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Section 1

General Information

Introduction

The Doctorate in Clinical Nutrition (DCN) Program at Fairfield University Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies provides a unique program in dietetic education. The program is a three-year full-time, or four-year part-time program which integrates graduate courses along with supervised experiential learning.

This manual is designed to provide an overview of the program as well as the policies and procedures specific to the DCN program. This handbook is in addition to the Fairfield University student handbook and policies and procedures.

https://www.fairfield.edu/media/studenthandbook/16120_student_handbook-2019-2020_09162019.pdf

This [Future Education Model](#) Graduate-level program is accredited by the [Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics \(ACEND\)](#). Upon completion of the program, graduates are eligible to sit for the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Examination.

Accreditation

The Doctorate in Clinical Nutrition is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190 Chicago, IL 60606-6995 (315) 899-0040 ext. 5400. [Http://www.eatright.org/ACEND](http://www.eatright.org/ACEND)



Mission Statement

Fairfield University Mission Statement (Key Elements)

Fairfield recognizes that learning is a life-long process and sees the education, which it provides, as the foundation upon which its students may continue to build within their chosen areas of scholarly study or professional development. As a community of scholars, Fairfield gladly joins in the broader task of expanding human knowledge and deepening human understanding, and to this end, it encourages and supports the scholarly research and artistic production of its faculty and students. However, most of all, Fairfield serves the wider community by educating its students to be socially aware and morally responsible persons.

Egan School Mission Statement

Consistent with the mission of Fairfield University to develop men and women for others, the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies inspires students to become leaders across social and healthcare environments. These students are actively engaged with faculty in practice, policy, scholarship and service. As a modern Jesuit institution, a central focus of our care is to improve health outcomes with particular attention to the needs of underserved or vulnerable populations.

DCN Mission Statement

The mission of the Doctorate in Clinical Nutrition(DCN)degree program is to prepare graduates to become Registered Dietitian Nutritionists who are leaders in the profession. Graduates expand the knowledge of clinical nutrition to improve health outcomes with particular attention to the needs of underserved or vulnerable populations.

Section 2

Policies and Procedures

Monitoring Student Performance

Students will be evaluated throughout each of the courses through both formative and summative assessments. The didactic portion of courses will outline the assessment processes in the course syllabi. During the supervised experiential learning, preceptors will evaluate student performance in conjunction with course faculty, periodically throughout the practicum and a final summative assessment will occur at the end of each practicum. Evaluations will include ACEND competencies, performance indicators as well as professional, ethical behavior and integrity.

Student

Liability for safety in travel to and from assigned areas

Students are responsible for their own car insurance and transportation to and from the experiential supervised practice sites. Fairfield University is not liable for injury to and from assigned experiential supervised practice sites.

Injury or illness while in a facility for supervised experiential learning

Students will obtain prompt medical care to treat any accident, injury or illness that occurs during the supervised experiential learning experience. Students are responsible for all costs incurred for emergency care and follow-up care. Students are required to notify the program director about the accident, incident, injury or illness as soon as possible.

Drug Testing and Criminal Background Checks for Supervised Experiential Learning Sites

It is the policy of the Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies that ~~all~~ admitted

Process for Filing or Handling Complaints about the Program

1. The student attempts to resolve any academic grievance with the faculty member. If, following this initial attempt at resolution, the student remains convinced that a grievance exists, she or he advances to step 2.
2. The student consults with the program director, bringing written documentation of the process to this point. If the student continues to assert that a grievance exists after attempted reconciliation, she or he advances to step 3.
3. The student presents the grievance to the dean of the school in which the course was offered, bring in to this meeting documentation of steps 1 and 2. After conversing with the instructor of record the department chair/program director, the dean will

4. For procedural appeals and academic dishonesty appeals, the recommendation from the Grievance Committee is forwarded to the provost in written form, accompanied, if necessary, by any supporting data that formed the basis of the recommendation. Should the Grievance Committee conclude that a change of grade is warranted, the two faculty members on the Grievance Committee will recommend an appropriate grade. In case of disagreement between the two faculty members, the dean chairing the Grievance Committee will decide which of the two recommended grades to accept. There commended grade change shall be included in the report.

For the quality of work appeals, if

Grievance Process Complaints

Fairfield University endeavors to resolve all grievances,

Credit for Prior Learning

Students entering the program will come with various experiences and educational backgrounds. Credits granted for prior learning for didactic courses, must be at

Graduation Completion Requirements

The following requirements must be met before the student is eligible to receive his/her degree from Fairfield University:

- Verification of successful completion of all practicum and academic course requirements
- Demonstrated competence in all ACEND required competencies and performance indicators
- Resolution of all financial responsibilities
- Return of all loaned items including library books, ID badge, etc.

Students must complete all course requirements in 150% of program length. This equates to 4.5 years for the full-time track and 6 years for the part time track.

A verification statement will be provided

Affiliation Agreements

Supervised experiential learning sites are chosen based on the following criteria:

Professional Conduct

Code of Ethics for the Profession of Dietetics

Students are held accountable for adhering to the code of ethics for the Dietetics Profession of Dietetics <http://www.eatright.org/codeofethics>

3. Professionalism (Beneficence)

Nutrition and dietetics practitioners shall:

- a. Participate in and contribute to decisions that affect the well-being of patients/clients.
- b. Respect the values, rights, knowledge, and skills of colleagues and other professionals.
- c. Demonstrate respect, constructive dialogue, civility and professionalism in all communications, including social media.
- d. Refrain from communicating false, fraudulent, deceptive, misleading, disparaging or unfair statements or claims.
- e. Uphold professional boundaries and refrain from romantic relationships with any patients/clients, surrogates, supervisees, or students.
- f. Refrain from verbal/physical/emotional/sexual harassment.
- g. Provide objective evaluations of performance for employees, coworkers, and students and candidates for employment, professional association memberships, awards, or scholarships, making all reasonable efforts to avoid bias in the professional evaluation of others.
- h. Communicate at an appropriate level to promote health literacy.
- i. Contribute to the advancement and competence of others, including colleagues, students, and the public.

Social responsibility for local,

Glossary of Terms:

Autonomy: ensures a patient, client

DCN Student Handbook Acknowledgement Form

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