

## DICAS and Computer Match Process Overview

The dietetic internship (DI) application and computer matching process contains two separate components, the application process which is a centralized application (DICAS) that applicants use to submit applications to DIs and the matching process which is a process run by D&D Digital for placement into a DI.

- **Dietetic Internship Centralized Application Services (DICAS)** – A web-based application service used by students to apply to a number of DI programs by completing a single online application. DICAS was designed to simplify and streamline the application process while providing considerable flexibility, electronic submission of applications, and ongoing communication with applicants. DICAS application fee for the first designation is \$45 and \$20 for each additional designation. <https://portal.dicas.org/>.
- **D&D Digital** – A clearinghouse service that provides the opportunity for programs to rank order applicants and applicants to rank order programs. At a specified time in the spring and fall those rank order lists are “matched” with each other to select which (if any) program an applicant would be “matched” with. D&D registration fee is \$55. <https://www.dnddigital.com/ada/overview.php>

In order to ensure a fair process for all applicants and programs, for 30+ years the practice has been that all Dietetic Internships must participate in the computer match (D&D Digital) unless they have been approved to fill all their positions through the preselect process.

Programs are not required to use DICAS, the centralized application system, which started in Fall 2010; however, almost all the ACEND®-accredited programs do use DICAS to collect and review applications.

### Current Guidelines/Procedure

The Nutrition and Dietetic Educators and Preceptors (NDEP) Group’s Computer Match Committee develops recommendations and guidelines for program directors and applicants.

Currently, the ACEND® 2017 Standards state that programs must provide, on its website, application and admission requirements as well as computer matching information to prospective students and the public.

### Spring/Fall Match Dates

**February 1/September 1:** Deadline date for those programs participating in the preselect option for the computer match to have notified applicants of acceptance to the program.

**February 15/September 25:** Deadline for Registering for Computer Match and Entering Internship Preferences

It is recommended that Coordinated Programs and Future Education Model Programs, set their acceptance date prior to the February 15<sup>th</sup> and September 25<sup>th</sup> deadline to ensure those applicants have adequate time to remove themselves from the matching process, if applicable.

For specific match dates and calendars visit <https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/program-directors/dietetic-internship-match-program-directors>

### Preselect

Dietetic Internships may apply for participation in the preselect process based on one of five criteria. To learn more about preselect visit the ACEND® website [here](#).

Contact ACEND® at [ACEND@eatright.org](mailto:ACEND@eatright.org) with questions.