

Process for non-Dietetic Intern Selection

Current or future nutrition-related students looking for experience in School Nutrition

CMSD understands that finding shadowing or volunteer experiences are an important part in shaping your future career in the nutrition profession. CMSD happily accepts students that are looking for experience in the dietetic career outside of a dietetic internship. We have accepted students for personal shadowing experiences, volunteer hours, and for graduate students' Master's projects, etc. If you are interested in working with CMSD School Nutrition outside of a dietetic internship, please follow the steps below. Our process is designed to give prospective students the opportunity to showcase this passion or curiosity and to allow staff to get a better understanding of how best to support a prospective student during their time with CMSD.

1. Prospective students should make initial contact **both** dietitians via email (Allison.Thirion@clevelandmetroschools.org, Leilah.Absi@clevelandmetroschools.org), to express interest in rotation with CMSD. Prospective interns should introduce themselves and include relevant program information such as:
 - a. School name and college major/minor.
 - b. Details on type of rotation intern is interested in.
 - c. Number of hours to be completed.
 - d. Ideal dates of rotation/potential weekly schedule.
 - e. Resume.
2. Prospective interns will be invited to meet with staff members from CMSD, including both dietitians, which can be done in person or via phone conference. Students should come prepared to discuss the logistics and planning for the rotation. Additionally, students should come prepared to speak about their expectations for the rotation. This could include:
 - a. The process for signing any required paperwork/documentation.
 - b. Projects that must be completed during the rotation.
 - c. Evaluation processes.
3. Once accepted, the intern will be assigned to one of the dietitians as their primary preceptor. Interns should communicate with the dietitian the next steps for finalizing this agreement. If necessary, the student should connect the dietitian with program director so that any required paperwork can be signed.
4. When all legal paperwork is completed, an intern will begin the onboarding process.

At CMSD, we believe that diversity makes us stronger and challenges us to think differently every day. CMSD provides equal opportunities to all students and applicants without regard to race, religion, sex, national origin, age, veteran status or disability.