<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Employers</th>
<th>Information/Strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| CLINICAL  
Clinical Nutrition | Hospitals  
Health centers and clinics  
Home health providers  
Health maintenance organizations (HMOs)  
Nursing homes  
Residential care centers  
Dialysis centers  
Diabetes care clinics  
Exercise and fitness centers | Volunteer in hospitals or nursing homes to gain experience working with patients or the elderly. Plan to earn the Hospital Registered Dietitian credential. Several years experience and possibly a graduate degree are required for specialties such as pediatrics, gerontology, sports, or critical care. |
| COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITION  
Health Promotion  
Education  
Program Planning and Implementation  
Administration  
Counseling  
Consultation | Public and home health agencies  
Social service agencies  
Community centers  
Federal, state, and local government  
Daycare centers  
Health and recreation clubs  
Health maintenance organizations (HMO's) | Gain extensive clinical experience before pursuing public health. Earn a master's degree for more opportunities. Seek experiences in the public health arena. Learn government application procedures. Develop strong presentation and public speaking skills. Learn to work well with all types of people. |
| FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT  
Menu Planning  
Budgeting  
Purchasing  
Food Preparation  
Personnel Management | Hospitals  
Schools  
Colleges and universities  
Company cafeterias  
Correctional facilities  
Camps  
Restaurants  
Hotels | Obtain work experience in any large-scale food service operation such as campus cafeterias. Take business courses and develop strong computer skills. Seek supervisory roles to gain experience. |
| FEDERAL GOVERNMENT  
Clinical Dietetics  
Nutrition Education and Teaching | Army | Learn federal government application |
| Administration \ Research | Navy
Air Force
NASA (National Aeronautics & Space Administration)
US Public Health Service: Indian Health Service, Food & Drug Administration, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control, Bureau of Health Care and Delivery, National Institutes of Health
US Department of Agriculture: WIC (Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children)
Veterans Administration Hospitals
Peace Corps and VISTA | procedures. Earn a Master's degree for advancement in research or administration. Pursue internships in government agencies. Maintain a strong grade point average. |
|---|---|
| CONSULTING | Private practice
Physicians' offices
Weight loss clinics
Nursing homes
Health clubs and spas
Restaurants
Catering services
Food manufacturers
Sports teams
Health-related magazines and Internet sites
Newspapers | Gain experience and expertise in a specialty area of nutrition. Earn additional certifications in fields such as fitness or athletic training. Find a need in the community and fill it. An entrepreneurial spirit is required! Be prepared to work in several areas at one time. Develop excellent written and verbal communication skills. Learn how to promote oneself. |
| Diet Counseling
Education and Programming
Writing | Food manufacturers
Pharmaceutical companies
Health-related businesses
Weight loss programs
Restaurant and hotel chains
Public relations firms with food industry | Supplement curriculum with courses in business administration, marketing, or advertising. Develop strong written and verbal communication skills. Gain computer expertise. Seek leadership roles in campus organizations. |
| INDUSTRY | Food manufacturers
Pharmaceutical companies
Health-related businesses
Weight loss programs
Restaurant and hotel chains
Public relations firms with food industry | --- |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consumer Food Science</th>
<th>accounts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TEACHING</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>Colleges and universities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Community and technical schools</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nursing, medical, and dental schools</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Teaching hospitals</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Medical centers</td>
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<td>Government agencies</td>
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<td>Food and pharmaceutical companies</td>
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<td>Earn a master's degree for instructor positions or a doctorate for tenure track professorships. Earn a graduate degree for advancement in research positions. Gain research experience by assisting professors. Develop strong communication skills.</td>
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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

- 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. The Registration Examination for Dietitians is also required.
- Some states require licensure or certification to practice dietetics.
- One should enjoy helping people and working with healthcare professionals and have an interest in good health, nutrition, and fitness.
- Scientific aptitude is required to successfully earn a degree in nutrition. Basic sciences play a large role in nutrition.
- The ability to work independently and as part of a team is important in this field.
- Clients may be seen individually or in groups. Learn the fundamentals of human relations and group dynamics.
- Effective communication skills are important.
- Develop interviewing and counseling techniques.
- Over half of dietitians and nutritionists work in hospitals, nursing homes, or physicians' offices.
- Research, public health, and advanced clinical positions require a graduate degree.

Prepared by the Career Planning staff of Career Services at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville.