential admission to the program. Courses may be taken at the undergraduate or graduate level from any accredited college or university (must provide an official transcript(s) to verify the completion of these classes). Due to the clinical intensity of this program, one course must be a general nutrition course and the other must be a diet therapy/clinical nutrition course.

Graduate Degree Track

1. Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
2. Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
3. Official transcripts of all college and/or university course work with final degree posted.
If accepted into the program prior to completion of a bachelor's degree, the candidate must provide the official transcript copy with final degree posted prior to entering the internship. Foreign degrees/transcripts must have an official evaluation (i.e., WES, AACRAO) stating equivalency to U.S. degree.
4. An original verification statement from an ACEND approved/accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) if you are a graduate, or the Intent to Complete section of the DICAS form filled out.
5. Students whose DPD verification statements are 5 years old or older are required to complete a minimum of 2 academic refresher courses prior to potential admission to the program. Courses may be taken at the undergraduate or graduate level from any accredited college or university (must provide an official transcript(s) to verify the completion of these classes). Due to the clinical intensity of this program, one course must be a general nutrition course and the other must be a diet therapy/clinical nutrition course.
6. Students applying to this track are highly encouraged to take the GRE as many graduate degrees require this. The Baptist Health System Dietetic Internship GRE code is 1988.
7. **Once accepted students must enroll in a graduate degree program.** The Baptist Health System Dietetic Internship is currently affiliated with the University of Houston Online Masters in Science in Nutrition. Students may choose to enroll in another graduate program so long as

the program is completely online, asynchronous and can be completed by the following December.

Application Process

1. The Baptist Health System Dietetic Internship participates in Dietetic Internship Centralized Application System (DICAS).
 - The program may be accessed at [DICAS | Applicant Login Page Section \(liaisoncas.com\)](https://liaisoncas.com). The on-line application must be completed for our program by 11:59 p.m. Central Time on February 15 of each year. The fee to use DICAS is \$50 for the first application, \$25 each for additional applications. Early selection applications must be completed by 11:59 p.m. Central Time on January 15 of each year.
2. When completing the application form, applicants must include the name and e-mail address for each reference. This will trigger an e-mail message requesting completion of a reference form. The form will be completed on-line.
3. When choosing references, the BHS Internship requires **two references from an educational institution and one from work/ volunteer experience**.
 - If you provide more than these three references, the first three will be scored.
 - If you provide only one reference from an educational institution then a maximum of two references will be scored.
4. Applicants will be asked to fill out work / volunteer history, sports/ extracurricular and honors/ awards.
 - Please fill these sections out as thoroughly as possible. **If you have work/ volunteer history that you include in a resume or your personal statement but do not include this in the work/ volunteer history the selection committee cannot grant you points** for this experience.
5. Applicants will be asked to complete a personal statement. Questions to be addressed in the personal statement include:
 - Why do you want to enter the dietetics profession?
 - Discuss experiences that have helped to prepare you for your career,
 - What are your short-term and long-term goals?
 - What are your strengths and weaknesses or areas needing improvement?
 - 1000 Word limit
6. Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended should be submitted electronically or by mail. Transcripts cannot be submitted via email.
 - Electronic submission via Parchment or National Student Clearing House.
 - Submission by mail:
DICAS-Transcript Processing Center.
P.O. Box 9118
Watertown, MA 02472
7. Submit the cover sheet found on the BHS Dietetic Internship website and a nonrefundable \$50.00 fee (payable to: Baptist Medical Center) or use the 'Application Fee' link at the bottom of the dietetic internship website home page.

Both the cover sheet & payment must be postmarked or submitted online by January 15 for early selection or February 15 of the current year (note that if payment is not received your application will not be reviewed for consideration to our program).
8. Final candidates will be required to participate in a telephone interview.

Application packets are rated with consideration to GPA (overall/DPD/science), letters of recommendation, personal statement, work experience, honors/scholarship, and overall quality of the application packet.

For more information on applying for Dietetic Internships, visit [Application Process for Students \(eatrightpro.org\)](http://eatrightpro.org).

Acceptance Procedure

- Early selection applicants will be notified of admission decision by February 1 and must accept or decline an admission offer by February 15.
- Applicants will be notified of admission decision by March 1 and must accept or decline an admission offer by March 15.
- Applicants must telephone Jennifer Estrada, MS, RD, LD, CNSC at 210-297-8649 or email Jennifer.roberts@baptsthealthsystem.com to confirm the acceptance or rejection of a computer match on or before 6 P.M. CST the following day.
- Applicants must secure position in the internship with a non-refundable payment of a \$600 fee* (payable to the Baptist Medical Center) on the first day of orientation.
*(Please note that the acceptance fee of \$600.00 is a separate fee from the tuition fee of \$7,000, which is due at the start of the internship in August of each year)

Post Acceptance Requirements

1. BHS new employee orientation
2. Proof of negative TB skin testing (1 –2 depending on when the last one was completed)
3. Negative drug screening urinalysis
4. Criminal background check
5. Proof of current immunizations, listed below. If intern does not have proof of vaccines, titers may be drawn. Interns may apply for medical or religious exemption through the Employee Health Dept. For more information, contact the Program Director.
 - Tetanus within the past 10 years
 - Measles, Mumps, and Rubella
 - COVID 19 and Influenza
6. Proof of health insurance
7. Proof of student liability insurance

TIPS for using DICAS

1. Highly consider viewing the videos for DICAS which can be found on the ACEND website (Computer Matching page) [Application Process for Students \(eatrightpro.org\)](http://eatrightpro.org)
2. Payment -- a student is not prompted for payment until he/she clicks "submit." Students can create an account and work on personal statements and information as much as they want without providing any payment. If the student does not decide to submit any applications, they owe DICAS nothing.
3. Changes to application -- once an application has been submitted through DICAS, the student cannot make any changes or withdraw their application through DICAS. If there was a situation that required a change or withdrawal, they would then need to contact the program directly.
4. GPA -- it is true that GPA is calculated for the student once they submit some necessary information (i.e. academic format such as semester vs. trimester). However, if a school uses "units" instead, the student must first do these conversions based on the information on the back of their transcript (usually) or with help from their registrar's office. DICAS works in grade points only.
5. Personal Statement -- students can create multiple personal statements in their DICAS account -- one for each program they are applying to. However, they should be informed that there are 2 places in the submission process

where they need to SELECT the specific personal statement in order for it to be included in the application. They will get an error message from DICAS if they try to submit without selecting the personal statement.

6. Status Bar -- students can check the status of each submission and be informed of things like whether their transcripts have been received, references have been completed, or GPA has been calculated.

Graduation Requirements

Non- Degree Track:

- All assignments from rotations and rotation hours must be successfully completed within one year of start date.
- Successful completion of the wellness project, case study and journal club assignments.
- Minimum of 75% final post-test examination score on the practice RD test. If the intern does not pass the first final post-test, the intern will have the opportunity to pass a second post-test and must pass with a 75%. If the intern fails both opportunities, the intern will not receive a verification statement and will re-take the examination after 30 days of study time.
- Exit interview.
- ServSafe certificate (or other equivalent sanitation certificate approved by the Program Director).
- All program requirements must be successfully completed within 15 months of start date.

Graduate Degree Track:

- All assignments from rotations and rotation hours must be successfully completed within two years of start date.
- Successful completion of the wellness project, case study and journal club assignments-
- Minimum of 75% final post-test examination score on the practice RD test. If intern does not pass the final post-test on the first attempt, the intern will have an opportunity to pass a second post-test and must pass with a 75%. If intern fails both opportunities, then intern will not receive a verification statement and will retake the examination after 30 days of study time.
- Exit interview.
- ServSafe Manager Certification (or other equivalent sanitation certificate approved by the Program Director).
- Masters' degree must be awarded before verification statement issued.
- All program requirements are to be met within 25 months of start date.