

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Michael K. Young, President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Clinical Nutrition Degree Program with a major in Clinical Nutrition and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) leading to a Master of Clinical Nutrition with a major in Clinical Nutrition, authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is proposing a new professional degree program as a Master of Clinical Nutrition (MCN) with a major in Clinical Nutrition for Fall 2019. The program capitalizes on the current and future need for registered dietitians in Texas and nationwide, to advance nutrition in the treatment and prevention of acute and chronic disease. Starting in 2024, the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) and the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) will require at least a Master's degree to be administered the national credentialing exam to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). Texas A&M and the Department of Nutrition and Food Science are uniquely positioned to offer a strong background in nutritional biochemistry followed by at least 1,200 hours of a clinical dietetic internship with approved preceptors to meet and exceed the national standards for students to become an RDN.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Estimated expense budget of \$379,709 includes personnel costs for a faculty coordinator, an advisor/recruiter, administrative support, and graduate teaching assistant funded by Education and General Sources allocated in the departmental appropriated budget. A Dietetic Internship fee (\$1,875/semester) for supplies/materials is included in the operating budget over 5 years. This fee will also be used for student enhancement and experiential learning opportunities. Current market value of this fee for comparable MS-DI programs ranges from \$675 to \$9,060. By contrast, non-graduate degree granting dietetic internship-only programs currently charge up to \$10,000; therefore the proposed MCN is expected to be supported by market demands.

Certification Form for New Bachelor's and Master's Programs Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Directions: An institution shall use this form to request a new bachelor's or master's degree program that meets all criteria for approval in Coordinating Board Rules, Chapter 5, Subchapter C, Section 5.44:

- (a) The program has institutional and governing board approval; (b) the program complies with the *Standards for Bachelor's and Master's Programs*; (c) adequate funds are available to cover the costs of the new program; (d) new costs during the first five years of the program will not exceed \$2 million; (e) the program is a non-engineering program (i.e., not classified under CIP code 14); and (f) the program will be offered by a university or health-related institution.

If a new bachelor's or master's program does not meet the criteria above, an institution must submit a request using the *Form for Requesting a New Bachelor's and Master's Degree Program*.

Information: Contact the Division of Academic Quality and Workforce at 512/427-6200 for more information.

Administrative Information

1. **Institution:** Texas A&M University
2. **Program Name:** Master in Clinical Nutrition
3. **Proposed CIP Code:** 19.0501
4. **Number of Required Semester Credit Hours (SCHs)¹:** 36
5. **Administrative Unit:** Department of Nutrition and Food Science
6. **Delivery Mode:** On Campus Classes with Off-Site Clinical Internship
7. **Implementation Date:** August 2019
8. **Contact Person:**
 - Name: Dr. Stephen T. Talcott
 - Title: Professor & Associate Department Head
 - E-mail: stalcott@tamu.edu
 - Phone: 979-862-4056

¹ Bachelor's degrees should not exceed 120 SCH per Board rule 5.44 (a) (3). Those that exceed 120 SCH must provide detailed documentation describing the compelling academic reason for the number of required hours, such as programmatic accreditation requirements, statutory requirements, or licensure/certification requirements that cannot be met without exceeding the 120-hour limit.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

Date of Submission

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Clinical Nutrition Degree Program with a major in Clinical Nutrition and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University leading to a Master of Clinical Nutrition with a major in Clinical Nutrition.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University’s new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.”

Respectfully submitted,

Michael K. Young
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Executive Vice Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Texas A&M University

Master of Clinical Nutrition
with a major in Clinical Nutrition
(CIP 19.0501.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; Department of Nutrition and Food Science

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is proposing a new professional degree program as a Master of Clinical Nutrition (MCN) with a major in Nutrition at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M). The program will capitalize on the current and future need for registered dietitians in Texas and nationwide, to advance nutrition in the treatment and prevention of acute and chronic disease. Starting in 2024, the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) and the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) will require at least a Master's degree to be administered the national credentialing exam to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). Texas A&M and the Department of Nutrition and Food Science are uniquely positioned to offer a strong background in nutritional biochemistry followed by a mandatory 1,200 hour clinical dietetic internship with approved preceptors to meet and exceed the national standards for students to become an RDN.

Objectives:

The curriculum is designed to address the core competencies of dietetic internship programs as defined by ACEND to ensure requisite knowledge and skills needed for entry-level practice as a RDN. To attain these skills, the curriculum provides learning activities in a variety of practice settings based on the ACEND Core Knowledge and Competencies. These competencies are in four general areas of dietetic skills and practice: 1) Scientific and evidence based practice that integrates research translation; 2) Core beliefs, values, attitudes and behaviors that align with our professional Scope of Practice and Code of Ethics; 3) Development and delivery of information, products, and service to individuals, groups and populations; and 4) Application of principles of management and systems in the provision of services to individuals and organizations. The program is 36 SCH of required and elective courses along with an approved off-site professional internship of at least 1,200 hours.

The proposed implementation date is August 2019.

Texas A&M certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 5.45 in regards to need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards and costs. New costs during the first five years will not exceed \$2 million (if applicable).

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, by 2024 employment in nutrition and dietetics is projected to increase by 16% with a projected growth of 28% in Texas. This is in comparison to the expected average growth in employment of 7%. Hospitals are the primary employer of credentialed RDN graduates, but other employers are seeking these individuals including clinical environments such as outpatient care centers and physician offices. Some emerging markets for RDNs include individual private practice, insurance and corporate wellness, medical research, and social media. In 2002 the National Institute of Medicine encouraged public and corporate health communities to join forces to promote health and prevent disease within its workforce. As a result, employers may seek out an RDN to manage and implement worksite wellness programs for disease prevention to lower the cost of health care within the organization. RDNs are trained with a strong nutritional biochemistry and physiology focus and possess counseling skills to motivate behavior changes, problem solve, be a health coach, and assess fitness. These skills are acquired and developed in our dietetics curriculum and internship programs.

Practicing RDNs have an ongoing requirement for accurate interpretation and translation of research into dietetic practice. They have a professional responsibility to understand research methods, critically evaluate research methods and outcomes, and create effective intervention plans that optimize health outcomes. Other trends that impact the practice include consumer demands for health-promotion, preventive care, innovative and sustainable food systems, enhanced models for disease prevention, consultation for complementary and alternative dietary treatments, and public advocacy to address health disparities. These are characteristics of a practicing professional, and are key elements of training in a graduate professional program. The proposed MCN program will develop both technical and clinical skills along with critical thinking skills to successfully train the next generation of dietitians.

The impact of medical science, technology, and changes to healthcare systems on dietetic practice is also expected to result in a need for a higher level of practice. The knowledge base and skills for an entry level RDN must be more advanced to be prepared for this rapidly changing and evolving workforce. As such, a more rigorous curriculum above that of a bachelor's degree is required to prepare future dietetics practitioners. To address this, CDR has set a future mandate that by 2024 those sitting for the credentialing exam for RDNs have a minimum of a graduate degree. The future model of the dietetics education proposed by ACEND includes a graduate curriculum, followed by or combined with experiential learning, which includes a dietetic internship supervised practice. This future model indicates that a Master's degree is necessary for a generalist or entry level practitioner and a doctoral degree for a specialist practitioner.

The MCN program proposed for the Nutrition and Food Science (NFSC) department with a focus on clinical practice over a research focus will help future dietetics practitioners at the entry level beyond the core knowledge provided in current graduate programs. The professional groups that oversee RDN on a national level agree that an advance degree is necessary to address the increased knowledge requirements from improved critical thinking to acquisition of greater clinical practice skills. The professional degree being proposed is akin to other health professions where academics are put into clinical practice as part of the pedagogy of the program. In order for dietetics to remain abreast with changes in practice, healthcare, and other health professionals our clinical dietetic practitioners will require the proposed MCN program in order for the Texas A&M Dietetic Internship and Baylor University-Medical Center programs to remain accredited.

A. Projected Enrollment

Based on current ACEND accreditations, the Texas A&M and Baylor Medical Center Dietetic Internship programs each have a maximum enrollment of 12 students per year or 48 total students in the program over a 2-year matriculation. With attrition, this leads to an anticipated enrollment of 8 new students in year 1, 18 in year 2, and a steady state of 22 new students by year 3 or a total enrollment of 44 students for the 2 year program. This would represent approximately 50% of the total number of current graduate students in the NFSC department. Our future growth will rely on additional partnerships with non-degree granting dietetic internship programs, availability of rotations sites for the supervised practice, and application for additional intern positions with ACEND, so we would advance our numbers incrementally.

B. Existing State Programs

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board uses CIP code 19.0501 for other graduate degrees in Nutrition, offered by the Nutrition and Food Science department. However, there is only one other known graduate program in clinical nutrition in the state at University of Texas-Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, taught as a coordinated program for dietitians and a second track for healthcare providers.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

No new faculty hires are requested. The curriculum will be derived from current courses offered by NUTR, HLTH, and KINE all faculty are classified as support faculty to the program. These support faculty members are predominately tenured associate and full professors and have backgrounds specific to the field of nutrition and health and meet SACSCOC requirements for their faculty status.

B. Program Administration

The Associate Department Head of Nutrition and Food Science will provide administrative oversight.

C. Other Personnel

A dietetics internship coordinator will continue to provide leadership and serve as a liaison between students and internship preceptors as part of the assigned duties for this position. Our current graduate academic advisor/recruiter and administrative assistant will continue to provide program assistance.

D. Supplies, Materials

A moderate amount of basic office supplies and program support items will be required including print materials, brochures, and recruiting posters.

E. Library

All necessary library resources are already in place, both at the University level and via the internet.

F. Equipment, Facilities

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences has over 300 faculty members and around 6500 undergraduates. NFSC (nfs.tamu.edu) has over 60 graduate students split evenly between nutrition and food science. The participating departments have adequate space to accommodate the increase in graduate student numbers, and as the program expands, the curriculum can be expanded to accommodate additional electives and to better serve the future needs of the students.

G. Accreditation

The dietetics program is currently approved and accredited every 7 years by The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) and the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) administers the national credentialing exam only to eligible students from accredited programs. To maintain this accreditation past 2024, our students must possess a graduate degree to be eligible for the national credentialing exam.

III. NEW 5 YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS		SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	0	Formula Income	\$614,253
Program Administration	\$272,269	Statutory Tuition	\$151,600
Graduate Assistants	\$18,488	Reallocation	\$255,343
Supplies & Materials	\$15,000	Designated Tuition	\$448,615
Library & IT Resources	0	Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities	0	Student fees	\$690,000
		Board Authorized Tuition	0
Other	0		
Estimated 5-Year Costs	\$379,709	Estimated 5-Year Revenues	\$2,159,811

October 6, 2017

Re: New Degree: Master of Clinical Nutrition

To: Dr. Carol Fierke, Provost and Executive Vice President

Through: Dr. David Reed, Associate Dean for Graduate Programs and Faculty Development

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

From: Dr. Steve Talcott, Associate Department Head, Department of Nutrition and Food Science

- **Degree Title:** Master of Clinical Nutrition
- **Level:** Master's Degree
- **Proposed CIP Code:** 19.0501
- **Proposed Proposal Submission:** October 2017
- **Program Description:** The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is proposing a new professional degree program as a Master of Clinical Nutrition for Fall 2019 for Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. The program capitalizes on the current and future need for registered dietitians in Texas and nationwide, to advance nutrition in the treatment and prevention of acute and chronic disease. Starting in 2024, The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics and the Commission on Dietetic Registration will *require* at least a Master's degree to be administered the national credentialing exam to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). Texas A&M University and the Department of Nutrition and Food Science are uniquely positioned to offer a strong background in nutritional biochemistry followed by a mandatory clinical dietetic internship with approved preceptors to meet and exceed the national standards for our students to become an RDN.
- **Justification and Need:** According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, by 2024 employment in nutrition and dietetics is projected to increase by 16% with a projected growth of 28% in Texas. Hospitals are the primary employer of credentialed RDN graduates, but other employers are seeking these individuals including clinical environments such as outpatient care centers and physician offices. Some emerging markets for RDNs include individual private practice, insurance and corporate wellness, medical research, and social media. The proposed degree program is a focus on clinical nutritional practice and will help future dietetics practitioners become nationally certified in their field. The professional groups that oversee the certification agree that an advance degree is necessary to address the increased knowledge requirements from improved critical thinking to acquisition of greater clinical practice skills. The professional degree is akin to other health professions where academics are put into clinical practice as part of the pedagogy of the program. In order for dietetics to remain abreast with changes in practice, healthcare, and other health professionals our clinical dietetic practitioners will require the proposal professional master's degree to remain accredited.
- **Anticipated Costs:** A 5-year cost of this program is estimated at \$774,750 that includes personnel costs for a faculty coordinator, an advisor/recruiter, administrative support, Texas AgriLife faculties that teach existing courses and provide high impact experiences, and supplies/materials for an operating budget.
- **Implementation Date:** Fall 2019

Best Regards,
Dr. Steve Talcott

220F Centeq A
1500 Research Parkway
MS 2253
College Station, TX 77843-2253

Email: stalcott@tamu.edu
Phone: 979-882-4056
Fax: 979-882-35378
Web: <http://nfac.tamu.edu>

Proposal for Bachelor's and Master's Degrees Program Information

Background Information

For professional integrity and credentialing reasons, an eminent need exists for future dietitians in America to have a graduate degree prior to sitting for the national exam to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). Texas A&M University (Texas A&M), the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, and the Department of Nutrition and Food Science (NFSC) are on the cutting edge of training these future dietitians, and a new graduate professional program in clinical nutrition allows not only our own students but students from other universities without a graduate program to benefit from the expertise on our campus. The Master in Clinical Nutrition (MCN) with a degree in Clinical Nutrition will be a professional graduate program with required coursework and a minimum of 1,200-hours dietetic internship experience that meet credentialing standards and requirements. Candidates for this professional degree will be limited to those who are selected into the Texas A&M dietetic internship program and other accredited and program-approved dietetic internships such as Baylor University Medical Center. The MCN will combine a rigorous curriculum on the Texas A&M campus with a subsequent off-site internship for students in a biomedical clinical setting to prepare students to become entry-level RDNs.

The current path to becoming an RDN includes completion of an accredited dietetics curriculum, a minimum of a Bachelor's degree, completion of an accredited dietetic internship program, and successful passage of the national credentialing exam. The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) accredits dietetic internship programs; the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) administers the credentialing exam to become an RDN. Together, these two entities establish guidance and standards on dietetics education and practice. Because of shifts in the dietetic profession and a drive to elevate the level of dietetics practice, CDR and ACEND have moved to elevate the minimum degree requirements to enter the dietetics profession beginning in 2024 to a Master's degree. To prepare for this new requirement, NFSC has partnered with the internship program at Baylor University Medical Center to develop a curriculum that meets accreditation standards and prepares students for this higher-level practice. This proposed MCN degree would combine rigorous nutrition education in nutritional biochemistry and other related disciplines in a student's first year that would allow for a supervised clinical practice in the second year. This professional program will address pending credentialing requirements from ACEND to become a licensed RDN and position Texas A&M University as a national leader in clinical dietetics. Because students from both internship programs will be provided the opportunity to attend courses on-campus at Texas A&M in the first year, the MCN degree will immediately increase graduate student numbers.

I. Need

A. Job Market Need:

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, by 2024 employment in nutrition and dietetics is projected to increase by 16% with a projected growth of 28% in Texas. This is in comparison to the expected average growth in employment of 7%. Hospitals are the primary employer of credentialed RDN graduates, but other employers are seeking these individuals including clinical environments such as outpatient care centers and physician offices. Some emerging markets for RDNs include individual private practice, insurance and corporate wellness, medical research, and social media. In 2002 the National Institute of Medicine encouraged public and corporate health communities to join forces to promote health and prevent disease within its workforce. As a result, employers may seek out an RDN to manage and implement worksite wellness programs for

disease prevention to lower the cost of health care within the organization. RDNs are trained with a strong nutritional biochemistry and physiology focus and possess counseling skills to motivate behavior changes, problem solve, be a health coach, and assess fitness. These skills are acquired and developed in our dietetics curriculum and internship programs.

Practicing RDNs have an ongoing requirement for accurate interpretation and translation of research into dietetic practice. They have a professional responsibility to understand research methods, critically evaluate research methods and outcomes, and create effective intervention plans that optimize health outcomes. Other trends that impact the practice include consumer demands for health-promotion, preventive care, innovative and sustainable food systems, enhanced models for disease prevention, consultation for complementary and alternative dietary treatments, and public advocacy to address health disparities. These are characteristics of a practicing professional, and are key elements of training in a graduate professional program. The proposed MCN program will develop both technical and clinical skills along with critical thinking skills to successfully train the next generation of dietitians.

The impact of medical science, technology, and changes to healthcare systems on dietetic practice is also expected to result in a need for a higher level of practice. The knowledge base and skills for an entry level RDN must be more advanced to be prepared for this rapidly changing and evolving workforce. As such, a more rigorous curriculum above that of a bachelor's degree is required to prepare future dietetics practitioners. To address this, CDR has set a future mandate that by 2024 those sitting for the credentialing exam for RDNs have a minimum of a graduate degree. The future model of the dietetics education proposed by ACEND includes a graduate curriculum, followed by or combined with experiential learning, which includes a dietetic internship supervised practice. This future model indicates that a Master's degree is necessary for a generalist or entry level practitioner and a doctoral degree for a specialist practitioner.

The Council on Future Practice (CFP), established within the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, assisted in the identification of educational and credentialing needs to ensure educational programs adequately prepare dietetic students for the changes in patient/client needs. In the *2017 Visioning Report: A Preferred Path Forward for the Nutrition and Dietetics Profession*, CFP identified drivers of change in dietetics practice that would impact the profession and the education of future practitioners. Parameters identified that will impact the dietetics practice include diverse and complex medical diagnosis of patients, an aging population, impact of nutrigenomics on nutrition care, increased emphasis on outcomes research, changes in technology and information systems, and evolution of health professional curriculum models that include interprofessional education (IPE). These factors are expected to influence dietetics education by increasing curriculum requirements that can only be fully met via an advanced degree.

The MCN program proposed for the NFSC department with a focus on clinical practice over a research focus will help future dietetics practitioners at the entry level beyond the core knowledge provided in our current graduate programs. The professional groups that oversee RDN on a national level agree that an advanced degree is necessary to address the increased knowledge requirements for improved critical thinking to acquisition of greater clinical practice skills. The professional degree we propose is akin to other health professions where academics are put into clinical practice as part of the pedagogy of the program. In order for dietetics to remain abreast with changes in practice, healthcare, and other health professionals our clinical dietetic practitioners will require the proposal MCN program in order for the Texas A&M Dietetic Internship and Baylor University-Medical Center programs to remain accredited.

B. Student Demand:

The application and appointment process for a majority of dietetic internship programs includes a formal online application process, followed by computer matching to the program of the applicant's choice. This application and acceptance process is competitive, as there are often more applicants than program positions. In last 5 years, the number of national applicants to dietetic internship programs has increased by 16.8% but in 2016 the acceptance rate into dietetic internship programs was only 47% according to ACEND. The need for accredited dietetic internship programs has grown. With future requirements for a graduate degree, the combination of the dietetics internship and graduate degree as coordinated programs will be the norm. Per the ACEND web site, there currently are only 2 programs in Texas that have this combined option; the proposed MCN program would be the third. This potentially could result in literally hundreds of dietetics students desirous of the RDN accreditation. However, there are many programs in Texas that offer a graduate degree in conjunction with a dietetic internship program, but do not require the applicant complete the graduate degree prior to sitting for the credentialing exam. Taking the RDN national exam in the future will be contingent on earning at least a Master's degree. The proposed MCN would comply with this future contingency. Additionally, our focus on a professional program in clinical nutrition over a research-based science degree in nutrition is a major distinction for the proposed MCN degree. Future growth in enrollment in the MCN program will be limited to the number of internship preceptors that will accept our students for supervised practice.

C. Enrollment Projections:

Based on current ACEND accreditations, the Texas A&M University and Baylor Medical Center Dietetic Internship programs both have a maximum enrollment of 12 students per year or 48 total students in the program over a 2-year matriculation. This increase in graduate students would represent approximately 50% of the total number graduate students currently in the NFSC department. Our future growth will rely on additional partnerships with non-degree granting dietetic internship programs, availability of rotations sites for the supervised practice, and application for additional intern positions with ACEND, so we would advance our numbers incrementally.

**Estimated Cumulative Headcount and Full-Time Student Equivalent (FTSE)
 Enrollment for the First Five Years of the Proposed Program**

Masters Degree

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Comments
Students Returning from Previous Yr	0	7	17	21	21	
New Students	8	18	22	22	22	
Total # of Students	8	25	39	43	43	

FTSE	8	25	39	43	43	All students will be full time
Attrition Following Current Year	1	1	1	1	1	
Graduates During Current Year	0	7	17	21	21	

Projected headcount is based upon an estimated 2 year graduation rate of >95%, comparable to graduation rates of our existing NUTR and FSTC graduate programs.

II. Quality

A. Degree Requirements

The summary of the proposed MCN program is for a non-thesis track (36 credit hours) that includes a prescriptive core of courses and room for electives in the nutritional sciences graduate program. Students will take class on-campus at Texas A&M University in their first year and the second year will require an approved off-site clinical practice dietetic internship program.

Category	Non-thesis SCH
a. Required Courses (of all students)	23
b. Prescribed Elective	9
c. Elective Courses	0
d. Thesis/Dissertation	
e. Other (specify) (e.g. internships/clinical practicum, etc.)	4
TOTAL SCH REQUIREMENTS	36

B. Curriculum

The curriculum is organized into 3 key competency clusters with core classes in nutritional biochemistry (26 credits), directed study practice (6 credits), and a clinical internship practicum (4 credits). A maximum of 9 credit hours of combined NUTR 685 and NUTR 684 may be taken or not more than 4 credit hours of NUTR 684 and not more than 8 credit hours of NUTR 685.

Prefix and Number	Required Courses	SCH
NUTR 642	Nutritional Biochemistry II	3
NUTR 630	Nutrition and Disease	3
GENE 603	Genetics	3
KINE 637/638	Exercise Physiology I or II	3
STAT 601	Statistics	3
NUTR 681	Seminar	2
NUTR 685	Directed Studies	6

Prefix and Number	Prescribed Elective Courses	SCH
NUTR 610	Nutritional Pharmacometrics of Food Components	3

NUTR 613	Protein Metabolism	3
NUTR 618	Lipid Metabolism	3
NUTR 641	Nutritional Biochemistry I	3
NUTR 645	Nutrition and Metabolism of Vitamins	3
NUTR 650	Nutrition and Metabolism of Minerals	3
NUTR 689	Topics in Obesity Concepts and Challenges	3
NUTR 689	Topics in Nutrition and Healthy Aging	3
HLTH 607	International Health	3
HLTH 635	Race, Ethnicity and Health	3
KINE 628	Nutrition in Sport Exercise	3
VIBS 619	Food Toxicology II	3
COMM 669	Survey of Health Communications	3

Prefix and Number	Clinical Internship	SCH
NUTR 684	Professional Internship	4

Note: NUTR course pre-fixes will change to NFSC prefixes in Fall 2018.

C. Faculty

Most of the curriculum will be derived from current courses offered by NUTR, HLTH, and KINE, all faculty are classified as support faculty to the program. These support faculty members are predominately tenured associate and full professors and have backgrounds specific to the field of nutrition and health and meet SACSCOC requirements for their faculty status.

Name of <u>Support</u> Faculty and Faculty Rank	Highest Degree and Awarding Institution	Courses Assigned in Program	% Time Assigned To Program
Karen Geismar, Lecturer	M.S. Texas Women's University	Internship Coordinator	20%
Stephen Talcott, Professor	Ph.D. University of Arkansas	Administrative Oversight	20%
Chaodong Wu, Associate Professor	Ph.D. Beijing Medical University	NUTR 642	5%
Guoyao Wu, Professor	Ph.D. University of Alberta	NUTR 641	5%
Rosemary Walzem, Professor	Ph.D. U.C. Davis	NUTR 645/650	5%
Shaodong Guo, Associate Professor	Ph.D. Huazhong Agricultural Univ.	NUTR 630	5%
Stephen Smith, Professor	Ph.D. U.C. Davis	NUTR 618	5%
Yuxiang Sun, Assistant Professor	Ph.D. University of Manitoba	NUTR 689	5%
Susanne Talcott, Associate Professor	Ph.D. University of Florida	NUTR 610	5%
Nancy Turner, Research Professor	Ph.D. Texas A&M Univ.	NUTR 681	5%

Darren Clint, Professor	Ph.D. Colorado State Univ.	STAT 601	5%
Christopher Woodman, Professor	Ph.D. Univ. Arizona	KINE 637/638	5%
Clint Magill, Professor	Ph.D. Cornell Univ.	GENE 603	5%
Christine Tisone, Clinical Assist. Professor	Ph.D. Drexel Univ.	HLTH 607/635	5%
Steve Reichman, Associate Professor	Ph.D. Univ. Pittsburgh	KINE 628	5%
Tim Phillips, Distinguished Professor	Ph.D. Univ. Southern Mississippi	VIBS 619	5%
Richard Street, Professor	Ph.D. Univ. Texas	COMM 669	5%

2. What impact will the new program have on current programs in regards to faculty resources?

The NFSC department currently offers a Master of Science degree (thesis and non-thesis) and a doctoral nutrition program that is largely based on laboratory research (thesis) and pre-professional (ie. Allied Health Sciences for non-thesis). These degrees are offered to students who conduct research with an individual professor and are offered on a case-by-case basis. The proposed MCN degree is very different in that we will admit students as a class cohort and there is no expectation for laboratory research. As a professional program, a minimum of 1,200 hours clinical internship experience is essential for student training.

a. How will the new program possibly impact other departments?

We do not anticipate the MCN impacting other departments due to the national accreditation standards to become an RDN established by ACEND. With a current maximum of 24 new students per year, the current course schedules can easily handle additional students, as would be expected for any number of new graduate students at Texas A&M University.

b. How will the program impact current teaching assignments in department?

The Associate Department Head (Dr. Steve Talcott) will give administrative oversight for the new MCN program. All of the proposed courses are already being taught on campus across multiple departments. For courses outside of NFSC, the administration will work with participating departments on elective course rotations as to not burden faculty with too many additional students. We are also aware of College grants that are available to support the technology integration using Quality Matters for best practices.

D. Students

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Texas A&M University has an Assistant Dean for Student Success, Dr. Danielle Harris. Working with her recruiters across the state, the MCN program will be part of recruiting materials as a new major for those wishing to become an RDN. Since the path to this credential begins at the undergraduate

level, we will also work closely with our undergraduate dietetics faculty to promote the MCN program. We will also begin outside recruiting efforts for dietetics programs that do not offer or have not yet implemented a graduate degree in the area of nutrition and/or dietetics, such as Prairie View A&M University, to meet ACEND standards. We will also work with our College in undergraduate recruiting in Houston, San Antonio, and south Texas regions of the state with higher populations of both African American and Hispanic students. By recruiting minority undergraduate students into dietetics, they have a higher probability of a match (student to program) for their dietetic internship and acceptance into a graduate class cohort.

E. Library

All necessary library resources are already in place, both at the University level and via the internet.

F. Facilities and Equipment

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences has over 300 faculty members and around 6500 undergraduates. NFSC (nfs.tamu.edu) has over 60 graduate students split evenly between nutrition and food science. The participating departments have adequate space to accommodate the increase in graduate student numbers, and as the program expands, we can alter the curriculum to accommodate additional electives and to better serve the future needs of the students. The projected increase in student enrollment will also provide some additional resources to meet the teaching needs of this program after 5 years.

G. IT Resources

No new computing services are required for this program.

H. Supplies and Materials

A moderate amount of basic office supplies and program support items will be required including print materials, brochures, and recruiting posters.

I. Accreditation

The dietetics program is currently approved and accredited every 7 years by The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) and the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) administers the national credentialing exam only to eligible students from accredited programs. To maintain this accreditation past 2024, our students must possess a graduate degree to be eligible for the national credentialing exam.

J. Evaluation

The MCN program has been developed with the help of an external advisory group consisting of practicing clinical RDNs in the Bryan/College Station area as well as from the national standards of ACEND. The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences has a Program Manager who gives oversight to academic assessment and the NFSC department has a graduate assessment committee to conduct annual program evaluations. Data is loaded into the University's WEAVEonline system based upon the university student learning outcomes and the specific competency areas identified in the curriculum.

III. Costs and Funding¹

Five-Year Costs and Funding Sources

Five-Year Costs		Five-Year Funding	
Personnel ¹		Reallocated Funds	\$255,343
Faculty	0		
Administration	\$186,762		
Graduate Assistants	\$92,440.0		
Clerical/Staff	\$85,507		
Other Personnel	\$0		
Facilities	\$0	Statutory Tuition	\$151,600
Equipment	\$0	Designated Tuition	\$448,615
IT Resources	\$0	Graduate Tuition Above Statutory (\$50) Tuition	\$0
Supplies and Materials	\$15,000	Course Fees	\$0
Library	\$0	Anticipated New Formula Funding ³	\$614,253
Other ²	\$0	Special Item Funding	\$0
		Other ⁴ (Internship Fee)	\$690,000
Total Costs	\$379,709	Total Funding	\$2,159,811

1. Report costs for new faculty hires, graduate assistants, and technical support personnel. For new faculty, prorate individual salaries as a percentage of the time assigned to the program. If existing faculty will contribute to program, include costs necessary to maintain existing programs (e.g., cost of adjunct to cover courses previously taught by faculty who would teach in new program).
2. Specify other costs here (e.g., administrative costs, travel).
3. Indicate formula funding for students new to the institution because of the program; formula funding should be included only for years three through five of the program and should reflect enrollment projections for years three through five.
4. Report other sources of funding here. In-hand grants, "likely" future grants, and designated tuition and fees can be included.

¹ Please use the "Program Funding Estimation Tool" found on the CB website to correctly estimate state funding.

COSTS TO THE INSTITUTION OF THE PROGRAM/ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGE

Note: Use this chart to indicate the dollar costs to the institution that are anticipated from the change requested.

<u>Cost Category</u>	<u>Cost Sub-Category</u>	<u>1st Year</u>	<u>2nd Year</u>	<u>3rd Year</u>	<u>4th Year</u>	<u>5th Year</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
Faculty Salaries	(New)						
	(Reallocated)						
Program Administration	(New)						
	(Reassignments)	37,352	37,352	37,352	37,353	37,353	186,762
Graduate Assistants	(New) Internship Fee	18,488	18,488	18,488	18,488	18,488	92,440
	(Reallocated)						
Clerical/Staff	(New)						
	(Reallocated)	17,101	17,101	17,102	17,102	17,102	85,508
Supplies & Materials		3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	15,000
Library							
IT Resources							
Equipment							
Facilities							
Other (Identify)							
<u>TOTALS</u>		75,942	75,942	75,942	75,942	75,942	379,709

ANTICIPATED SOURCES OF FUNDING

<u>Funding Category</u>	<u>1st Year</u>	<u>2nd Year</u>	<u>3rd Year</u>	<u>4th Year</u>	<u>5th Year</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
I. Formula Income*			204,751	204,751	204,751	614,253
II. Other State Funding	18,488	18,488	18,488	18,488	18,488	92,440
III. Reallocation of Existing Resources	32,580	32,580	32,581	32,581	32,581	162,903
IV. Federal Funding (In-hand only)						
V. Other Funding						
Statutory Tuition	30,320	30,320	30,320	30,320	30,320	151,600
Designated Tuition	89,723	89,723	89,723	89,723	89,723	448,615
Graduate Tuition						
Internship Fee	60,000	135,000	165,000	165,000	165,000	690,000
Other						
<u>TOTALS</u>	231,111	306,111	540,863	540,863	540,863	2,159,811

NON-FORMULA SOURCES OF FUNDING

<u>Funding Category</u>	<u>Non-Formula Funding Sources</u>
II. Other State Funding*	#1
	#2
III. Reallocation of Existing Resources*	#1 #1 Education and General 02-130010
	#2 Graduate Enhancement 02-130089
IV. Federal Funding*	#1
	#2
V. Other Funding	#1 Statutory Tuition Designated Tuition Graduate Tuition Course Fees \$200
	Please indicate the \$ amount per SCH for each item.
	1. Other: Dietetic Internship Fee 02-250475. Fees go to student enhancement (at least 51%) including travel for interns and internship preceptors, high impact learning opportunities with preceptors, seminar speakers, continuing education opportunities, books and program supplies, and preceptor coordination efforts.

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Texas Public Institutions of Higher Education
New Bachelor's and Master's Program
Certification Form

Directions: Texas public universities and health-related institutions complete this form to add a new bachelor's or master's degree program, if the following criteria for streamlined approval are met, per Texas Administrative Code, Coordinating Board rule, Chapter 5, Subchapter C, Section 5.44 (a) (3): (A) the proposed program program has institutional and board of regents approval, (B) the institution certifies compliance with the Standards for New Bachelor's and Master's Programs, (C) the institution certifies that adequate funds are available to cover the costs of the new program, (D) new costs to the program during the first five years of the program would not exceed \$2 million, (E) the proposed program is a non-engineering program, and (F) the proposed program would be offered by a university or health-related institution.

If the proposed program does not meet the criteria for streamlined approval, the institution must submit a request using the Full Request Form.

Information: Contact the Division of Academic Quality and Workforce at 512-427-6200

Administrative Information

1. Institution: Texas A&M University

2. Proposed Program:

Show how the proposed program would appear on the Coordinating Board's Program Inventory (e.g., Bachelor of Business Administration with a major in accounting).

Master in Clinical Nutrition with a major in Clinical Nutrition

3. Proposed CIP Code:

List of CIP Codes may be accessed online at www.txhighereddata.org.

19.0501

4. Semester Credit Hours Required:

For Bachelor's Degree programs the number should be 120 SCH (if the number of SCH exceeds 120 for a Bachelor's Degree program, the institution must submit documentation explaining the compelling academic reason). For Master's Degree Programs, there is no set amount; however, 60 SCH is common.

36 SCH

5. Location and Delivery of the Proposed Program:

Provide the location of instruction and how the proposed program will be delivered to students (e.g., *face-to-face to students on the main campus in Lubbock*).

On Campus Classes with Off-Site Clinical Internship

6. Administrative Unit:

Identify where the proposed program would fit within the organizational structure of the university or health-related institution (*e.g.*, *Department of Biology within the College of Natural Sciences*).

Department of Nutrition and Food Science within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

7. Proposed Implementation Date:

Provide the date that students would enter the proposed program (MM/DD/YYYY).

August 2019

8. Contact Person:

Provide contact information for the person(s) who can answer specific questions about the proposed certificate program.

Name: Dr. Stephen T. Talcott

Title: Professor & Associate Department Head

E-mail: stalcott@tamu.edu

Phone: 979-862-4056

Signature Page

I hereby certify that all of the following criteria have been met in accordance with the procedures outlined in Coordinating Board Rules, Chapter 5, Subchapter C, Section 5.44 (a) (3):

- (A) The proposed program has institutional and governing board approval.
- (B) The institution certifies compliance with the Standards for New Bachelor's and Master's Programs
- (C) The institution certifies that adequate funds are available to cover the costs of the new program.
- (D) New costs during the first five years of the program would not exceed \$2 million.
- (E) The proposed program is a non-engineering program.
- (F) The proposed program would be offered by a university or health-related institution.

I certify that my institution has notified all public institutions within 50 miles of the teaching site of our intention to offer the proposed program at least 30 days prior to submitting this request. I also certify that if any objections were received, those objections were resolved prior to the submission of this request.

Carol A. Fierke

Provost and Executive Vice President

Date