Master of Clinical Nutrition, MCN

Admission

Applicants to the MCN program must either have completed a Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) or meet the following course requirements:

- have a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution in the United States;
- have a minimum cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.00 on a 4.00 scale;
- have health care or food service work experience in the field;
- submit three recommendation letters (one from a collegiate academic reference, one from a health care or food service experience supervisor, and one from anyone in an academic or work setting);
- submit curriculum vitae or resume
- submit personal statement (1,000 words or fewer) outlining motivation for entering the dietetics profession, relevant experiences that have contributed to professional preparation, short-term and long-term career goals, and an assessment of personal strengths and areas for growth
- meet education requirements (see the following section, "Education Requirements").

Applicants whose first language is not English must submit official test scores to verify English proficiency. They can do this by submitting official test scores for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). In order to review an application, official TOEFL scores must be received from the Educational Testing Service. Only the IBT (internet-based test) is accepted. A minimum total score of 93 and a speaking score of 26 are necessary for entry into the program.

Education Requirements

Biological Sciences Coursework

- At least one semester of biology (animal or human) or general zoology.
- An animal, exercise, or human physiology course.
- An animal or human anatomy course.
- At least two additional courses in advanced biology or advanced physiology. Examples of courses include cell biology, genetics, immunology, microbiology, molecular biology, pharmacology, embryology, endocrinology, histology, or neuroscience.

Chemical Sciences Coursework

- At least one semester of inorganic chemistry.
- At least one semester of organic chemistry.
- An introductory or general biochemistry course.

Statistical Sciences Coursework

- A general statistics or biostatistics course.

Professional Coursework

- At least one nutrition course such as introductory nutrition, lifespan nutrition, advanced nutrition, or medical nutrition therapy.

Recency of Education Requirements

Additional courses in dietetics or a related area are required to update a degree that was completed five or more years prior to the current application deadline. The number of required credits is outlined as follows.

- 5–10 years (3 s.h. of medical nutrition therapy or clinical nutrition).
- 10 or more years (3 s.h. of medical nutrition therapy, 3 s.h. of physiology, 3 s.h. of biochemistry).

Application Process

Application should be made through the Master of Clinical Nutrition program. All materials for the application, including three recommendations and college transcripts, must be received by February 1.

If required, official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores should be sent to the University of Iowa using institution code 6681.

The University of Iowa online application for admission requires a nonrefundable application fee of $60 for U.S. applicants and $100 for international applicants.