Dear Potential Preceptor,

My name is Beth Schwenk, and I am the director of the University of Delaware Dietetic Internship and MS/DI programs. This program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) to accept up to 45 dietetic interns annually. The program is delivered online for all interns using the Canvas learning management system.

Students who live outside the State of Delaware are required to locate their own preceptors and facilities, subject to approval by the Internship faculty. The program consists of a **clinical nutrition rotation (12 weeks), foodservice management rotation (7 weeks), community nutrition rotation (6 weeks), and an elective rotation (3 weeks)**. These rotations may be completed in any order. If you choose to become a preceptor, and your student is accepted into this program, you will receive the link to our preceptor portal where you can download the preceptor guide, all curriculum documents and evaluation forms. An affiliation agreement between your facility and the University of Delaware must be in place before an intern can begin his/her rotation.

The Internship experience begins with a one-week orientation program starting in mid-July. Orientation is held in Newark, Delaware on the campus of the University of Delaware. All interns admitted to the Dietetic Internship must attend this orientation program before they can begin their supervised practice rotations.

Interns are required to complete several assignments and readings during each rotation. The instructions for the assignments will be posted on the preceptor portal. Your input is valued greatly, but you are not responsible for grading the assignments—internship faculty will grade them.

In addition to the supervised practice experience, interns complete the didactic portion of the program on Tuesday mornings from 9:35-10:55am EST. This course is delivered online and is a mandatory component of the internship.

Preceptor responsibilities include:

* Helping the intern identify supervised practice opportunities to allow them to meet the required competencies
* Supervising the intern as they complete the activities identified above
* Allowing the intern to observe your work
* Co-signing the intern’s notes, depending on the setting
* Signing the intern’s time log to verify the number of hours he/she has spent in supervised practice
* Completing the evaluation forms at the end of the rotation. The clinical nutrition rotation also requires an evaluation around the midpoint of the rotation (around week 6). Evaluation forms can be completed online to decrease the amount of paperwork that is required.

Internship faculty will be available by phone, e-mail or Zoom to conduct evaluations, answer questions, or handle any concerns you may have. Please feel free to browse our [website](https://www.udel.edu/academics/colleges/chs/departments/hbns/graduate-programs/dietetic-internship/) for more information about our program or contact me directly at (302) 831-3538 or [bschwenk@udel.edu](mailto:bschwenk@udel.edu).

I appreciate your consideration to become a preceptor—without preceptors, students cannot take the next step to becoming a registered dietitian.

Sincerely,

Beth Schwenk, MS, RDN, LDN, FAND