

TSDA TODAY

DI SPOTLIGHT - WINTER BREAK - LAND THAT INTERNSHIP



UT Health's Dietetic Internship program focuses on seed to plate to prevention.

CDR Exam stats: 93% pass rate on first time takers and 100% pass rate within the 1st year.

GPA Averages for applicants: 3.4 - 3.8 for acceptance

DI SPOTLIGHT: UT HEALTH

AN INTERNSHIP FOCUSED ON PUBLIC HEALTH

If you aren't sure what direction you want to go in with your career and internship experience, be sure to follow along with TSDA over the next several months as we interview and outline each program in Texas and help you decipher which program may be your best fit. First up, we have Jeanne Piga-Plunkett, MS, RDN, LD who graciously agreed to interview with us

"We look for hustle. We want a well rounded student who is passionate about learning in the field."

"The best part about being an internship coordinator is seeing young and inexperienced students grow, flourish, and develop."

"Personal statements that stand out to me are the ones that include the student's story. Everyone has a story of what lead them to where they are today."

about her program at UT Health, which offers an MPH and emphasis in Public Health. Jeanne has provided valuable insight into her program, what the curriculum entails, and what attributes they are searching for in a potential candidate for their program.

UT Health is located in Houston, Texas and places their emphasis on Public Health. The university offers a Master in Public Health alongside their internship and takes about 22-24 months to complete both. Students will learn the value in prevention and educating the public on preventative nutrition and wellness. The program boasts several hands on projects and allows rotations in over 12 locations in the community alone. Graduates of the program have gone on to flourish in their careers in areas such as Food Truck RDs (and other entrepreneurial endeavors), agriculture, winery, influencers, grocery store, retail, policy implementation and many other unique positions.

Acceptance into the program requires some common themes as other programs and as to be expected. The average GPA of students who are matched is 3.4-3.8, and the personal statement is heavily weighted as well. “We look for hustle,” says Jeanne, “We want a well rounded student who is passionate about learning in the field.” For this particular program, work experiences in the community, and work experiences that allow demonstration of leadership and ability to work with individuals are a must. Students preparing their resume should be thorough, and honest. According to Jeanne, “This is a students time to shine without exaggeration.”

LAND THAT INTERNSHIP!

Jeanne Piga-Plunkett, MS, RDN, LD with UT Health Houston has some great advice bullet points for undergrad students finishing up.

- Manage your time for the DICAS application accordingly. Be on time so you're not stressing at the last minute!
- Finish your degree strong! Those grades matter!
- Demonstrate your passion for the industry.

