

Dietetic Technician



What do they do?

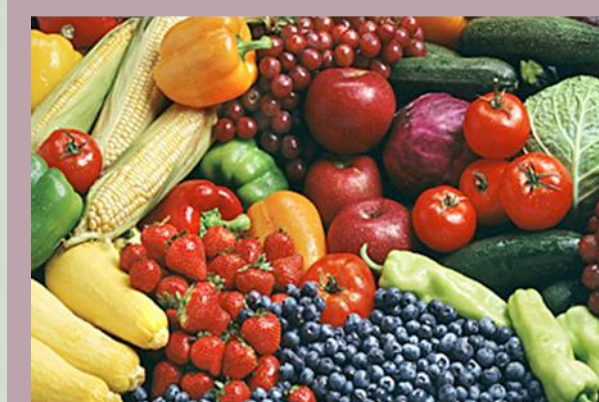
Dietetic Technicians work under the direction of clinical nutritionists. They work with patients to ensure that they are following their nutritional plan appropriately. Dietetic Technicians assess a patient's dietary history and needs, they calculate nutritional content of meals, and educate patients on their nutrition plan.

Where do they work?

Dietetic Technicians work in hospitals with patients and culinary services staff. Dietetic Technicians can also work at long-term care facilities, schools, community organizations, health clubs and food companies.

Pay:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average yearly income for Dietetic Technicians is \$30,000.



Education:

There are multiple educational pathways to become a Dietetic Technician. Receiving an associate degree along with a dietetic certification can allow you to work as a Dietetic Technician. One can also receive a bachelors degree in Dietetics, Food or Nutrition.

Dietetic Training in Wisconsin:

Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC):
www.matc.edu

UW-Madison: www.wisc.edu

High School students interested in becoming a Dietetic Technician should take classes in anatomy, health, chemistry and biology.

Accreditation:

Education programs for Dietetic Technicians are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND).

<http://www.eatrightacend.org/ACEND/>



Professional Association:

Once certified, Dietetic Technicians can join the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. You can learn more by going to their website:

<http://www.eatrightpro.org/resources/about-us>

Registration:

Though not required, after completion of a Dietetic Technician program, students are eligible to take an exam to become a Dietetic Technician Registered (DTR). The DTR exam is administered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration and requires that students have completed 450 hours of work experience or internship with a registered dietitian. More information about the examination can be found at:

www.cdrnet.org



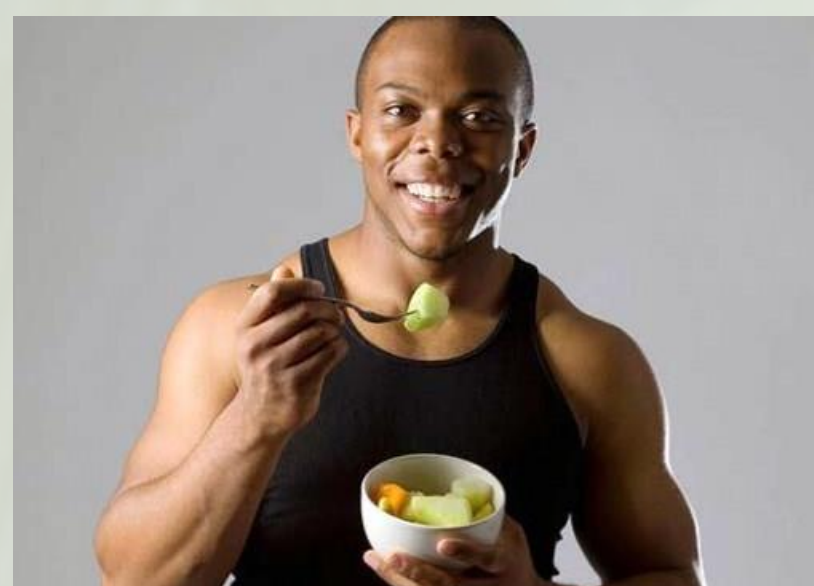
Potential for Advancement:

Dietetic Technicians who want to advance their career can return to school to become a Registered Dietitian. To become a Registered Dietitian students must receive a bachelors degree of science and pass the Registered Dietitian Exam also administered by the Commission of Dietetics Registration. www.cdrnet.org

Specializations:

Dietetic Technicians can choose to work in speciality areas such as:

- Pediatric Nutrition
- Oncology Nutrition
- Gerontological Nutrition
- Sports Dietetics
- Renal Nutrition



Job Outlook:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for Dietetic Technicians is expected to grow 15 percent between 2010-2020, which is on pace with other careers.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13* <http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes292051.htm>

