

Board of Governors, State University System of Florida
Limited Access Program Request
Reference: BOG Regulation 6.001, Admissions

University	University of Florida	Degree offered	BS in Dietetics
Program	Dietetics	Six digit CIP code	51.3101

1. Will the entire program be limited access or only a specific track?

The entire program

2. If only a track is limited access, please specify the name of the track

3. How many students will the program plan to accommodate?

Fall ___45___ Spring ___45___ Academic Year Total ___90___

4. When do you propose to initiate limited access?

The program has been functioning as a limited access program for at least 20 years without being aware that its admissions criteria are considered those of a limited access program. This application seeks to formalize current procedures.

5. What is the justification for limiting access?

In order to become a Registered Dietitian, a student must complete an accredited undergraduate dietetics curriculum such as this one, then complete a supervised practice Dietetic Internship after which the graduate is eligible to take the national Registration Examination for Dietitians. Because of a large increase in the number of students in undergraduate dietetics program without a concomitant increase in the number of openings in supervised practice programs over the past 8 years, at present, only 50% of students applying to Dietetic Internship programs are successfully placed. Overall academic performance is an important selection criterion for successful admission to Dietetic Internships. Although the placement record of the UF dietetics program is generally in the 70-85% range, it is very competitive to earn one of these spots and it is simply unethical to allow weaker students to spend four years in an academic program if they have little likelihood of being able to progress and obtain the post-baccalaureate training needed to earn the Registered Dietitian credential.

6. By what means will access be limited? Please provide a description of the program's admissions requirements and procedures, and indicate how these requirements and procedures ensure equal access for Florida community college Associate of Arts degree graduates in the competition for available space in the program.

A GPA of 3.0 in Chemistry 1 and 2 with lab, Biology 1 and 2 with lab and Precalculus Math is required to remain in the major for students who begin at the University of Florida. If their GPA falls below this after taking any of these courses a hold is placed on their registration and they must meet with an Academic Advisor. They are

allowed to stay in the major but must improve their GPA. If the GPA continues to be less than 3.0, they are required to find another major in which they have a better chance of being successful. These prerequisite courses predict overall success in the major. By using these courses to limit access, students who are unlikely to be successful are able to find a more appropriate major early in their college career.

AA graduates from Florida state or community colleges must have completed all five prerequisite courses with a 3.0 GPA before transferring to UF so they are not disadvantaged compared to native students in transferring into the major. Historically, approximately 60% of students in the major are transfer students from community colleges.

7. Present the current race and gender profiles of the students in the program. Discuss the impact of the proposed action on the race and gender profiles. Cite sources used for discussion. What strategies, should they be necessary, will be used to promote diversity in the program?


Based on enrollment data for spring 2014 that was provided by the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, of the 88 students in the major, 89% were female. The racial/ethnic breakdown was as follows:

59% White
23% Hispanic
10% Black
6% Asian
2% Other

It is not anticipated that the limited access measures will have any impact on the current gender or racial/ethnic diversity in the major as the current students were admitted under these criteria.

8. Are the graduates of the program in high demand? If so, and if the program is to be limited due to lack of adequate resources, provide a justification for limiting access to the program rather than reallocating resources from programs with low market demand.

The majority of the graduates of the program apply to Dietetic Internships. The placement rate tends to range from 70-85% in contrast to the 50% placement rate nationwide, indicating that UF students are competitive in earning placements. The students who do not apply to Dietetic Internships often apply to other professional programs or graduate programs in Nutrition or Public Health or obtain employment in settings such as the Women, Infants and Children program or as dietetic technicians in hospitals. The program will not be limited due to resources.

Request Initiated by: R. Elaine Turner, Dean College of Agricultural and Life Sciences	
EEO Officer's Signature	
Provost's Signature	

Send the completed form to:

Dr. Dorothy J. Minear Sr. Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs Board of
Governors State University System of Florida 325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1614 Tallahassee,
Florida 32399-1950

Limited Access Form Updated 9/08