Most students who pursue nutrition and dietetics have two different interest areas. Nutritionists focus on the role of nutrients and draw on the social sciences to draw on factors of food and eating. Dietitians are often focused in healthcare and helping individuals meet dietary needs. Many students will pursue advanced degrees to excel in areas such as clinical nutrition, community/public health, food service management, education, and others.

**COMMON EMPLOYERS**

- Government Feeding Programs (WIC)
- Health and Fitness Centers
- Universities
- Research Institutions
- PeaceCorps
- Hospitals and Clinics
- Community Centers
- Correctional Facilities
- Nursing Homes
- Restaurants
- U.S. Department of Health
- Food & Drug Administration
- National Institute of Health
- Center for Disease Control & Prevention

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- American Dietetic Association
- American Nutrition Association
- American Society for Nutrition
- National Association of Nutrition Professionals

**STRATEGIES ON ENTERING THE FIELD**

- Most positions require the Registered Dietitian (RD) credential. Become an RD through an accredited bachelor’s or master’s program followed by an approved, supervised internship. RD’s must also pass the Registration Examination for Dietitians
- Scientific aptitude is a must in this profession
- Get involved in campus wellness and peer education groups
- Volunteer in hospitals or nursing care facilities to gauge interests
- Over half of dietitians and nutritionists work in hospitals, nursing homes, or physicians’ offices

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