Radiology Technology, AAS
School of Health Professions

The radiology technology program offers the academic preparation and clinical training needed for a career as a radiologic technologist (radiographer). While many radiographers provide services in a hospital setting, others provide services in stand-alone medical imaging centers, mobile radiography providers and private physician offices. Radiography is the gateway to other specialized imaging modalities. With additional education through either employer based training or formal education, radiographers can progress to careers in Computed Tomograph (CT), Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Angiography, Mammography and Quality Management. The program includes clinical experience in various off-campus locations that provide radiologic imaging services.

Students who complete the radiology technology program satisfactorily are eligible to apply to take the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) national certification exam.

Career Opportunities
Students completing this program will be qualified to enter the workforce as an entry level radiographer. Radiographers may find employment opportunities with hospitals, stand-alone medical imaging centers, mobile imaging providers, and private practice physicians.

Special Admission and Selection Criteria
Since this program requires a clinical placement, enrollment is selective and enrollment is limited by the number of available clinical seats necessary to complete the radiology technology course requirements. Students may be required to interview at one or more clinical sites on their own time and expense. Clinical sites are assigned by the clinical coordinator. Specific criteria for admission and selection are listed below.

- Applicants must be graduates of an accredited secondary school program, or high school seniors enrolled in an accredited secondary school program, or those who hold a GED equivalency certificate prior to selection.
- High school preparation should include one year each of biology, physics, and chemistry. If these courses were not taken in high school, BIO 107, PHY 110 and CHM 107 must be completed prior to the application deadline for the radiology technology program with a minimum “C” grade or better (C minus grade not accepted.) Algebra level will be assessed by the placement process or successful completion of MTH 100 prior to application deadline.
- College prerequisite coursework includes completion of BIO 171—Anatomy and Physiology I, with a minimum grade of C (C minus grade not accepted.)
- BIO 171 must be successfully completed by the end of the spring semester prior to starting the RAD program. Students accepted into the RAD program and not completing BIO 171 with a “C” or better will be withdrawn from the program.
- Students must attend a placement assessment and educational planning session and complete any developmental courses and/or high school course work with a minimum grade of C (C minus grade not accepted.) Also, applicants who have completed credit courses must have a 2.5 or better GPA. Only courses necessary to meet the radiology technology program requirements are considered when calculating the GPA. If the GPA is less than 2.5, one or more of these courses can be repeated in order to meet this requirement before placement.
- Students who have attempted developmental courses in math or science three or more times will not be considered for admission.
- Applicants to the radiology program should review the ARRT rules and regulations and the ARRT standard of ethics prior to submitting their application. Information can be found on the ARRT website http://www.arrt.org.

Application Process for Health Profession Programs
- Complete and submit an Application for Admission to Westmoreland County Community College
- Complete and submit an application for the specific Health Profession Program
- Submit all required documents to the Admissions Office by the deadline.
- Submit official transcript from all secondary schools attended, graduate equivalency degree (GED) programs and any other formal educational program beyond high school.

For Fall Start
Application Deadline January 12 prior to fall start Acceptance Notification Mid-March

NOTE: Admission decisions are based on two factors which contribute to the overall admission score: GPA and evidence of success in courses already taken. Admission to the radiology program is competitive and there are a limited number of seats.
Radiology Technology, AAS  
School of Health Professions

Final Admission Criteria
Students accepted into the School of Health Professions including Nursing, Dental Programs, Radiology, Sonography, Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy and Specimen Processing are required to have a criminal background check, child abuse history and drug screening at the student’s expense.

The Program Director of each Health Profession Program gives the accepted student directions for setting up a password-secure Castle Branch Account.

Castle Branch is the background screening and compliance tracking company, which provides Westmoreland County Community College Health Profession Programs with student background screening services.

Castle Branch background screening and compliance management includes:
• Background Checks (FBI Fingerprint Check, Criminal Background Check and Child Abuse Clearances)
• Urine Drug Screen
• Immunization and Record Tracking
• Houses PPD (TB screening)
• CPR Training Documentation
• Liability Insurance (if applicable for program)
• Houses the results of the Required Health Physical.

Final admission is conditional pending receipt of Urine Drug Screen and receipt and evaluation of Criminal Background Check to determine if there is any conviction that may bar the applicant from entering the Health Profession Programs.
• Positive Urine Drug Screen will result in denial of admission.
• Any record of child abuse will result in denial of admission.
• According to federal sentencing guidelines, any punishment over one year indicates a felony.
• Any felony conviction within the past 10 years will result in denial of admission.
• Any misdemeanor will be evaluated based on the nature of the offense, length of time since the offense and explanatory letter/material submitted by the applicant.

Essential Cognitive, Physical and Behavioral Functions
The Westmoreland County Community College Health Profession Programs including Nursing, Dental Programs, Radiology, Sonography, Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy and Specimen Processing require that students meet certain functional abilities essential to each program. A detailed list is available in each program’s handbook.

Readmission Policy
Students returning to the program after removal must successfully complete laboratory remediation from a tutor and a laboratory exam commensurate with the knowledge level when the student left the program.

Purpose
The radiology technology program provides students with a complete educational experience for those who wish to become health-care providers. The radiology technology program provides each student opportunities to learn and develop competence in patient care, communication skills, critical thinking and technical skills that will permit the student to become a Diagnostic Radiologic Technologist. Integrated educational activities include lecture, laboratory activities, case studies and hands-on clinical training.

Program Mission
Our mission is to provide students with a variety of educational activities and experiences that will prepare them with a level of expertise required to become competent and successful radiographers.

Program Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:
• Provide radiographic imaging services within a healthcare setting for a diverse patient population with an awareness of cultural diversity within the community.
• Use the principle of ALARA to minimize radiation exposure to the patient, one’s self and the general population.
• Operate all radiologic imaging equipment safely, effectively and efficiently.
• Expose, process and evaluate all types of radiologic images.
• Apply computation skills to provide safe X-ray exposure to patients.
• Develop competency in assessing patients and devising ways to image compromised patients.
• Use computers and computerized equipment in the process of imaging and caring for patients.
• Provide imaging procedure patient education.
• Respect patient confidentiality and follow HIPPA guidelines.
• Practice radiography in a manner consistent with the ARRT ethical guidelines.
• Use effective communication skills when collaborating with multidisciplinary health team members.
• Develop interpersonal and communication skills to effectively interact with diverse population groups.
• Provide appropriate life-support measures for medical emergencies that may be encountered in a radiologic imaging setting.
• Use resources to enhance self-development and professional growth.

Program Goals
• To produce graduates prepared for entry into the health care field.
• To produce graduates who have demonstrated the skills, professional values and ethics to function as entry-level radiographers.
• To produce graduates with the ability to think independently and value lifelong learning.
• To produce graduates with the ability to effectively communicate with patients and other health care providers.
• To produce graduates prepared for the American registry of radiologic technologist examination.
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**Total Program Credits**: 74