Medical Radiography

Taylor Health Science Bldg.
(435) 879-4809
http://dixie.edu/health/radiography/

To find faculty & staff phone numbers and email addresses, please consult the University Directory (http://www.dixie.edu/directory/directory.php).

Program Director
Sherry Floerchinger, M.A.

Interim Dean
Patricia Wintch RDH, MSDH

Health Science Advisor
Esther Pugmire

Program Description

Medical radiographers or radiologic technologists are allied health professionals who use their patient care and technical skills to perform diagnostic procedures using ionizing radiation. Procedures include exams of the central nervous, gastrointestinal, skeletal, respiratory, and urinary systems and may be performed in the radiology department, emergency room, or the surgical suite.

Professional competence requires radiographers to apply their knowledge in anatomy, pathology, patient positioning, radiation protection, image production, and evaluation. Employment opportunities include hospitals, clinics, physicians’ offices, outpatient imaging centers, government agencies, and industry. In addition, registered radiographers may pursue additional education in advanced modalities such as sonography, nuclear medicine, interventional radiography, radiologist assistant, radiation therapy, CT, MRI, and mammography.

It is the program’s philosophy that to develop professional, competent and compassionate medical radiographers requires a quality education founded on a well-rounded curriculum, including technical skills, critical thinking, and ethical and responsible behavior. Students in the program will:

1. Develop competence in clinical performance
2. Acquire critical thinking and problem-solving skills
3. Determine the importance of professional and ethical conduct
4. Develop effective communication skill
5. The program will provide the community with a skilled entry-level radiologic technology graduate.

This is a two-year, full-time program that prepares students to enter the health care profession as a competent entry-level radiographer. Professional competence is achieved through a blend of theoretical and practical coursework which includes didactic and clinical experience at cooperating hospitals, clinics, and doctors’ offices. It consists of five semesters of academic studies with coordinated practice in area imaging departments. Clinical rotation shifts vary anywhere from 6:00 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday rotations will be required in the third, fourth, and fifth semesters.

Facilities

The Medical Radiography Program is located in the Russell Taylor Health Science Center and has 6,000 square feet of dedicated classroom and lab space. Lab equipment includes two stationary GE Proteus units, a mobile x-ray unit, C-arm and a Konica CR reader with PACS. This equipment is, in most cases, consistent with equipment used at the clinical sites allowing for easier transfer of skills and knowledge.

Licensure

Upon successful completion of the program, the student will be awarded an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Medical Radiography. The graduate will be eligible to apply to sit for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT). After passing the national examination, individuals may apply for licensure for the State of Utah through the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing.

Accreditation

The DSU Medical Radiography Program is accredited through the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT), the national accrediting agency for radiography programs which assures that programs follow standards to maintain academic excellence. JRCERT may be contacted at:

Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
20 N. Wacker Dr. Suite 2850
Chicago IL 60606-3182
(312) 704-5300
www.jrcert.org
Course Prefixes

- RADT

Degrees & Certificates

- Associate of Applied Science in Medical Radiography (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/medicalradiography/associate_of_applied_science_in_medical_radiography)

Admission to the Medical Radiography Program

To be considered for admission to the Medical Radiography program, an applicant must first be accepted as a Dixie State University student. The applicant must also complete a separate application to the Medical Radiography program. Admission to the program is competitive and based on a point system. Applicants will be evaluated on their academic achievement including overall GPA, prerequisite course grades and work experience or volunteer hours in a healthcare setting that has direct contact with patients. The top 20-25 highest-scoring applicants will be selected for interviews, which will be conducted by the Medical Radiography Selection Committee. Of the applicants interviewed, the top twelve to fourteen highest-scoring students will be selected for admission into the Medical Radiography program with up to five additional students to be selected as alternates. The number of students selected is dependent on the number of clinical spots available. The deadline for applications is on the department website. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed or considered for admission. Applications and further information is available at http://www.dixie.edu/health/radiography/admissions.php.

Complete applications must include official transcripts listing final grades in the following courses: BIOL 2320, BIOL 2325, BIOL 2420, BIOL 2425, ENGL 1010, ENGL 2010, MATH 1030, 1040 or 1050, PSY 1010 or PSY 1100, RADT 1010 and either COMM 1020 or COMM 2110. Science courses must be taken within the past seven years (BIOL 2320/25 and BIOL 2420/25).

A crucial element for student success in a rigorous Medical Radiography program is the capability of academic achievement. A student’s history of academic performance is indicative of future academic achievement. The eligibility requirement for admission into the Dixie State University Medical Radiography Program is a cumulative GPA of 2.7 for all Medical Radiography prerequisite courses. Prerequisite and support courses for the program provide students with a solid foundation of knowledge and are essential for success in the program. All required prerequisite courses must be completed with at least a “C” grade or higher prior to submission of application.

Prerequisite Courses (required for admission):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 2320</td>
<td>Human Anatomy</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 2325</td>
<td>Human Anatomy Lab</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 2420</td>
<td>Human Physiology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 2425</td>
<td>Human Physiology Lab</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1010</td>
<td>Introduction to Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ENGL 1010D</td>
<td>Introduction to Writing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 2010</td>
<td>Interm Writing Selected Topics:</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1040</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistics (preferred)</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MATH 1030</td>
<td>Quantitative Reasoning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MATH 1050</td>
<td>College Algebra / Pre-Calculus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 1010</td>
<td>General Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or PSY 1100</td>
<td>Human Development Through Lifespan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RADT 1010</td>
<td>Intro to Radiography</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1020</td>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or COMM 2110</td>
<td>Interpersonal Communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Career Information

Career Opportunities*

Medical radiographers or radiologic technologists work in healthcare facilities, with 59% employed in hospitals, 21% working in physicians’ offices, 8% employed in medical and diagnostic laboratories, and the other 4% in outpatient care and federal government jobs. MRI technicians also work in healthcare facilities, with 59% employed by hospitals, 20% by medical and diagnostic laboratories, and 14% by offices of physicians.

Job Outlook*

Employment of radiologic technologists is expected to grow by 9% between 2014 and 2024, and employment of MRI Technicians is expected to grow 10% over the same decade.
Salary Range

In May of 2015, the median annual salary for radiologic technologists was $56,670. The highest 10 percent earned more than $81,660 and the lowest 10 percent earned less than $38,110. For MRI technicians, the median annual wage was $67,720 in May 2015. The highest 10 percent earned more than $94,550 and the lowest earned less than $46,690.

* From the Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2015