PROGRAM MISSION, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The mission of the dietetic internship program is to focus on the needs of rural North Carolina, while maintaining national recognition, for highly qualified Registered Dietitians who have been educated in an atmosphere of intellectual challenge and practical application.

**Program Goal 1:** Provide the supervised practice experiences necessary for interns to perform successfully on the job in rural North Carolina and on the Registration Examination for Dietitians

**Program Objectives for Goal 1**

Over a 5 year period, 70% or more of DI graduates who seek employment in dietetics will be employed in the field within 12 months of program completion.

Over a 5-year period, the pass rate for DI graduates taking the RD exam will be at least 80% for first time test takers.

Over a 5-year period, 95% of graduates will complete the program within 15 months if full-time, 24 months if part-time.

**Program Goal 2:** Prepare interns for entry-level positions in the profession of dietetics by building and maintaining a strong knowledge base

**Program Objectives for Goal 2**

Over a 5-year period, 90% of program graduates will be rated at a competency level of “Satisfactory” or higher by themselves.

Over a 5-year period, 90% of program graduates will be rated at a competency level of “Satisfactory” or higher by their employers.

Over a 5-year period, 33% of graduates accept employment in rural communities.

Over a 5-year period, 75% or more of graduates acquire either an advanced degree or an additional professional credential.

**Curriculum goals**

Dietetics is the only profession with the primary concern as application of nutritional sciences to the care of people. It is the responsibility of the dietitian to acquire and maintain current knowledge of food, nutritional science, food systems, management, and to develop skills to use that knowledge in the particular site in which he/she is employed. The overall curriculum goal is to equip graduates for entry level positions in the profession of dietetics by providing the didactic and clinical experiences necessary for students to perform successfully.

East Carolina University DI has a planned curriculum that is based on the Academy foundation knowledge and expected competencies for dietitians. The curriculum has been divided into rotation units for a generalist curriculum.

**Concentration**

The internship has a RURAL HEALTH focus.