

## **The Admissions process for the Nutrition and Dietetics programme consists of 2 stages.**

### **Stage 1. Preliminary Shortlisting**

Applications received from UCAS are initially considered on the basis of academic achievement, achieved/predicted grades and your personal statement. Applications who do not meet the minimum requirements will be rejected. We also check references at this stage.

We would welcome an application from you if you are keen to pursue a career as a registered Dietitian. Your personal statement on your UCAS application form needs to demonstrate your understanding of the role of a dietitian and your motivation to qualify as one. We recommend you refer to the [British Dietetic Association](#) website and the [NHS Core Values](#) for more information. This information will help you with your personal statement and your interview.

We would strongly recommend you gain relevant work experience and/or attend a Taster Careers Day (see below) to provide you with the necessary information to help you make an informed decision as to whether Dietetics is the right career for you. The role of a Dietitian is varied. In health care, specialisms include (but are not limited to) cardiology, diabetes, eating disorders, food allergies, gastrointestinal disorders, maternal health, paediatrics, oncology, renal and weight management in either an acute or community setting. Dietitians can also work in health promotion, research, work freelance e.g. sports nutrition, media or in private practice.

We advise either speaking to or shadowing a Dietitian or attending a Taster Careers Day hosted by a hospital or University. You should reflect on what you have learnt from your experience and how this helped you to gain a deeper understanding of the role of a Dietitian and how this is distinct from that of a Nutritionist. Appropriate work experience would be working in a healthcare setting e.g. a ward volunteer in a hospital or working in a caring role e.g. assisting in a Care Home or supporting children with disability.

We advise you reflect on any relevant transferrable skills that you have such as communication skills, team working and provide examples of how you demonstrate these. You may want to consider experience gained through a role of responsibility within school, for instance as a student mentor, leader in a society, a Prefect or Head Girl or Head Boy/or from your present employment. Other roles which offer the opportunity to develop transferrable skills include a part time job, for those not in regular employment. Voluntary work in a nursing home or hospital or caring for family members or individuals or groups in the wider community can provide you with evidence that you have a desire and ability to help and care for others.

Applicants who pass the preliminary shortlisting will be invited to interview.

## **Stage 2 - Multiple Mini Interviews**

Once short-listed for interview you will be sent an invitation to an interview day at the University of Surrey Stag Hill Campus. Interviews will take place between **November 2017 and April 2018**.

Candidates will undertake a Multiple Mini Interview cycle that lasts approximately 30 minutes. An interview cycle consists of 6 mini interviews. Each MMI cycle comprises of six, four minute stations; each station poses a question or provides a scenario or task to assess a specific competency or characteristic. We are looking for evidence that you have the necessary skills and attributes to be a registered dietitian.

Candidates will be assessed and independently marked against agreed criteria on each of the MMI stations and placed within one of three categories:

**1: Offer**

**2: Hold in waiting list**

**3: Reject**

All offers are made subject to satisfactory Occupational Health clearance and appropriate vaccinations. For more information regarding required health & fitness standards for practising as a dietitian, please refer to the Health & Care Professions Council website. Successful applicants will also have to clear a DBS (Disclosure and Barring System) check.

Waiting Lists Candidates who are held (category 2) may at any stage receive an offer as places become available later in the interview cycle.

All formal offers will be made through UCAS and we aim to get all decisions to applicants by March/April to ensure applicants have time to consider offers before the UCAS decision deadline of 4<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

Those who fall into category 3 will be rejected by the same date.