



## Internship Education Program Student Information

*This information has been compiled collaboratively with Applied Human Nutrition (AHN) students, the AHN Internship Education Program (IEP) and the MSVU Students' Union. It was developed to help students understand the competitive nature of the program and their options in completing the AHN program. This information sheet should not replace conversations with the Internship Education Program Coordinator, Judy Fraser Arsenault, who can be reached via e-mail: [judy.fraser.arsenault@msvu.ca](mailto:judy.fraser.arsenault@msvu.ca). Students can send feedback on this document to [vpcomm@mountstudents.ca](mailto:vpcomm@mountstudents.ca).*

## Internship options

While this information sheet focusses on the BScAHN (Dietetics) integrated Internship Education Program, there are several routes available to students for a dietetic internship. Students in the BScAHN (Dietetics) may apply to the Mount's Internship Education Program (IEP). Alternately, students in their final year of study in the BScAHN (Dietetics) may apply for a post-degree dietetic internship. Students may also choose to pursue graduate studies in nutrition with a combined internship such as the Mount's MScAHN plus IEP or the MAHN plus IEP. Note that admission to the MAHN plus IEP requires significant postgraduate related work experience in nutrition, foods, foodservice and/or community service.

All these routes are competitive with GPA requirements defined in the BScAHN (Dietetics).

## Eligibility

- Students must be enrolled full-time (three or more units of credit during the September to April academic year) at the Mount; must have completed a minimum of 10 units; must have achieved a GPA of 3.0 or higher in BScAHN (Dietetics) program required courses; achieved a passing grade in each of these courses; and a minimum grade of B- in the required NUTR courses including: NUTR 2204, NUTR 2211, NUTR 2324, NUTR 3311, NUTR 3313, NUTR 3315, NUTR 3325, NUTR 3326, NUTR 3407, NUTR 4400, NUTR 4406, NUTR 4408, NUTR 4409, NUTR 4414, NUTR 4417, and NUTR 4444.
- Prior to the Level I internship course, students will normally have completed NUTR 3311 or 3313, 3315, 3325, 3326, 3407 and CHEM 3502; as well as the prerequisites for these courses. Transfer students may apply earlier depending on the number of courses transferred. Students are advised to read the information in the Undergraduate Academic Calendar and attend all internship information sessions to determine eligibility.
- Application to the IEP is highly competitive – while high academic standing is important, student engagement in professional/student associations/activities is very important. Also, students are advised to seek related work experiences in the summers preceding application.
- Applicants must provide a Criminal Record Check including a vulnerable sector search completed within the last 6 months.<sup>1</sup>
- Applicants must submit a completed Health Screening and Immunization record form signed by a health care practitioner.<sup>1</sup> The following immunizations are required:
  - Mantoux 5<sup>tu</sup> PPD (2-step TB)
  - MMR (measles, mumps and rubella)
  - Varicella Zoster Chickenpox

- Hepatitis A & B (Twinrix)
- Tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis
- Covid-19
- Influenza – Seasonal (Recommended)

<sup>1</sup>Applicants are responsible for any associated costs.

International Students must obtain the required work permit to complete their placements and are responsible for any associated costs.

### Internship Education Program Selection

The IEP is a competitive program. Application packages are assessed using well-defined criteria (see below) by a selection committee consisting of the IEP Coordinator, AHN Department Chair or designate, a representative from the Dietetic community, and a graduate of the MSVU Integrated Internship Education Program.

Academics -----	20%
Faculty Reference -----	20%
External Confidential References (2) -----	20%
Resume (Related Experience, Skills) -----	20%
Cover Letter -----	10%
Written Challenge -----	10%

### Application Timeline

<b>September (or earlier)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete Immunization/Health screening form</li> <li>• Obtain criminal record check including a vulnerable sector search</li> </ul>
<b>October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internship information session – IEP</li> </ul>
<b>November</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resume and cover letter information session</li> <li>• IEP application packages available from IEP office</li> </ul>
<b>December</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IEP package deadline for submission 2:00 PM, December 15</li> <li>• Faculty interviews conducted (if required). Faculty reference forms completed</li> </ul>
<b>January</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faculty interviews conducted (if required). Faculty reference forms completed</li> <li>• Applicants complete written challenge</li> </ul>
<b>February</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants receive letters with application results</li> <li>• Interns sign and submit Intern Terms and Conditions</li> </ul>

### Placement Matching (February/March)

Successful applicants will complete a Placement Information Form listing their top 4 placement choices. All placement options are posted on the IEP Resources Moodle Site. At least one of the top 4 choices

must be outside the Halifax Regional Municipality Commuting Area. Placement matching is an open competition process. Completion of the Placement Information Form does not guarantee placement at one of the four places identified nor the sequence of the internship. Interns will be notified when placement has been confirmed by Sponsor/Sponsoring Organization. Upon confirmation of internship placement, interns must register for the corresponding nutrition course. Tuition fees apply to each internship course. Current fees are available at <http://www.msvu.ca/en/home/beamountstudent/money/tuitionfees/detailedfeeinformation.aspx>

### Internship Courses

Successful applicants will complete three internship courses.

#### **NUTR 4501 Administrative Internship (Food Provision Competencies)**

- Experiences are provided in a variety of food service systems or business organizations including: the subsystems of procurement, processing, production, distribution, service, and maintenance and the management of financial, human, material, physical, and operational resources. I.e. on-site production, out-sourced centre, centralized or decentralized patient service, cafeteria service, dining room service, grocery/retail, etc.

#### **NUTR 4502 Clinical Internship (Nutrition Care Competencies)**

- Experience is gained in planning, implementing, and evaluating nutrition care plans of patients/clients in settings such as long term care, hospitals, outpatient clinics and Family Health Care Teams.

#### **NUTR 4503 Community Internship (Population Health Promotion Competencies)**

- Experience is gained in assessing needs, planning, implementing and evaluating population health plans in a variety of community settings such as public health, non-profit organizations (food banks), community & fitness centers, business sector, government departments, as well as hospitals, schools, grocery/retail stores, etc.

### Internship Education Program Statistics 2007-2020

Year	Number of Undergraduate IEP Applicants	Number of Successful Undergraduate Applicants	Complete Undergraduate Application Success Rate	Number of Successful Graduate MScAHN Student Applicants	Number of Successful Graduate MAHN Student Applicants
2023	19	11	58%	0	1
2022	18	13	72%	2	1
2021	27	15	55%	1	
2020	36	17	47%	2	

<b>2019</b>	36	23	64%	5	
<b>2018</b>	39	27	69%	9	
<b>2017</b>	52	27	52%	5	
<b>2016</b>	57	25	44%	2	
<b>2015</b>	51	19	37%	1	
<b>2014</b>	47	25	56%	6	
<b>2013</b>	53	23	51%	4	
<b>2012</b>	48	32	71%		
<b>2011</b>	41	25	78%		
<b>2010</b>	39	31	89%		
<b>2009</b>		28			
<b>2008</b>		28			
<b>2007</b>		25			

#### **IEP Sponsors**

- Have appropriate, current accreditation/licensing and/or professional certification and relevant academic qualifications, have experience in their fields, practice according to the Nova Scotia College of Dietitians and Nutritionists Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics for Professional Dietitians, and support the MSVU Internship Education Program
- Provide adequate, relevant and diverse experiences/opportunities that facilitate the development of required competencies in an organized and orderly manner
- Have appropriate space, meeting areas and equipment available to support Intern(s) in the Internship Education Program