

Clinical Dietetics Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Kelsey and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about GVSU's Master of Science in Clinical Dietetics program. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the qualities that distinguish this program.

Let's start by explaining to you what this program entails. The Master of Science in Clinical Dietetics will prepare you to become a professional clinical dietitian through lecture, lab courses, and supervised practice. This is a 39-51 credit hour program, depending if you require supervised practice in addition to the didactic classes, and can be completed in 1.5 to 2 calendar years as a full-time student.

The field of dietetics is highly competitive and a postgraduate degree gives students an edge in securing professional employment. In fact, the profession of dietetics is moving toward the requirement of an entry level master's degree for all graduates beginning in 2024. Additionally, the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates employment opportunities are expected to increase 20% by 2020. This is faster than average for all occupations.

Standard GVSU admission requirements include completion of the online application as well as a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education. Your application must include official transcripts, and if English is not your native language you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB, or the PTE Academic. There is a \$30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended GVSU previously or are currently attending GVSU.

Additional requirements specific to the Master of Science in Clinical Dietetics program include an overall grade point average of 3.0 or a satisfactory score on the GRE, a personal statement with an explanation of how this program will assist you in achieving your personal goals, two letters of recommendation, a personal interview, and documentation of community service or work experience in food and nutrition.

More program details, as well as the online application can be found on the Master of Science of Clinical Dietetics website, www.gvsu.edu/grad/clinicaldiet.

The great news about GVSU's graduate programs is that tuition rates for Michigan resident and non-resident students are the same. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

The Master of Science in Clinical Dietetics program at GVSU provides two different track options for students, Track A and Track B. Track A is a 49 to 52 credit hour program and is designed for those who need supervised clinical practice. Classes are taught using a hybrid model, with some Saturday lab experiences. This track provides eligibility to sit for the registration exam leading to the RDN, or Registered Dietitian Nutritionist, credential. Track B is a part-time, 39-51 credit hour program. This is a hybrid program designed for credentialed Registered Dietitians or Registered

Dietitian Nutritionists who desire a master's degree. This program enables working professionals to build on their broad knowledge and attain deeper comprehension and skill in practice. Didactic course work covers nutritional assessment, food and culinary science, advanced medical nutrition therapy, research methodology, applied statistics, emerging professional practice issues, and advanced nutrition education, counseling and coaching. 20 credit hours will apply to supervised practice rotations in the areas of food management, community nutrition, clinical nutrition and more. For a complete listing of all courses please visit www.gvsu.edu/grad/Clinicaldiet.

The Master of Science in Clinical Dietetics program at GVSU is distinguished for a number of reasons. Track A of the program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics. This program is a hybrid program meaning the majority of the coursework takes place online and required Saturday labs will take place in the facilities on GVSU's campus. This allows students to live anywhere and participate in supervised practice experiences throughout the region. The small class sizes allow for an intimate learning atmosphere and a closer working relationship with the dedicated staff members. In addition, GVSU offers state-of-the-art facilities, including simulation and human performance laboratories.

That is just a snapshot of the Master of Science in Clinical Dietetics graduate program at Grand Valley State University. We hope that you will consider applying to a graduate program at GVSU. Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Jody Vogelzang, at vogelzjo@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.