

January 20, 2017

Dear _____,

My name is Savannah Lillian and I am applying to be considered as a dietetic intern at _____ for the 2017/2018 year. I believe that _____ provides an innovative learning environment that encourages consistent collaboration among healthcare professionals. This program supports my goal of becoming a clinical dietitian, and will help to expand my passion for providing excellent patient-centered care. By strengthening leadership and experiential skills through the vast array of placement opportunities, I strongly believe an internship position at _____ will provide me with the practical competencies and self-efficacy needed to succeed in my future career. Moreover, your internship program will augment my academic goals to continue developing and applying my knowledge of human nutrition through the collaboration with _____ university, inter-professional education opportunities, and research projects. Eventually, I hope to work in mental health services and I admire the variety of mental health placements that are offered through your internship program.

In a professional setting, while a Northern Ontario School of Medicine Dietetic student, I welcomed the opportunity to demonstrate self-direction, notably; I conducted patient satisfaction food service surveys with 75 inpatients and developed reports to address deficiencies at dietary team meetings. As such, this independent project effectively enhanced my self-confidence working in clinical environments. Furthermore, this responsibility allowed me to improve my patient-centered care within a clinical dietetics setting, and included forming relationships based on trust and mutual respect, not only with the patients but also with the hospital staff. Additionally, during my NOSM placement, I sharpened my communication skills by effectively revising patient “General Patient Resources” for a variety of diet types, and by providing therapeutic diet in-service sessions for dietary staff and clinical dietitians.

In an extracurricular setting, as a Supported Learning Group (SLG) leader, I consistently demonstrated effective leadership, time management, and problem-solving, skills by facilitating weekly study sessions for challenging undergraduate chemistry and biochemistry courses. Moreover, I constantly adapted my sessions to accommodate varied learning abilities. In a community setting, as a Dietetic Assistant at St. Mary’s of the Lake Hospital, I advanced my interpersonal skills by collaborating with several clinical dietitians and the Food Services Manager while working on patient meal plan development for diabetic patients.

Lastly, in an academic setting, I have maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout my undergraduate degree while also committing time to volunteer on campus for a Master’s of Applied Nutrition student, and as a dedicated Student Nutrition Awareness Program volunteer. I believe that my professional, extracurricular, community, and academic commitments demonstrates my self-motivation, balance, and time management skills, all attributes that would allow me to succeed at _____.

I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Savannah Lillian