Suffolk County Community College

Dietetic Technician Program

Teach-Out FAQS

1. What is a teach-out?

A teach-out refers to the process in which a school continues to offer educational services and supports students who are currently enrolled in a program that will no longer be offered. The goal is to ensure that these students can complete their studies and graduate as planned.

2. Why is the Dietetic Technician Program being taught out?

Suffolk County Community College's (SCCC) Dietetic Technician Program is being taught out due to a decline in enrollment, accreditation changes and program restructuring. We understand this may be concerning, but SCCC is committed to providing you with the necessary support to complete your education and fulfill the entry level criteria needed to become an NDTR and sit for the national registration examination.

3. Will I still receive a Dietetic Technician credential if I complete the program?

Yes. If you complete all required coursework and clinical rotations during the teach-out timeframe, you will still be eligible to graduate with a Dietetic Technician credential. Your registration eligibility to become an NDTR will not be impacted by the teach-out.

4. How will this affect my graduation timeline?

You will continue your coursework as planned, with all necessary resources and faculty available to you. The program will continue to allow you to complete your studies without delays. In the event of any disruptions, for example, failing a course or withdrawing due to personal reasons, the DTP faculty will provide guidance on alternatives to help you meet your graduation goals.

5. Can I transfer to another program?

Yes. If you wish to transfer to another accredited Dietetic Technician Program (DTP), we will work with you to help facilitate this process. You should consult with the Transfer Coordinator and DTP Coordinator to determine the best path for transferring credits.

6. What happens to my financial aid?

Financial aid will continue for students enrolled in the program during the teach-out phase. We recommend that you contact the financial aid office to discuss any potential changes, especially if you are considering transferring to another institution.

7. Will my credits transfer to another accredited institution?

Yes, your credits should transfer to another accredited Dietetic Technician program. However, we are the only associate degree program on Long Island. You should consult with the admissions office of any institution you are considering transferring to in order to ensure your credits will be accepted.

8. Can I continue my clinical rotations and fieldwork?

Yes, in order to graduate on schedule your clinical rotations must continue as planned. You are required to fulfill a minimum of 450 fieldwork hours in addition to all required didactic course work, in order to receive a Verification Statement. This indicates that you have fulfilled all the requirements of our accrediting body and allows you to sit for the national exam. If any changes are made to clinical sites, you will be notified in advance.

9. Will the accreditation status of the program affect me?

The program will maintain its accreditation status throughout the teach-out process which will end June 2028. As long as you complete the program during the teach-out period, your credentialing will not be affected by the program's closure.

10. What support services are available during the teach-out?

All student support services, including academic advising, career counseling, and tutoring, will continue to be available to you. If you have specific concerns, please reach out to your program coordinator or advisor for assistance.

11. How will the teach-out affect current students' ability to sit for the NDTR examination?

Students who complete the program requirements during the teach-out period will be eligible to sit for the registration exam as per the current accreditation guidelines. Upon passing the examination, you will earn the professional credentials, NDTR. Please check with the DTP Coordinator or Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) for additional details.

12. Will I still receive a Verification Statement indicating that I met all of the entry level requirements to sit for the NDTR Exam.

Yes. Current students that complete a minimum of 450 combined clinical and fieldwork hours and successfully pass all required DTE and supporting courses (as stated in the program and college handbook) with a grade of "C" or higher will receive Verification statements. Graduates of the Dietetic Technician Program that have met all requirements to receive a Verification statement may receive additional copies by contacting the Program Coordinator, Jodi Levine at: levinej@sunysuffolk.edu. Verification statements will be stored permanently and securely in the DTP Coordinator's office until the records are scanned and saved in a secure, college network repository.

13. Will there be any changes to tuition or fees during the teach-out?

Tuition and fees will not change for dietetic students specifically due to this program change. Diet Tech students will follow the same fee schedule as students enrolled in all other programs at SCCC. In the event that you require additional time to complete the Diet Tech program, you will incur additional fees, for example if you need to repeat a course. This would be standard policy regardless of the program closing.

14. How will the program's closure impact job placement assistance?

All students enrolled in the Dietetic Tech program have access to the department's Listserve. We do not ensure job placement of students upon graduation but will share any job openings that we are made aware of. This service will continue to be available to students until the last cohort completes the program.

15. Can I enroll in the program during the teach-out period?

Enrollment for new students will end on January 15, 2025, as the program is in its final stages. No new students will be accepted into the program after that date. Current students matriculated in the Dietetic Tech program will be assisted in all course selections to fulfill graduation requirements. These requirements will need to be fulfilled by June 2028.

New students interested in pursuing a Dietetic Technician program will be guided to other accredited institutions that are still accepting applications or provided with information and guidance on programs that may be of interest here at SCCC.

16. What if I have additional questions or concerns?

If you have any questions or concerns not addressed here, please contact the Program Coordinator, Professor Levine at (631) 548-3724 or via e mail at Levinej@sunysuffolk.edu We are committed to assisting you throughout this transition and ensuring you can successfully complete your program requirements.