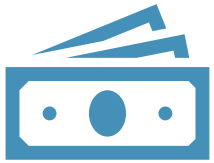
FINANCING YOUR SUPERVISED PRACTICE / GRADUATE SCHOOL

JOAN S. FRANK, MS, RDN, FAND

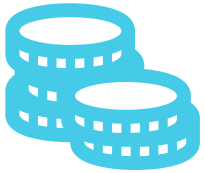
© Joan S. Frank, MS, RDN, FAND

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND

OVERVIEW



Cost of Grad School/Supv. Practice



Financing Your Grad School/Supv. Practice



Financial Aid



Loans

COST OF GRAD SCHOOL / SUPERVISED PRACTICE



TUITION AND FEES



HOUSING



TRANSPORTATION



FOOD & INCIDENTALS

"NO-COST" PROGRAMS

Dietetic Internships

- WIC
- Stipend-providing programs
  - Veteran's Administration
  - UCSF
  - Napa State Hospital
- Diversify Dietetics
- US Military – Baylor University

Master's Programs

- UC programs
  - Teaching Assistantships
  - Graduate Student Researchers
- Veteran's Administration
  - Los Angeles VA / UCLA MPH
  - Los Angeles VA / CSUN / CSULA
- Others?

TUITION AND/OR FEES

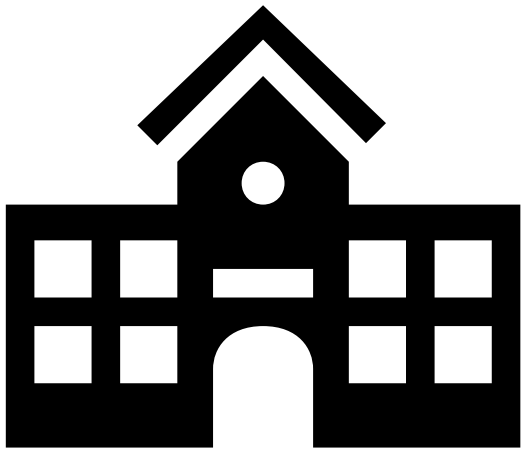
More Affordable Programs

- In-state programs
- State schools
- Public programs
  - state hospitals
  - federal hospitals
  - WIC

More Expensive Programs

- Private schools
- Out-of-state programs
- Coordinated Programs (CA)
- Future Graduate Programs (CA)

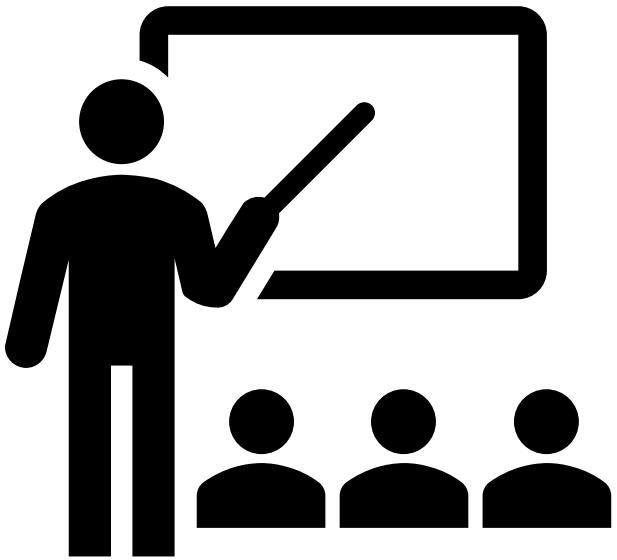
FINANCIAL AID
UNIVERSITY-BASED SUPERVISED PRACTICE



- Typically eligible for financial aid (student loans).
- Student loan deferment is typically possible.
  - Contact the Program Director for more information
  - The loan agency may have documents that need to be completed to verify your status in an accredited program.
- Federal Student Aid: https://studentaid.gov

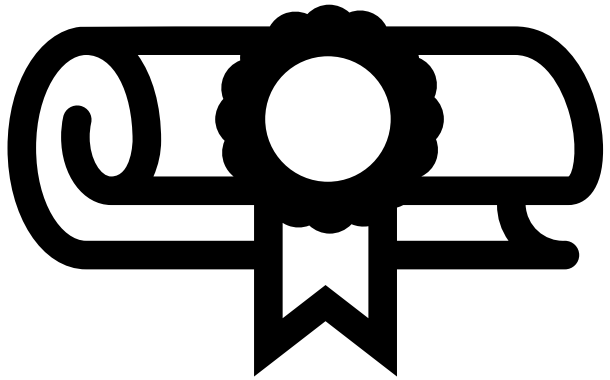
brochure: https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/graduate-professional-funding-info.pdf

FINANCIAL AID
NON-UNIVERSITY BASED SUPERVISED PRACTICE



- Non-university internships (private or corporate) are typically not eligible for financial aid (student loans).
- BUT co-enrolled in master's may be eligible
- Student loan deferment, if allowed by the intern's lender, may be possible.
  - Contact the Program Director for more information
  - The loan agency may have documents that need to be completed to verify the intern's status in an accredited program.

SCHOLARSHIPS



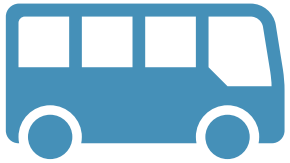
- The California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation (CANDF)
  - For more information: https://dietitian.org/
- The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation
  - For more information: https://www.eatrightpro.org/membership/student-member-center/scholarships-and-financial-aid
  - Academy Student Membership is required ($58).
- UC Davis Department of Nutrition has a Supervised Practice scholarship.
  - Accepted applicants will be notified in late April/early May.
- Diversity Scholarships: to increase the diversity of the profession:
  - National Organization of Blacks in Dietetics and Nutrition (NOBIDAN)
  - Latinos and Hispanics in Dietetics and Nutrition (LAHIDAN)
  - Diversify Dietetics
  - Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics Foundation Advancing Diversity in Dietetics Scholarship
- Others

HOUSING



- You are required to locate your own housing.
  - Costs depend on location, type of unit, and roommates.
- Need to secure well ahead of the program start.
- Compare cost-of-living for different areas:
  - https://money.cnn.com/calculator/pf/cost-of-living/

TRANSPORTATION



Most programs require reliable transportation to/from sites



Medical center-based programs: most rotations on-site



Personal vehicles will need to be insured with proof of liability insurance.

FOOD & INCIDENTALS



Food



Professional clothing, lab coat



Texts, computer and resources



Immunizations



Background checks

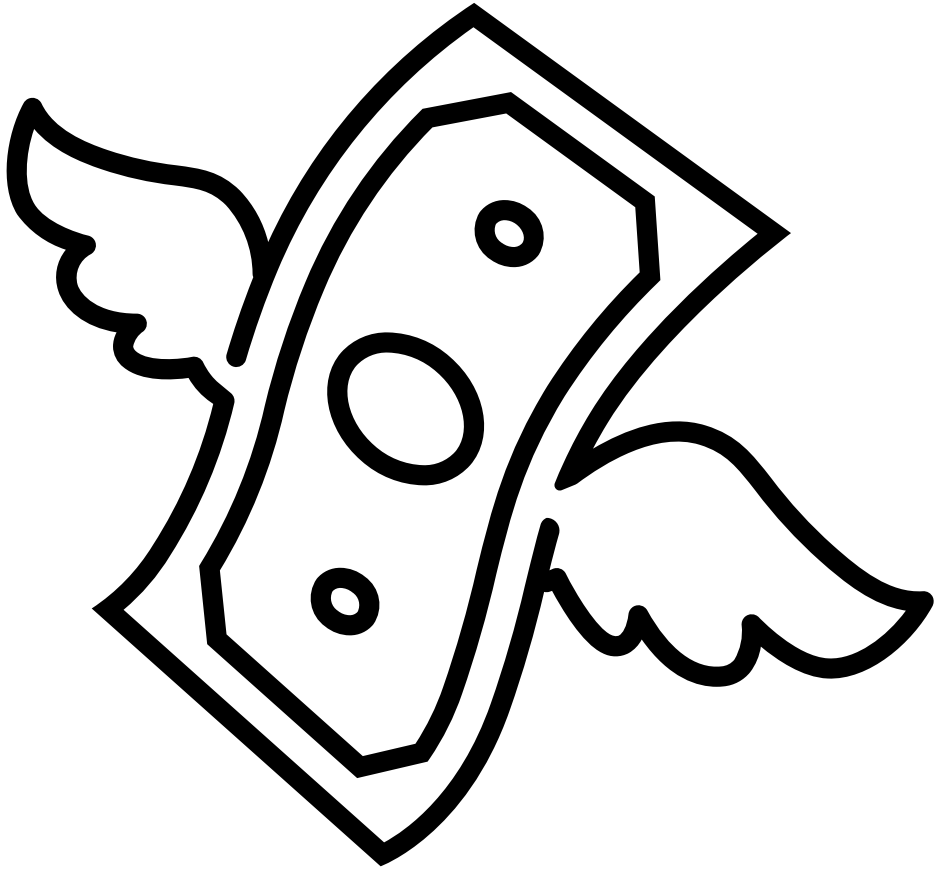


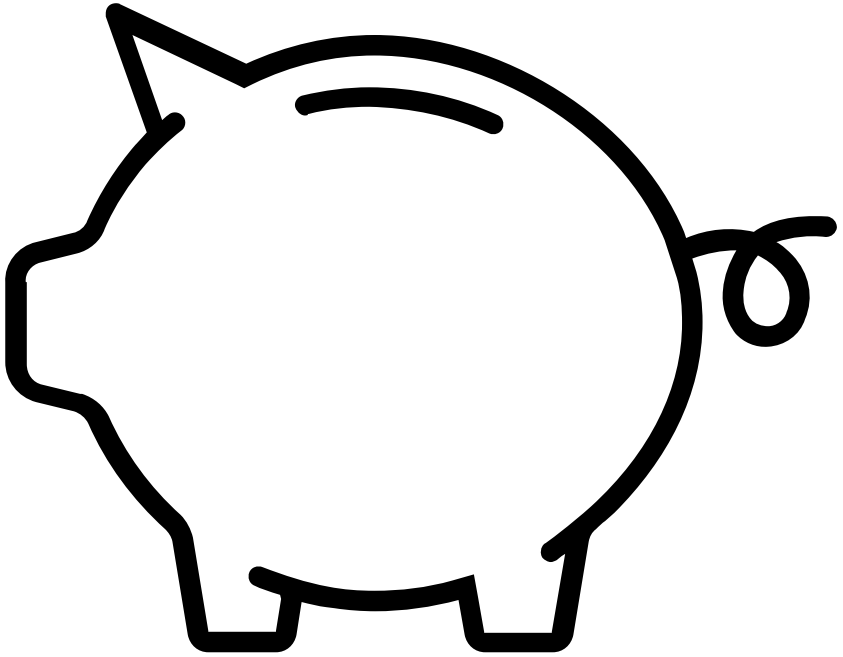
Conference fees

TITLE IV FEDERAL STUDENT AID PROGRAMS

- **DI Eligibility to Participate in Title IV Federal Student Aid Programs**
- ACEND is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a Title IV gatekeeper and its accreditation of freestanding internship programs enables these internship programs to seek eligibility to participate in Title IV Federal Student Aid Programs. Once participation is granted, students participating in that internship would have the option of seeking federal student aid.

PRIVATE LOANS





TAKING A GAP YEAR OR TWO!

GREAT WAY TO SAVE $ FOR GRAD SCHOOL / DIETETIC INTERNSHIP!

RESOURCES



2024-25 APPLICANT GUIDE TO SUPERVISED PRACTICE

(for cost comparison)



PROGRAM WEBSITES



Careers4RDN.Com

ESTIMATED COST OF LIVING:

Stipends

☐ Monetary ☐ Available to all | ☐ Tuition Waiver ☐ Available to all | ☐ Assistantship ☐ Available to all | ☐ Fee Waiver ☐ Available to all | ☐ Parking ☐ Available to all | ☐ Other Stipend ☐ Available to all

If checked, stipend is available to all students without restrictions; however, this does not guarantee a student will be awarded a stipend even if a stipend is available the student is eligible. Any eligibility restrictions are explained below.

Stipend Restrictions:

Percentage of students/interns awarded stipend (5 year average):

Estimated Stipend Value: Year one: $ | Year two: $

Living Expenses

Meals

Meals: Some | % of Meals Provided: | Estimated Meal Cost: $ 1000-3000

Insurance

Liability Insurance provided? Yes | If not provided, cost of liability insurance per year: $

Health Insurance provided? No | If not provided, cost of health insurance per year: $ 1200-2400

Housing and Transportation

Housing assistance provided? No | If not provided, estimated rent per month: $ 1200-2000

Is a car required? Yes | Estimated transportation cost per year: $ 3000

Dues and Fees

Required Dues During Internship

Academy Student Membership? Yes | Local District Membership? Yes | Other Memberships? No

Application Fees

Program Application Fee: $ 75 | Grad School Application Fee: $ 55 | Other Application Fee: $ 55

Program Fees

Year One:	All Students/Interns: $		Resident: $		Non-resident: $
Year Two:	All Students/Interns: $		Resident: $		Non-resident: $

Tuition and Course Work

Tuition

Year One:	All Students/Interns: $	14,385	Resident: $		Non-resident: $
Year Two:	All Students/Interns: $		Resident: $	5287	Non-resident: $ 9251

Course Work (cost if not included in tuition)

Graduate credits required? Yes | Number of graduate credits required: 24

Cost per Credit: All Students/Interns: $ | Resident: $ | Non-resident: $

Finances

Employment Opportunities during Program

Job opportunities: Outside employment strongly discouraged

Program recommendations:

Financial Aid

Any financial aid: Yes | Government loans: Yes | Scholarships: No | Assistantships: No

Financial aid website: http://www.sfsu.edu/~finaid

Other: In the past, financial aid award was only enough to cover tuition (loan, not grant)

Other Expenses - Please visit program's website for detailed additional expenses.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: Refer to program's website for most-up-to-date information.

Overall Cum. GPA: 2.7 | Min. DPD GPA: 3 | Min. Science GPA: | Min. DPD Prof GPA:

GRE required? No | Min. Verbal: | Min. Quant.: | Min. Writing: | Avg Overall Cum. GPA Interns: 3.5

Work Exp.: Recommended | Vol. Exp.: Recommended | Interview Rqd.: Video

EVALUATION OF APPLICANTS: Applicants are ranked based on multiple factors; 1 represents the most important on the scale.

Rank 1	DPD GPA	Rank 3	References	Rank 5	Cum. GPA	Rank 7	DPD Prof. GPA
Rank 2	Work Experience	Rank 4	Volunteer Experience	Rank 6	Interview	Rank 8	Personal Statement

Other: Prior work and/or volunteer strongly recommended. Phone interview given only for the top ~40 candidates, which is based on the other criteria.

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Spring Match: Yes | Fall Match: No | DICAS Appl: Yes | DnD Match: Yes | Grad Degree Rqd: No | Verif. Statement Rqd: Yes

US Citizenship Rqd: | Accept Intl Students: No | Interns Pre-Selected: Yes | Assess. Prior Learning Avail: No

Addtnl Requirements: DPD completion required prior to starting internship rotations.

University of California San Francisco Medical Center Dietetic Internship

ESTIMATED COST OF LIVING:

Stipends

- [x] Monetary — [x] Available to all
- [ ] Tuition Waiver — [ ] Available to all
- [ ] Assistantship — [ ] Available to all
- [ ] Fee Waiver — [ ] Available to all
- [ ] Parking — [ ] Available to all
- [ ] Other Stipend — [ ] Available to all

If checked, stipend is available to all students without restrictions; however, this does not guarantee a student will be awarded a stipend even if a stipend is available the student is eligible. Any eligibility restrictions are explained below.

Stipend Restrictions:

Percentage of students/interns awarded stipend (5 year average): 100

Estimated Stipend Value: Year one: $ 40000 Year two: $

Living Expenses

Meals

Meals: Some % of Meals Provided: 75 Estimated Meal Cost: $ 13

Insurance

Liability Insurance provided? Yes If not provided, cost of liability insurance per year: $ 0

Health Insurance provided? Yes If not provided, cost of health insurance per year: $ 0

Housing and Transportation

Housing assistance provided? No If not provided, estimated rent per month: $ 1000-2000

Is a car required? No Estimated transportation cost per year: $ 100-600

Dues and Fees

Required Dues During Internship

Academy Student Membership? Yes Local District Membership? Rec'd Other Memberships? No

Application Fees

Program Application Fee: $ 50 Grad School Application Fee: $ Other Application Fee: $

Program Fees

Year One:	All Students/Interns: $	Resident: $	Non-resident: $
Year Two:	All Students/Interns: $	Resident: $	Non-resident: $

Tuition and Course Work

Tuition

Year One:	All Students/Interns: $	Resident: $	Non-resident: $
Year Two:	All Students/Interns: $	Resident: $	Non-resident: $

Course Work (cost if not included in tuition)

Graduate credits required? No Number of graduate credits required:

Cost per Credit: All Students/Interns: $ Resident: $ Non-resident: $

Finances

Employment Opportunities during Program

Job opportunities:

Program recommendations:

Financial Aid

Any financial aid: No Government loans: No Scholarships: No Assistantships: No

Financial aid website: http://nutrition.ucsf.edu/internship-benefits-financial-information

Other:

Other Expenses - Please visit program's website for detailed additional expenses.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: Refer to program's website for most-up-to-date information.

Overall Cum. GPA: Min. DPD GPA: 3 Min. Science GPA: Min. DPD Prof GPA:

GRE required? No Min. Verbal: Min. Quant.: Min. Writing: Avg Overall Cum. GPA Interns:

Work Exp.: Recommended Vol. Exp.: Recommended Interview Rqd.: Video

EVALUATION OF APPLICANTS: Applicants are ranked based on multiple factors; 1 represents the most important on the scale.

Rank 1	Interview	Rank 3	Work Experience	Rank 5	Volunteer Experience	Rank 7	References
Rank 2	DPD Sci. GPA	Rank 4	Personal Statement	Rank 6	Cum. GPA	Rank 8	

Other:

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Fall Deadline: Spring Deadline: 1/15/2025 DICAS Appl: Yes Grad Degree Rqd: Yes Verif. Statement Rqd: Yes

US Citizenship Rqd: No Accept Intl Students: Yes Assess. Prior Learning Avail: No

Addtnl Requirements:

SAN FRANCISCO STATE MA/DI

Tuition & University Fees: *Subject to change	
Tuition for Certificate in Dietetics/DI only (for those who already have a graduate degree)*	$15,240 (updated 12/17/24)
Tuition for the Certificate in Dietetics/DI and the M.A. in Family & Consumer Sciences – CA Resident/Non-Resident*	$23,798/$26,318 (updated 12/17/24)
Application document review fee *	$70
Non-refundable application fee x 2 to Graduate Division *	$110
Transcript fee *	$8
Internship Requirements:	
Professional work clothes, lab coat, shoes	$600
Book and online resources	$300
Required medical requirements such as titers, TB tests, physical exam	$350
Background check, drug testing, fingerprinting	$200
Hospital onboarding fee	$50
Computer/tablet and reliable internet access	$3000
Attendance at a professional conference	$200
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Student Membership	$58
Membership in local Dietetic Association	$15
Personal health insurance	$100-$800 per month
Personal auto insurance	$100-$250 per month
Transportation and parking	$100-$400 per month
Living Expenses:	
Rent and utilities	$800-$1500 per month
Food and personal items	$500-$1000 per month

UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC COORDINATED PROGRAM

Tuition

Fall 2026/Spring 2027/Summer 2027

Estimated tuition per semester/term[1]	$15,525
Tuition per unit	$1,035
Total number of units/program	59 units
Length of Master of Science in Clinical Nutrition Program (4 semesters/terms)	16 months

[1] *Additional fees and/or tuition increases associated with the programs are not included in this estimate.*

Other Estimated Costs

Masters of Science in Clinical Nutrition estimated program costs per trimester for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Expense Description	Cost
Application Fee (one time only)	$50
Wellness Fee	$300
Professional Liability Insurance	No cost to student
Health Insurance	$2,524[2]
Physical Examination, Immunizations	$345[3]
Background check and Toxicology Screen	$120 one-time[4]
Clinical Education Site Onboarding Requirements	$36.50 one-time[5]
Housing/Meals/Transportation	Varies by student and accommodations $5,000 to $6,000 sample estimation (student responsibility)[6]
Auto Insurance	Varies (student responsibility)
Textbooks and Reference Materials	~$550 to $600 Tri 1, $100 to $200 each Tri 2, 3, 4
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Student Membership/California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Student Membership (renewed annually)	$65 annually[7]
Nutrition Care Professionals (NCPro) (one time only)	$120 one-time fee (Tri 1) for 18-month access[8]
EHR Go (one time only; 2nd trimester)	$45 one-time fee (Tri 1)[9]
ServSafe Manager Certification	One-time fee (Tri 1); You may choose either method described below this table.
Slip-Resistant Shoe Coverings	$8.99 one-time fee (Tri 1)
Cut Gloves (one time only)	$8.99 one-time fee (Tri 1)
Parking	https://www.pacific.edu/student-life/safety-and-conduct/public-safety/campus-parking
Graduation Fee	There is no graduation fee.
Estimated Total Cost per Trimester	$22,526 to $24,549[10]
Estimated Total Costs for the Program	$95,057 (4 Trimesters)[11]

UC DAVIS DIETETIC INTERNSHIP

One Time Fees

Application fee due with application packet (non-refundable)	$50
Program administration fee due after July 1st and no later than July 15th prior to starting the program	$5,000 (subject to change)
Lab coats* (optional)	$35-$45 each
Books, calculator, other supplies*	$200 (variable)
AND student membership	$58
NADA (Northern Area Dietetic Association) student membership	$25
RD Exam Application Fee (incurred after internship)	$250
TOTAL	$5,618 - $5,628

Estimated Monthly Costs

Housing, unfurnished, 1 bedroom (1 bedroom apartment $800 - $2,000) (2 bedroom apartment/house: Cost per occupant $500 - $1,000)	$500 - $2,000
Utilities	$150 (variable)
Miscellaneous (recreation, entertainment, etc.)	$100 (variable)
Food, clothing, personal items	$200 - $400 (variable)
Auto/transportation (travel)/insurance/related expenses	$200 - $300 (variable)
Medical/dental insurance/expenses	$100 (variable)
Parking permit	$68/mo.
TOTAL	**$1,366 - $3,118 per month**

QUESTIONS?

