

Applied Nutrition (Online)

Master of Science (MS)

The Master of Science in Applied Nutrition at Southeast Missouri State University is an online graduate degree that prepares students to become Registered Dietitians (RD). Graduates of the program will be qualified to practice as dietitians in a variety of clinical, food service management, and community settings, among others. This 36-credit graduate program includes both course work and applied training experiences. This program is accredited by The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) as a Future Education Model, Future Graduate program. The program is 15 months in length. Students complete online graduate courses alongside face-to-face supervised experiential learning.

About This Online Program

The online format allows students the flexibility to complete a **rigorous** course of study while completing supervised learning experiences. Students will complete supervised experiential learning rotations at one of the following locations OR through the remote distance option: Cape Girardeau, MO; St. Louis, MO; Southern Illinois (Carbondale and Marion, IL), or Poplar Bluff, MO.

Students applying to the remote distance option will be responsible for identifying suitable sites for their rotations.

Throughout their time in the program, students have regular contact with Southeast faculty and program directors by phone, email, and video conferencing to ensure that they feel supported. Southeast also provides students with access to online study material to prepare them for the Registered Dietitian credentialing examination.

For students that are already credentialed as Registered Dietitians, the online graduate degree is available without the supervised learning component. Previously credentialed students can complete the degree in 34 credit hours.

Graduate education at Southeast is guaranteed quality at an affordable price. Southeast offers competitive tuition rates for graduate students, compared to other online graduate programs. There are no additional tuition costs for out-of-state students in online degree programs.

Becoming Career Ready...

/Students complete course work that aligns to their field experiences and prepares them for professional practice.

/Students complete action research relating to issues in their own field work.

/Students have the opportunity to be career-ready after an intensive 15-month program.

NOTE: This program meets the educational requirements for professional licensure and/or certification in Missouri. Please consult our State Authorization webpage, to determine information specific to your state:
<https://app.semo.edu/gen/distancelearningcompliance/DistLearnComp.aspx>.

Career Planning

The credentialing requirements for Registered Dietitians is changing. In 2024, the Commission on Dietetic Registration will require that candidates complete a graduate degree before they are eligible to take the Registered Dietitian credentialing examination. Simultaneously, the demand for Registered Dietitians is increasing. The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that employment of dietitians will grow 8 percent from 2019 to 2029.*

This program provides students the prerequisite requirements to take the credentialing exam and prepares them to be leaders in the field through the inclusion of contemporary course work and supervised learning experiences.

Registered Dietitians work in a variety of settings, including hospitals or other healthcare facilities, corporate wellness, community and public health settings, universities and medical centers, private practice, food and nutrition-related business and industries, among others.

*Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Dietitians and Nutritionists, at <https://www.bls.gov/oooh/healthcare/dietitians-and-nutritionists.htm>

Admission Requirements

Students can only apply for summer admission to the program. All students in a cohort will begin taking MSAN courses in the first summer term and will progress through the entire program with their respective cohort. The deadline for applications is **February 15, 2021, for the 2021 cohort and January 1, 2022, for the 2022 cohort.**

To be considered for the program, applicants must have:

/ A verification statement from an accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD)

/ A baccalaureate or advanced degree from a U.S. regionally accredited college or university or a foreign degree evaluated as equivalent to a U.S. baccalaureate degree

/ An undergraduate GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale

/ A completed MSAN Program Application (in addition to the University application)

/ To be considered for acceptance into the Remote Distance option of the proposed program, applicants must meet the criteria established above, and must also provide the following:

- Written commitment from qualified individuals that have agreed to precept the applicant. To determine if preceptors are qualified, applicants are required to arrange preceptors and rotation prior to applying. Applicants must provide preceptor resumes or curriculum vitae.
- A proposed rotation schedule that includes preceptor and facility information for each of the major rotations: clinical, community, and food service management.

MS: Applied Nutrition

To learn more
Southeast Online
(573) 651-2766
graduateonline@semo.edu
semo.edu/online

To explore
the College of Education,
Health and Human Studies, visit
semo.edu/education-health

Graduate Program Coordinator
Joel Ramdial
(573) 986-2919
jramdial@semo.edu

Applied Nutrition (Online)

This is a guide based on the 2021-2022 Graduate Bulletin and is subject to change. Students meet with a program director each semester and use Degree Works to monitor their progress.

CURRICULUM CHECKLIST

APPLIED NUTRITION – 36 Hours:

- ___ FN600 Advanced Application of Medical Nutrition Therapy (3)
- ___ FN607 Food Science and Technology (3)
- ___ FN610 Strategic Management of Food Service Operations (3)
- ___ FN611 Foundations in Dietetics Practice (3)
- ___ FN615 Culinary Nutrition (3)
- ___ FN617 Applied Statistics in Health Sciences (3)
- ___ FN619 Metabolic Considerations in Performance and Wellness Nutrition (3)
- ___ FN620 Community Nutrition Programming: Advanced Concepts and Application (3)
- ___ FN622 Nutrition Counseling and Education: Advanced Concepts and Application (3)
- ___ FN624 Research Methodology (3)
- ___ FN628 Applied Nutrition Field Experience I (1)
- ___ FN629 Applied Nutrition Field Experience II (1)
- ___ FN645 Capstone Project in Applied Nutrition (1)
- ___ FN650 Professional Skills and Emerging Trends in Dietetics Practice (3)

Recommended Sequence of Required Course Work

Because of the intensive workload for this program, all courses must be completed in order in rotation with the cohort.

Students in Southeast Missouri State University's Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) may qualify for the MS in Applied Nutrition Pre-Select Option. This allows qualifying applicants to secure a spot in the program prior to review of the entire application pool.

To qualify for Pre-Select, students must fulfill the following criteria:

- Completion of Southeast's undergraduate DPD program
- Submission of completed application
- A minimum GRE score of 300 (combined verbal reasoning + quantitative reasoning)
- An overall GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale
- A minimum of 1500 hours from a combination of the following:
 - Volunteer experience (unaffiliated with course requirements)
 - Paid work experience
 - Collegiate athletics
 - Student organizations
- Demonstrated record of experience in leadership positions (Note: Can be accomplished through student organizations, chairing/overseeing an event, chairing a committee or subcommittee, supervisory role at work, team captain, etc.)