VA056-2026 Nutritionist (NOA)

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Damascus, Syria, The Arab Republic O

Full time

Posted Yesterday

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DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

7 December 2026-23:59-GMT+03:00 Eastern European Time (Damascus)

WFP celebrates and embraces diversity. It is committed to the principle of equal employment opportunity for all its employees and encourages qualified candidates to apply irrespective of race, colour, national origin, ethnic or social background, genetic information, gender, gender identity and/or expression, sexual orientation, religion or belief, HIV status or disability.

ABOUT WFP

The World Food Programme is the world's largest humanitarian organization saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity, for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impact of extreme weather shocks.

At WFP, people are at the heart of everything we do and the vision of the future WFP workforce is one of diverse, committed, skilled, and high performing teams, selected on merit, operating in a healthy and inclusive work environment, living WFP's values (Integrity, Collaboration, Commitment, Humanity, and Inclusion) and working with partners to save and change the lives of those WFP serves.

To learn more about WFP, visit our website: https://www.wfp.org and follow us on social media to keep up with our latest news: YouTube, LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, TikTok.

WHY JOIN WFP?

- WFP is a 2020 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate.
- WFP offers a highly inclusive, diverse, and multicultural working environment.

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- We offer an attractive compensation package (please refer to the **Terms and Conditions** section of this vacancy announcement).

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF THE ASSIGNMENT:
As Syria navigates a new chapter marked by historic opportunities and enduring challenges, the scale of humanitarian needs remains overwhelming. Only 18 percent of the population is food secure; some 7.2 million people face acute food insecurity, including 1.6 million facing severe conditions. Approximately 5.5 million people remain internally displaced. Since December 2024, more than 1.6 million Syrians have returned from abroad, many to communities where homes and infrastructure have been destroyed, livelihood opportunities remain limited and access to basic services is severely constrained. Sustained support is essential to help returning families meet their immediate needs, rebuild their livelihoods and reintegrate into their communities.
The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) is the largest humanitarian agency operating in Syria since 1964 and is uniquely positioned to support Syrian communities in their recovery through its expansive reach and scale. WFP's interventions prioritize emergency relief and resilience-building efforts focused on the most severely food insecure populations. Additionally, WFP is a key actor in the country's social protection sector also plays a vital role in strengthening Syria's social safety-net systems.
Operating under its 2022-2026 Interim Country Strategic Plan (iCSP), WFP addresses the growing food and nutrition needs livelihood, resilience and early recovery, and reviving food systems, in close collaboration with the Syrian government, humanitarian and development stakeholders.

CONTRACT DETAILS:
Job Title: Nutritionist
Contract Type: Fixed Term (NOA)
Duration: 12 months
Duty Stations: Damascus
Number of required employees: 1

JOB PURPOSE:
The Nutritionist will provide support and technical analyses to implement the WFP Syria Nutrition Programme portfolio and contribute to meeting the needs of WFP beneficiaries. This entails working closely with the Head of Nutrition and Social Protection to assist in the development and implementation of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive activities, in addition to providing support in the coordination and follow up with internal and external stakeholders to ensure timely and quality implementation of nutrition activities.

ACCOUNTABILITIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Within delegated authority, the Nutrition Programme Policy Officer will be responsible for the following duties:

- Contribute to the development of nutrition projects, activities, plans and processes, ensuring alignment with wider nutrition policies and guidance.
- Provide project management support to specific and defined nutrition projects and activities, ensuring a coordinated approach with wider programmes/projects that complies with WFP standards

VA056-2026 Nutritionist (NOA)

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management of wasting.
- Support EPR team in managing the nutrition elements of the “Food for Nutrition Emergency Response”, including updating programmatic design in response to arising needs.
- Lead the development, preparation and review of all activity rations including those pertaining to Targeted Food Assistance, Ready to Eat rations, Reference Baskets for the Nutrition support to Pregnant & Breastfeeding women and girls, and Out of School programmes.
- Track and analyse data to contribute to the preparation of accurate and timely reporting on nutrition activities.
- Liaise with implementing partners (internal and external) to monitor ongoing projects, ensuring effective collaboration, timeliness, and efficiency, and highlight potential risks to project delivery.
- Support the identification of potential partners and partnership negotiations to ensure a collaborative and holistic approach to meeting nutrition needs.
- Provide coaching to junior staff, with essential focus on enhancing skills, behaviour development, and performance management.
- Support the capacity building of WFP staff (CO. AO and FO), partners, and national government to prepare for and respond to nutrition needs.
- Undertake field visits to areas affected by emergencies, including regions with access challenges, as required to provide on-ground support and assessments.
- Oversee the preparation and implementation of nutrition assessments, including the development of Terms of Reference, coordination of technical teams, partner engagement, and comprehensive report writing.
- In absence of Head of the Section, assume OIC responsibility if requested.
- Represent WFP in key coordination forums such as nutrition sectoral meetings, MOH forums, in addition to Regional and Global initiatives.
- Contribute to the revision of nutrition strategies and program design, leveraging evidence and findings to enhance program effectiveness.
- Collaborate with other relevant units and field offices to review and enhance the beneficiary communication strategy, ensuring it is well-targeted and impactful.
- Others as required.

STANDARD MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education:
Advanced University Degree in Public Health Nutrition, Nutrition, Food Technology, Medicine, or other relevant fields, or first university degree with two additional years of related work experience and/or training/ courses

Experience:

- With a Master's degree, at least one (1) year of postgraduate progressively responsible professional experience; or with a Bachelor's degree, at least three (3) years of progressively responsible professional experience acquired following the completion of the Bachelor's degree, in nutrition, public health, or a related field
- Experience coordinating programmes, projects, or multi-stakeholder initiatives is highly desirable