



Make today matter

The Bachelor of Dietetics degree is a four-year, full-time structured and integrated programme that includes both theory and practical training. An outcomes-based and problem-oriented healthcare team approach in a clinical and a community environment is followed.



What does the programme entail?

The programme aims to improve health and nutrition of communities through advocacy and policy development.

The effective delivery of this professional service requires scientific knowledge of the following:

- Foods and nutrients
- The nutritional needs of ill and healthy people
- The biochemical and physiological foundations of nutrition
- The role of nutrition in the prevention and management of diseases
- Nutrition education and counselling
- Nutrition advocacy

Clinical dietetics (medical nutrition therapy) focuses on individuals' nutrition, either preventative in terms of lifestyle-related diseases or therapeutic in treating a disease. For example, a person with diabetes will have a specific dietary lifestyle that will be designed and monitored by the dietitian.

Community-based dietetics aims to educate and train communities or groups of people to improve their health through nutrition. An example of this is when communities are trained about the food they need, to maintain a healthy lifestyle. They advocate for improved nutrition through input into policy development and liaising with relevant stakeholders and communities, for example sugar tax and malnutrition prevention.

The management of large-scale food service units, where clients' nutritional needs are considered when planning regular and therapeutic menus of high quality.



Who is the ideal candidate?

- The ideal candidate is someone who has good communication and people skills, is disciplined and hard working, has passion for helping individuals and communities and has good problem solving skills.
- A candidate with passion for nutrition.



What makes this programme unique?

The qualification is outcome based, problem oriented and accredited by the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA). The high standard of training is recognised locally and internationally.



Which companies employ our graduates?

- Private and government hospitals and community health centers
- Department of Health (DOH)
- Food manufacturers
- Pharmaceutical companies
- World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Food Program (WFP)
- Non-governmental organization (NGO), eg UNICEF
- Research institutions, eg National Research Foundation (NRF) and Medical Research Council (MRC)
- Academic institutions



'The opportunity to study Dietetics at the University of Pretoria has been a blessing, and although I had to overcome many challenges the journey was thoroughly worthwhile. On my first day as a student, we were told that we should consider everyone in the class as family, which really put me at ease. The immense support I received from the Department of Human Nutrition and fellow students made it much easier to overcome the challenges that came with the programme.

As I progressed through my studies, I underwent intense training during which I was exposed to different areas of the profession and my passion for my chosen field kept growing. While studying dietetics I acquired many unique skills, which have made it possible for me to fit into a wide range of roles.

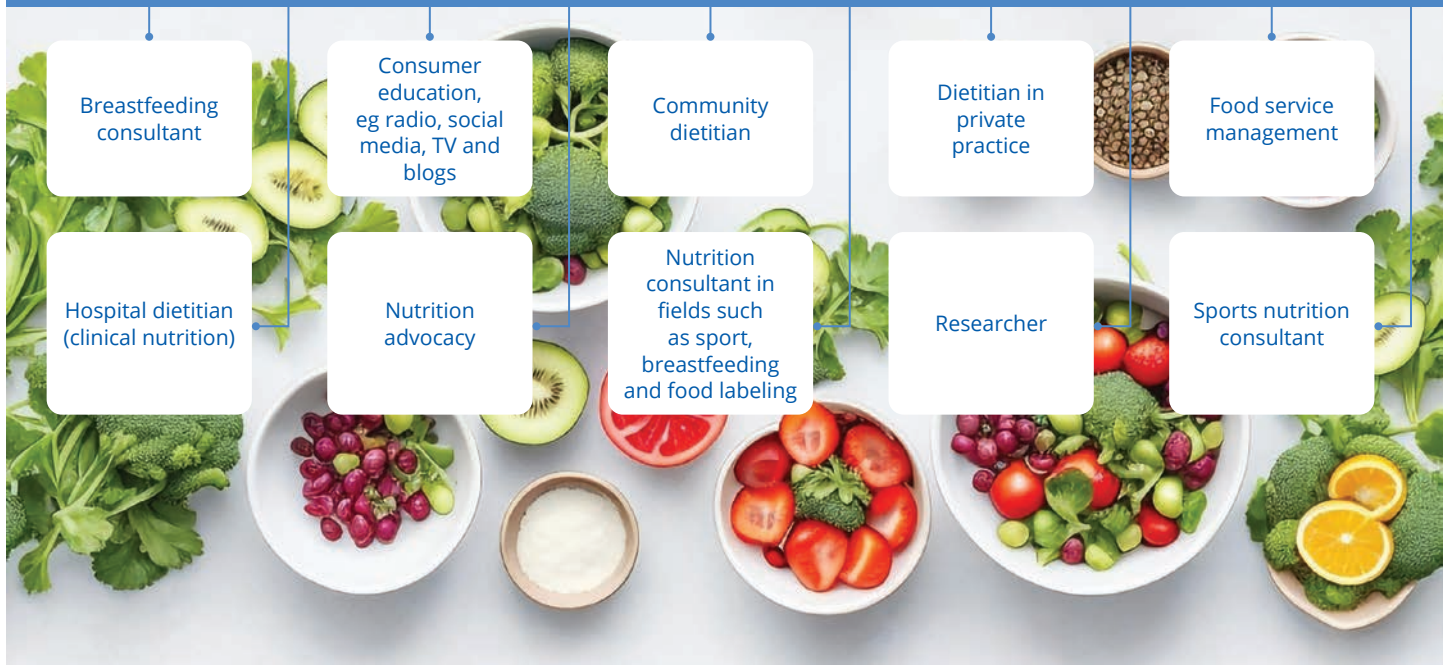
If helping people makes you happy, dietetics is the perfect programme for you. Its diversity allows you to choose in which of several possible areas you would like to work. I chose to help people to make healthy lifestyle choices by choosing to eat sensibly.'

Meriam Letsoalo – Bachelor of Dietetics



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Career opportunities



‘Thorough research convinced me that the University of Pretoria offered the best programme in the field of dietetics and I was delighted when my application to study at this institution was approved.

My journey while studying dietetics has been challenging, but also amazing in many ways. I have learnt to find humour in the most difficult situations, which enabled me to build up enough positive energy to get through them. I became aware of the importance of effective time management, which is a skill that was constantly demanded throughout my years of study. The best part is that if you are passionate about dietetics, the actual challenge is finding your feet and yourself while in the process of studying. I also

developed an interest in leadership. Initially I acted as a mentor and HK in the Department, and eventually I decided to develop my leadership skills further by becoming involved in the Student Representative Council (SRC). During all this time I have enjoyed the full support and encouragement of my lecturers. I am proud to be a Tukkie. I am proud to have conquered FLY@UP!’

Letlhabile Makone – Bachelor of Dietetics

Minimum admission requirements

Programme	Minimum requirements for NSC and IEB for 2026			
	Achievement level			APS
	English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	
School of Healthcare Sciences				
Bachelor of Dietetics [4 years]	4	4	4	28

For advice on a second-choice programme, please consult a Student Advisor. To make an appointment, send an email to carol.bosch@up.ac.za.

Selection is based on a candidates' final Grade 11 examination results.

Career: Dietitian

Email healthsciences@up.ac.za



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

Faculty of Health Sciences

Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe
Lefapha la Disaense tša Maphelo

Minimum requirements for
applicants with a school
leaving certificate not issued
by Umalusi (South Africa)



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Refer to the International undergraduate prospectus at www.up.ac.za/programmes > Undergraduate > Admission Information or [click here](#) for more information.

- The closing date for applications for programmes in this faculty is 30 June.
- Meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission into a programme.

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES Programmes	Minimum requirements for 2026									
	Achievement level									
	Compulsory subjects	GCSE #		HIGCSE NSSC HL	AS Level	A Level	IB		KOMBI ABITUR	KCSE
		The qualifications in the two columns below will be considered only for conditional admission. If final AS and/or A levels have been completed, these two columns will not apply. It can also not be used for final admission and/ or registration.			GCE CIE NSSC AS	GCE CIE CGCE UACE WAEC ZGCE	IB SL	IB HL		
		CIE	UK							
IGCSE LGCSE BGCSE EGCSE O Level NSSC OL CGCE UCE NECO WAEC WASSCE ZGCE		England Wales Northern Ireland Pearson Edexcel GCSE								
Bachelor of Dental Surgery	English	C	4	3	C	E	4	3	60-69%	B
Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery** [Also referred to as MBChB]	Mathematics	B	5	2	B	D	5	4	70-79%	B+
	Physics	C	4	3	C	E	4	3	60-69%	B
	Chemistry	C	4	3	C	E	4	3	60-69%	B
Bachelor of Oral Hygiene										
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy	English	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
Bachelor of Physiotherapy	Mathematics	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
Bachelor of Radiography in Diagnostics	Physics	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
Bachelor of Dietetics	Chemistry	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
Bachelor of Sports Science	English	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
	Mathematics	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
	Physics/ Chemistry	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice [Also referred to as BCMP]	combination or Biology*	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
Bachelor of Nursing Science	English	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
	Mathematics	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
	Biology	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+

English must be on the A and/or AS Level for final admission before registration.

* A PHYSICS/CHEMISTRY combination, or BIOLOGY and another subject on the A or AS Level

** Applicants who are not South African citizens and come from countries that have medical schools will not be considered for placement in the Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery programme [also referred to as MBChB], except where intergovernmental agreements are in place.