



# **Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program**

## **Program Accreditation**

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography program at Columbus Technical College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs ([www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)) upon the recommendation of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS).

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs  
9355 – 113<sup>th</sup> St. N. #7709  
Seminole, FL 33775  
727-210-2350  
[www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)

## **Program Description**

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) associate degree program is designed to prepare qualified entry-level sonographers who are highly skilled, technically competent, ethical, professional, compassionate, and responsive to the needs of patients and of employing organizations. The profession requires critical thinking skills and judgment and the ability to provide appropriate healthcare services. Sonographers use technologically advanced equipment that utilizes high-frequency sound waves to produce dynamic visual pictures of internal body structures. Physicians evaluate the images to make a medical diagnosis.

Course work includes sonographic physics, sonographic appearance of normal and abnormal anatomy, physiology, pathology, and pathophysiology of the abdomen, pelvis, and small parts of the adult, pediatric, and fetal patient, as well as clinical application courses, interventional sonography, journal and case study review, and comprehensive registry reviews. The DMS program combines formal education and extensive clinical training to prepare you to function as a sonographer.

As a graduate of this DMS accredited program, the student is eligible to sit for the national certification examination in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, administered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) in the SPI Physics exam upon completing the program physics class and in the Abdomen and the Obstetrics/Gynecology specialties prior to program completion. The student may also elect to take the American Registry of Radiologic Technologist (ARRT) exam for Sonography, a combined exam of Physics, Abdomen, and Obstetrics and Gynecology. The partnership that CTC has with area healthcare facilities will provide the student the benefit of on the job training in a clinical setting. CTC does not guarantee job placement; however, we often assist graduates with employment opportunities as healthcare facilities seek our graduates for job opportunities. Hospital imaging departments, clinics, physician's offices, and diagnostic centers seek registered graduates.



## **Program Admission Requirements** (The DMS Program is a Competitive Admissions Program)

- Applicants must present documentation of a high school diploma or official GED scores for admission.
- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.
- No provisional and/or special admission students are considered for the program.
- Must have a minimum overall GPA of 2.5 at the end of Summer semester of the year making application.
- Must complete all prerequisite courses by the end of Summer semester in the year making application.
- All transcripts for courses being transferred in from other colleges, must be received in the Admissions Office before the application deadline of September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- HESI A2 exams must be completed before the application deadline of September 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Competitive ranking will be based on:**

#### **1. Grades from designated Prerequisite Courses (60% of ranking)**

Designated course grades used for competitive ranking are indicated by an asterisk\* on program sequence sheets on CTC web page. All pre-requisites must be completed at the time of program application with a grade of C or higher.

- Students will be given one opportunity to improve their grade for all prerequisite courses while enrolled at Columbus Technical College. The higher grade will be used for ranking.  
\* Financial Aid will only pay for two attempts with a passing grade.
- Science courses (BIOL 2113 & 2113L, 2114 & 2114L, and PHYS 1110 & 1110L) used for competitive admission cannot be more than 7 years old or the course must be re-taken.
- Any science courses more than 7 years old will not be used for competitive ranking.

#### **2. HESI A2 exam scores (40% of ranking)**

Student must take the HESI A2 exam and achieve a minimum score of 70 to be considered for admission into the DMS program.

- Call 706-649-1822 (testing Center located in the Library Building) for times, dates and questions regarding testing.
  - Test may be taken a total of two times per calendar year. The test results are only good for a two-year period.
  - The HESI A2 exam is required for all competitive programs.
  - There are several preparation options for the HESI A2 exam, including free test prep via the Columbus Technical College virtual library on Mometrix or HESI Admission Assessment Exam and Review, 4th Edition ISBN 978-0- 323-35377-6
- Student must provide current medical/physical exam results on a DMS provided Medical Form, complete the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technical Standards form, and provide their immunization records and current CPR card (BLS for Healthcare Providers) after program acceptance. More details about these requirements will follow after acceptance into the program.
  - Entrance into the DMS program is contingent upon completion/results of a criminal background check and drug screen which must be completed **after** being conditionally accepted into the program. Pertinent information regarding the Background Check/Drug Screen will be provided to students once accepted into the program. The student will be responsible for the cost of these items.



**The following courses will be used in the ranking process for competitive admission:**

ENGL 1101, MATH 1111, BIOL 2113, BIOL 2113L, MATH 1127, PHYS 1110, PHYS 1110L,  
BIOL 2114, BIOL 2114L

*(SEMN 1000, PSYC 1101, & HUMN XXXX are not used in the ranking process, but these courses must also be completed prior to program application with exception of SEMN 1000 which may be taken during the program.)*

<b>Diagnostic Medical Sonography - Prerequisite Courses</b>	<b>CREDIT HOURS</b>
SEMN 1000 First Semester Seminar	0
*ENGL 1101 Composition and Rhetoric	3
*MATH 1111 College Algebra	3
PSYC 1101 Introduction to Psychology	3
*BIOL 2113 Anatomy and Physiology I	3
*BIOL 2113 L Anatomy and Physiology I Lab	1
HUMN XXXX Humanities/Fine Arts Elective	3
*MATH 1127 Introduction to Statistics	3
*PHYS 1110 Conceptual Physics	3
*PHYS 1110 L Conceptual Physics Lab	1
*BIOL 2114 Anatomy and Physiology II	3
*BIOL 2114 L Anatomy and Physiology II Lab	1

## **Application Deadline**

Applications must be completed and submitted to the Administrative Desk located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in the Wright Health Sciences building by **September 15<sup>th</sup>** for Spring semester admission, and no sooner than two weeks prior to due date. All prerequisite courses and HESI A2 exams must be completed by the time of application and all transcripts from courses being transferred in from other colleges must be received in the Admissions Office before the application deadline of September 15<sup>th</sup>.



## Program Considerations

- DMS courses are generally offered from 8:00am – 5:00pm, Monday–Friday, on any given semester (times/days can change for the needs of the program)
- Attending the program is equivalent to working a full-time job.
- Travel is required for clinical rotations (currently, as far as ~75 miles each way) for up to four (4) days per week each semester. Reliable transportation is a must.
- ARDMS Registry exam fees (totaling \$725.00, must be paid in increments throughout the program) See [www.ardms.org](http://www.ardms.org) for more info.
- We often assist graduates with employment opportunities as they come available in the area; however, we do not guarantee job placement (Approximately 86-91% of past graduating classes are gainfully employed either full-time, part-time, or PRN within the first six (6) months post-graduation.)

## Program Completion Rates

Graduation Year	Students Accepted	Academic Attrition	Non-Academic Attrition (Voluntary Withdrawal)	Graduates	Retention Rate
2019	12	0	1	11	92%
2018	10	1	0	9	90%
2017	10	1	0	9	90%
2016	10	1	2	7	70%
2015	12	1	0	11	92%

## Job Placement Rates

Graduation Year	# of Graduates	Pursuing further degree	Not pursuing career in sonography	Total # Positive Placement	Positive Job Placement Rate (within 12 months of graduation)
2019	11	0	1	10	91%
2018	9	0	1	8	89%
2017	9	1	0	8	89%
2016	7	0	1	6	86%
2015	11	0	1	10	91%



## Credentialing Examination Pass Rates

Grad. Year	ARDMS SPI Exam Pass Rate			ARDMS Abdomen Exam Pass Rate			ARDMS OB/GYN Pass Rate	
	CTC Rate	National Average		CTC Rate	National Average		CTC Rate	National Average
2019	91%	n/a		100%	n/a		100%	n/a
2018	90%	73%		89%	83%		89%	79%
2017	100%	75%		100%	84%		100%	79%
2016	86%	78%		71%	81%		100%	79%
2015	100%	83%		67%	77%		90%	79%

Graduation Year	# of Graduates	Percentage of graduates ARDMS registered in one or more specialties (ABD and/or OBGYN) within 12 months of graduation
2019	11	100%
2018	9	89%
2017	9	100%
2016	7	86%
2015	11	91%



## Estimated Student Expenses

### ***Diagnostic Medical Sonography***

	<b><i>Expenses</i></b>
Background Check	\$60.00
Medical Physical	\$100.00
Immunizations	\$130.00
Flu Shot (x2)	\$40.00(\$20 each)
CPR (BLS for Healthcare Providers)	\$65.00
Uniforms and Accessories	\$175.00
Graduation Fee	\$40.00
ARDMS SPI Exam	\$225.00
ARDMS Specialty Exams (\$250 x 2)	\$500.00
Required Textbooks	\$1220.00
ACEMAPP Clinical Fees (x2)	\$100.00 (Total)
DMSO Course Lab Fees (8 courses)	\$275.00(Total)
Student Liability Insurance (x2)	\$35.00(Total)

### **DMS Program**

#### **Tuition/Fees per Semester (In-State)**

Spring Semester (I)	\$1621.00
Summer Semester	\$1521.00
Fall Semester	\$1721.00
Spring Semester (II)	\$1521.00

<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED COST:</b>	<b>\$9349.00</b>
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***\*Estimated  
expenses are  
subject to change  
without notice***

**ARDMS Exams must be  
taken and paid for  
DURING the DMS program**



First Semester	Pre-Occupational Classes	CREDIT HOURS
SEMN 1000	First Semester Seminar	0
ENGL 1101	Composition and Rhetoric	3
MATH 1111	College Algebra	3
PSYC 1101	Introduction to Psychology	3
BIOL 2113	Anatomy and Physiology I	3
BIOL 2113 L	Anatomy and Physiology I Lab	1
Second Semester	Pre -Occupational Classes	Credit Hours
HUMN XXXX	Humanities/ Fine Arts Elective	3
MATH 1127	Introduction to Statistics	3
PHYS 1110	Conceptual Physics	3
PHYS 1110 L	Conceptual Physics Lab	1
BIOL 2114	Anatomy and Physiology II	3
BIOL 2114 L	Anatomy and Physiology II Lab	1
Total Credit Hours Pre – Occupational Classes		27
Third Semester	OCCUPATIONAL CLASSES (Competitive Admission)	Credit Hours
DMSO 1010	Foundations of Sonography	3
DMSO 1020	Sectional Anatomy and Normal Sonographic Appearance	3
DMSO1040	Sonographic Physics and Instrumentation	3
DMSO 1060	Clinical Sonography I	4
Fourth Semester	OCCUPATIONAL CLASSES	Credit Hours
DMSO 1050	Abdominal Sonography I	3
DMSO 1070	Pelvic Sonography and First Trimester Obstetrics	2
DMSO 1080	Sonographic Physics and Instrumentation Registry Review	1
DMSO1100	Clinical Sonography II	6
Fifth Semester	OCCUPATIONAL CLASSES	Credit Hours
DMSO 1090	Introduction to Vascular Sonography	1
DMSO 2010	OB Second and Third Trimesters	3
DMSO 2020	Specialized Sonographic Procedures	2
DMSO 2030	Clinical Sonography III	8
Sixth Semester	OCCUPATIONAL CLASSES	Credit Hours
DMSO 2040	Comprehensive Abdomen and OB-GYN Registry Review	2
DMSO 2050	Clinical Sonography IV	10
Total Credit Hours for Occupational Classes		51
Total Program Hours		78