

University of Vermont, Master of Science in Dietetics Program Required Activities & Assignments: Student's Choice

General Information

The Student's Choice supervised practice experience is an opportunity to complete a rotation at one or more community-based programs that focus on an area of personal interest. These are rotation sites that students otherwise would not have the opportunity to experience during the MSD program. Selected facilities may be nonprofit, not-for-profit, or for-profit that have a community health and nutrition focus.

The Student's Choice options must total 96 hours; at least 32 hours must be at a program related to food access (e.g., food shelf, food pantry, or food bank).

Types of programs may include, but are not limited to:

- Food bank
- Home delivered meals
- Community meals
- State Unit on Aging
- Area Agency on Aging
- SNAP-Ed
- Head Start
- Cooperative Extension System
- Dairy, Beef, or other Food Council
- Eating disorder advocacy group or treatment center

At the time of submitting their MSD application, students must identify the facilities where they will complete the rotation(s). However, they are not required to identify assignments until they are enrolled in the program.

Students are encouraged to schedule this rotation during the latter part of their SPE.

After being admitted into the program students must work with the preceptor to develop the activities and assignments with the appropriate CRDNs. Note that the activities and assignments must include more than just observation and shadowing. The facility and plan must be approved by the MSD Program Director prior to the start of the scheduled rotation.

Using the template and working with the preceptor, students will create the evaluation document for use at the facility.

Examples of Activities & Assignments

- Conduct a literature review on a topic assigned by the preceptor
- Write a blog post or newsletter article
- Create content for social media
- Create client education materials

- Create and deliver an in-service, workshop, or training to staff or community members on a topic assigned by the preceptor
- Develop, test, and analyze recipe
- Assist with a larger scale project/initiative currently happening at the facility

These are examples of possible activities or assignments and the list is certainly not exhaustive.