Non-thesis - NFSC Combined BS/MS in Dietetics Program

Starting in the Fall 2023, the Department of Nutrition and Food Science (NFSC) will offer a combined BS/MS academic track in Dietetics. This degree will enable talented students in the Dietetics Program to earn both a BS/MS in 5 years.

This degree program will allow students to meet the January 1, 2024 requirements from the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR), which state that all applicants for the entry-level registered Dietitian/Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RD/RDN) examination must have completed a master's degree, and the required hours of supervised practice for RDN eligibility.

Students enrolled in the Combined BS/MS in Dietetics will take 9 credits toward both degrees, with advanced approval from the NFSC Department and the Graduate School. For this double counting, students will select courses from the MS qualifying coursework. Students applying for the program should familiarize themselves with the MS degree course and faculty listing found in the NFSC graduate Catalog.

Eligibility

Students who meet the following criteria are eligible to apply:
- Registered as Dietetics Program Major
- Be in at least the Spring semester of their Junior year or Senior standing
- Have at least a 3.0 cum GPA and a GPA of 3.0 or higher in all the Dietetics courses.

Application Timeline

The application process will occur in two phases: in phase one, students must apply to the NFSC department in order to indicate their interest in the program and for approval to begin taking graduate classes. In the second phase, students must apply directly to the UMD Graduate School for formal admission into the program. The deadlines and required documents are listed below.

Department-level

- **Spring of Junior Year** - Eligible students for Fall start are those who completed or are currently enrolled in BCHM462, BSCI450, NFSC470, and BMGT364N
  - The early action deadline is **April 15th** and applications will still be accepted and reviewed until August 1st (final deadline).
- **Fall of Senior Year** - Eligible students for the Spring start are those with a senior standing enrolled in NFSC440, NFSC350, NFSC455, or have completed the courses.
  - Early action deadline will be **October 15th** and applications will be accepted and reviewed until November 1st (final deadline).

Department-level Application requirements

Students must complete and submit the [NFSC Department Combined BS/MS Program in Dietetics form](#) to indicate their interest in applying for the program, according to the timeline above. The application must contain the following items:
- Transcripts
- Combined BS/MS form (available here: [Combined Bachelor's/Master's degree form](#))
- Essay (500 words) why you are interested in the program and how this relates to your career goals
- Two recommendation letters (from the DPD or non-DPD faculty)

Eligible students from the undergraduate program who apply to the B.S/M.S. degree will have their application fee waived. Students will be required to maintain an overall GPA above 3.0 to remain in the program.
UMD Graduate school-level
● **Senior year (fall)** – you will submit a graduate application by December 15th for admission to the UMD Graduate School using the standard online application. (To login use your UMD Directory ID. Under "Level of Study" select "Combined Bachelor’s-Master’s").

If you are interested in learning more about the combined BS/MS in Dietetics at the University of Maryland, please join us for an upcoming Virtual Information Session on Monday, 3/27; 4/3; 4/10/2023, at 7:00 pm EST. Please follow the link to register https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Y1s-rW9DCAgWlb7EaGTEslcuQDbYe6eCl5WQxD7a3gQ/edit?usp=sharing