

Does the number of spots stay the same e.g., 13 spots in MScFN and 35 in DDEPT? or do those numbers change year to year?

These numbers are approximately the same every year, but there is variation. This is due to faculty loads in each given year. For MScFN, 13 is a low estimate 15-16 is more common.

Why is the number of week so variable for research? Is 4 weeks the minimum, and 10 the maximum?

The diploma students have a research placement of 4-8 weeks.

Masters students finish course work in April and in May begin a placement of research weeks (8-10 weeks) during practicum to do research.

Do you need a scanned copy of a driver's license of a G2 or G? What section of the application would that be asked in?

Yes, a photo or scanned copy of both sides (G2 or G). Will be uploaded with resume and cover letter in the application.

For the DDEPT, is there still an admission requirement of no single grade below 60%?

A historical requirement, however, not much focus is placed on this as it is a barrier to some students at different universities. We are focused on your final 10 courses.

Does the DDEPT minimum average also exclude first year courses?

Yes, a first-year elective in 3rd or 4th year will not be put in your average calculation.

Do the 10 full course equivalents include 0.5 credit courses as one full course towards this requirement?

No, 0.5 credit course counts as 0.5/10. We will go into second year to collect these 10 FCE.

Do professional references solely relate to work or volunteer experience or does academic professors count?

It depends. We prefer 1 referee in a non-academic setting, but this is not an absolute requirement.

So, we apply through Western/Brescia's website, not OUAC?

Correct.

If we've already graduated, do we need to submit an official transcript or can we submit an unofficial transcript?

Unofficial is fine until you are accepted into program. Then an official transcript will be required.

Do our references need to have direct knowledge or supervision of our dietetic experiences? or just any references that know us well?

Any reference you know well is the best choice. Hopefully the skills you have can be applied to a dietetic scope.

How will the referees be contacted? By email or by phone?

This is up to personal preference of each reviewer and time constraints. This will be between mid-January to mid-March.

For our resume we include total number of hours for just the volunteer experience, correct?

For volunteer experience it is a requirement. For work experiences an estimate is preferred e.g., time/week and a timeline of how long you were in the position.

Can we provide proof of a BC Class 5 driver's license?

Yes, any drivers licence that is equivalent to an Ontario G2.

Do we scan both sides of our license and put this on a blank page?

Yes, scan or photo.

How do you apply for OGS in your first year and create a project proposal if you do not know which project you will be working on? Can you apply to OGS once you've been accepted to the program and once you've started your project? Do people often do that?

For OGS you can write about your research interests as you will not have a research project yet.

Two points you can apply: 1. first year during initial application after your MScFN application or 2. first term of the program if you are accepted.

If you specify the London cohort in your cover letter and are not accepted, are you automatically considered for the Ontario wide?

You chose top 3 out of 10 locations. Most students are offered first or second choice of location.

How many locations can you choose and be considered for?

Three.

How long will a spot be held for if a student receives an offer of admission?

Students should respond to offer within 48 hours. However, if you receive a different preferred offer you may withdraw your acceptance offer.

Is the stipend guaranteed for all MScFN students?

It is highly probable, but not guaranteed. In all the years of the program it has been offered.

Are you accepting unofficial transcript from previous post-secondary education as well?

Yes, with the application. If you are given an offer you need to provide official transcripts.

How many applicants do you normally receive for each program?

Roughly 120 applicants for DDEPT and 90 applicants for MScFN.

What if you medically cannot get immunizations?

Individual questions such as this should be sent to a coordinator for discussion of options. We do not have a standard answer for this at this point.

What will the online MMI interviews be like?

Still in planning stages. There will be a variety of assessments, it will be online. Similar things will be assessed as past interviews.

Can you complete the internship portion at Hamilton Health Sciences as part of MScFN program?

Yes.

Would I have to relocate throughout the entire practicum? or once you identify your preferred location do you stay in the area?

Majority stay in preferred region, however relocation is required from time to time.

How many students are you accepting for DDEPT?

~35

For the 3 courses that are taken during the DDEPT program, do we have to come to campus for these courses?

Traditionally in person however this summer online. In March a decision will be made regarding this.

I am planning to take the KCAT exam in February and apply with the results pending. Is there any specific documentation required (i.e., a letter from the college of dietitians or something to that effect) in lieu of the confirmation of completion letter?

Mention the KCAT in your cover letter so the reviewers are aware.

Are there any plans for online formatting for the MScFN course components to accommodate for the pandemic?

Traditionally in person. In March a decision will be made regarding this.

I am also curious about setting up a practicum placement out of province. What is this process normally like?

Give an early indication such as indicating on application in location area. Past examples include Vancouver hospitals. The first step is finding a contact for a potential placement and having the time to set-up the placement.

For the DDEPT program, is there a preference on where our references come from? Example: do you prefer a reference from at least one professor or is two professional references just as preferred?

DDEPT prefers two professional references however, we will accept one professional and one academic.

For transfer students, does skipping over 1st year courses mean more courses from our previous degree will be counted? And it's again working backwards from the most recent.

Yes, transferred credits could be counted.

If Brescia contacts the referees and they already did a formal reference letter can they still submit it when you contact them via email?

Maybe, this depends on what questions the reviewer has for this referee.

If we went on exchange last winter semester and the course were graded as pass/fail, would we require an official transcript from the exchange school. Would it be considered for the 10-course count?

No, we do not look at any pass/fail grades, only actual grade from your home university.

I am looking on the Western website now for the OGS application and it says it is closed...?

It will open December 7th, 2020.

For OGS, to confirm. Do we need to start or complete our MScFN application before the OGS?

Yes, you need to complete MScFN application before OGS.

So, for the practicum, you would list your top three choices, and then whichever institution you get placed at, you do all 40 weeks there but in different units for the different rotations? Or does the practicum institution change with each new rotation (i.e., nutrition care, public health, etc.)

The organization will change. Typically, 8 placements. If you are at LHSC or HHS you will do a higher number of placements at those locations but still go outside the organization.

Is it possible to submit IELTS result later than Jan.15?

No, it needs to be submitted with application. If you have completed a full-time undergraduate degree in an English-speaking school, you do not have to submit English language testing.

How many applicants are there typically for the dietetic internship? (Not the master's internship stream)

DDEPT program has roughly 120 applicants.

How many applicants does each program usually receive and how many get interviewed?

DDEPT & MScFN interviewed around 2/3 of all applicants.

If we no longer have access to our school email is a personal email acceptable?

Yes, but a school email is preferred.

Do we have to show proof that we own/lease a car, or do we just have to show our driver's license?

No, as we recognize you may be 'borrowing' a car. You do need to attest you will have access to a car.

The in-class portion of DDEP is there living accommodations at the residence?

Yes, there is a residence however it is more economically friendly to sublet or rent off campus.

Do 2nd year elective courses (ex: psychology courses) taken in summer 2019, so summer before my 3rd year. Will these courses be counted towards my overall GPA?

This will depend based on 10 full credits counting backwards.

If I took 3rd year courses in 2nd year would these be looked at over 2nd year courses I took in 3rd or 4th year.

Not necessarily.

Would a male-identifying student apply and be registered as a Western student studying under Brescia or is there no longer a distinction?

For DDEPT there is no distinction. MScFN in a Western Graduate Program. You will receive a Western Diploma or Master's Degree.

Who does the interviewing?

Members of Brescia's School of Food and Nutritional Sciences as well as our preceptors and dietitians.

If I have questions in the future who should I contact?

Any DEC or the Graduate Program Coordinator. Please see our website.

https://brescia.uwo.ca/graduate/mscfn_internship/contact.php

1. Stephanie Turnbull, Graduate Program Coordinator sturnbu6@uwo.ca
2. Lesley Macaskill, MHSc, P.H.Ec., RD, Dietetic Education Coordinator
lmacaski@uwo.ca
3. Joy Hoard, RD, MSc, HSED, Dietetic Education Coordinator jhoard@uwo.ca

4. Kathy MacKay, RD, MSc, Dietetic Education Coordinator Kmacka22@uwo.ca
5. Helen Toews, MSc, RD, Hamilton Health Sciences toews@hhsc.ca
6. Sierra Carnegie, Administrative Coordinator scarneg3@uwo.ca
7. Lauren Francis, Administrative Assistant lfranc2@uwo.ca

For our resumes, is the reverse chronological order based on the month we start or finish? Does it matter? Also, are we able to group volunteer and professional (work) experiences in the same heading?

General chronological order is okay. Grouping of volunteer and work is okay. Whatever is clear and communicated your experiences best.

If you completed your BSC from another university e.g., University of Manitoba, how do you calculate the GPA?

OUAC has a table for grade conversions.

How long is the DDEPT start and finish?

One full year: May-April.

Is there anything we can do to prepare for an interview?

Read over anything sent to you in advance, know your resume, be able to speak to your strengths. Practice interview questions to build your confidence.

What is typically looked for in a DDEPT applicant?

There is no perfect candidate we are looking for diverse applicants. We appreciate someone that shows they are flexible, resilient, professional, a lifelong learner, good at time management as well as a good communicator (both oral and written).

Will the effects of COVID-19 on grades be considered? For example, our grades are not as high this year compared to last year.

Effects on Covid on experiences will be considered. We will recognize and consider the implications of Covid.

Just to confirm, the open and close dates for DDEPT are Dec. 7th and Jan. 15th, respectively?

Correct.

Does it matter how long it took us to finish out undergrad?

No. However, we will look to see why it took you longer, but we do recognize mature students and those with jobs. Anything you want to add to clarify this would be appreciated.