

Fitness to Practise Statement

1. Programme Name(s): MSc Human Nutrition and Dietetics

2. Professional Fitness to Practise Requirements

The MSc in Nutrition and Dietetics aims to develop graduates who are able to:

- Establish therapeutic relationships with diverse populations through optimising the nutrition of communities and individuals, in a range of settings.
- Critique and apply evidence to patient assessment, diagnosis and nutritional management
- Be competent in the prescription, delivery and monitoring of nutrition and dietetic interventions, based on an evidence-based and clinically-reasoned approach for the effective management of people with a range of conditions.
- Employ the principles of client centred practice.
- Collaborate with clients, colleagues and communities.
- Engage in continuing professional development.
- Use an innovative and creative approach to meet evolving service developments and healthcare needs.
- Conduct research and appraise the scientific literature to inform an evidence-based approach to research and practice.
- Integrate the ethical, social and cultural dimensions of healthcare within clinical judgement.

The aim of the MSc Human Nutrition and Dietetics programme is to prepare graduates who will contribute to the development of Nutrition and Dietetics in Ireland and worldwide through their ability to act as competent, reflective and innovative practitioners by drawing upon their expertise and knowledge of evidence-based practice and research.

Students on the MSc Human Nutrition and Dietetics programme are expected to act within and are assessed on their ability to meet the Standards of Proficiency identified by CORU: ***Dietitians Registration Board – Criteria and Standards of Proficiency for Education and Training Programmes May 2019***

These consider the following domains, which are used to assess the students' achievements of professional competency:

Domain 1: Professional autonomy and accountability

Domain 2: Interpersonal and professional relationships

Domain 3: Effective communication

Domain 4: Personal and professional development

Domain 5: Provision of quality services

Domain 6: Knowledge, understanding and skills

3. Professional Competencies

There are two codes that outline the standards of ethical behaviour and conduct that are expected of the students of the MSc Human Nutrition and Dietetics programme:

*Subject to final approval at Academic Council- May 2023

- **CORU Dietitians Registration Board (DRB) Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics January 2019**
- **The Irish Nutrition and Dietetic Institute Code of Professional Practice January 2018**

Responsibilities are grouped into three categories:

Conduct, Performance and Ethics

Conduct:

Act in the best interests of service users
 Respect the confidentiality and privacy of service users
 Maintain high standards of personal conduct and behaviour
 Use social media responsibly
 Comply with obligations regarding registration

Performance

Address health issues related to your fitness to practise
 Obey laws, regulations and guidelines
 Comply with requirements for the protection of children and vulnerable adults
 Act within the limits of your knowledge, skills, competence and experience
 Keep your professional knowledge and skills up to date
 Obtain consent from service users
 Assess service users' capacity to consent where necessary
 Communicate effectively with service users and others involved in their care
 Act in accordance with the principles of open disclosure
 Assist, advise and support colleagues, recently qualified registrants and students
 Teach, supervise and assess students and other professionals
 Supervise tasks that you delegate to others
 Keep accurate records
 Assess health, safety and welfare risks
 Raise concerns about safety and quality of care
 Maintain adequate professional indemnity insurance

Ethics

Demonstrate ethical awareness
 Respect the rights and dignity of service users
 Avoid conflicts of interest
 Undertake research in an ethical manner
 Make sure that any advertising is truthful, accurate, lawful and not misleading

4. Health Requirements

Professional settings and practice will generally require the student to maintain a level of good health to ensure the student and service users are not adversely affected by any health condition that may arise. As part of a general health protection, the University and/or the external placement provider may require students to undergo health screening or other forms of health assessment.

Students undertaking programmes with a vaccine and/or health requirement will be required to comply with the vaccination and/or health requirements of the University, as may be updated from time to time.

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In addition, students undertaking programmes with an external placement will be required to comply with the vaccination and/or health requirements of the external placement provider, as may be updated from time to time.

All requirements are listed in the Table below.

Any restriction and supporting justification on students with disabilities enrolling on this programme and seeking to avail of accommodations provide by Disability Support Services should also be listed below in the table below.

<i>Vaccination and/or health requirements of the University in relation to this programme of study</i>	<i>Vaccination and/or health requirements of the external placement provider in relation to this programme of study</i>	<i>Restriction and supporting justification on students with disabilities enrolling on this programme</i>
	Available at this link: <u>SAH Health Screening and Immunisation Protocol 2022-23</u>	