**Changes to the Medical Dietetics Coordinated Undergraduate Program**

Our Medical Dietetics (MD) program will stop accepting incoming Freshmen starting in August 2017. This is because Medical Dietetics (MD) programs across the country will become Master’s degree programs. All new RDs will be required to have a master’s degree starting in 2024. Without our MD program as an option, many students who want to be MDs are considering the Human Nutrition Dietetics major which at OSU is housed in the College of Education and Human Ecology. That program doesn’t include an internship; students apply for one prior to graduation and complete it the year after they graduate.

Some common questions about EHE’s nutrition program are:

- Can I still get my RD?
  - Yes, after your internship.
- What is the difference between what I will learn in the Nutrition program versus the Dietetics program?
  - Nothing; the only difference is that the internship is not included.
- Am I guaranteed an internship?
  - No. About 50% of nutrition students in the US get internships; at OSU it is 70%. Students have 5 years to complete an internship so they can reapply if they aren’t matched their first year. I am not sure how many students don’t even apply for an internship- such as students who want to go to medical school- so I don’t know if it 70% of all OSU Nutrition students or just the students who applied; an EHE advisor can answer that for you.
- If I earn my RD before 2024, will I need a master’s degree?
  - It is possible, but not likely. We don’t know how the change will impact current RDs. In the past- when other careers have increased their education requirements- professionals who were already practicing in the field would either: 1) be perfectly fine and not have to do any extra work, or 2) asked to do extra continuing education before renewing their license (for example, if right now RDs need 30 hours of continuing education every 2 years then they may be asked to do 45 hours instead).

One thing to consider is that the move in MD to a Master’s program offers an exciting option for you: an undergraduate program in another area of interest and a graduate degree in Dietetics. Most graduate programs don’t care what you major in as long as you have the required prerequisite classes and a good GRE score (the GRE is like the ACT for graduate schools).

**If you are not an incoming Freshmen for August 2017 and you have taken some Med Diet pre-requisites at another institution and would like an advisor to look over your courses, please set up an appointment by contacting the Student Services Office at 614-292-1706 to see if you would be eligible to apply to the Coordinated Undergrad Med Diet program**