

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 Tomography (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 work force 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

Selection to the Radiology Technology program is highly competitive and enrollment is limited. Specific criteria for admission and selection are as follows:

- Applicants must be graduates of an accredited secondary school program or hold a GED equivalency certificate prior to the time of application.
- Students must attend a placement assessment and educational planning session and complete any developmental courses that may be required based on the placement assessment by the application deadline.
- Applicants must complete BIO 171 with a grade of "C" or better prior to the program's application deadline. Any other Radiology Technology general education courses taken prior to program admission must also be completed with a grade of "C" or better.
- Applicants must have a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA in program-required courses as of the application deadline. Applicants may repeat any of the program-required general education courses one time in an attempt to raise course grade and/or GPA.
- If there are more qualified applicants than available seats, the Radiology Technology program uses a selective admission process based on GPA.
- Applicants to the radiology program should review the ARRT rules and regulations and the AART standard of ethics prior to submitting their application. Information can be found on the AART website, <http://www.rrt.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

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 to any Health Profession Program.
- 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.

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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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Sugg. Term	Seq #	Course ID	Course Title	Cr.	Term Offered	Prereq(s)	Options Available
Prior to Application Deadline	1	BIO 171	Anatomy and Physiology I	4	F, Sp, Su	CHM 107, 155, 264 or HS Chemistry and ENG 095 or Placement	
1st Fall	2	PDV 101	First Year Seminar	1	F, Sp, Su		
	3	ALH 122	Medical Terminology	3	F, Sp, Su		
	4	BIO 172	Anatomy and Physiology II	4	F, Sp, Su	BIO 171	
	5	RAD 111	Intro to Radiographic Procedures and Patient Care I	4	F	Admission to the program	
	6	RAD 121	Principles of Radiology Image Capture & Display	3	F	Co: RAD 111	
1st Spring	7	PHY 125	Physics for Radiology	3	Sp	PHY 110 or HS Physics	
	8	MTH 157	College Algebra	3	F, Sp, Su	MTH 100, 100A or Placement	
	9	RAD 131	Digital Image Acquisition & Display	3	Sp	RAD 121	
	10	RAD 141	Radiographic Procedures & Patient Care II	4	Sp	Co: RAD 131, 146	
	11	RAD 146	Clinical Education I	4	Sp	Co: RAD 131, 146	
1st Summer	12	RAD 215	Clinical Education II	3	Su	RAD 131, 141, 146	
	13	RAD 255	Clinical Education III	3	Su	Co: RAD 215	
2nd Fall	14	CPT 150	Microcomputer Concepts	3	F, Sp, Su		
	15	ENG 161	College Writing	3	F, Sp, Su	ENG 085 or Placement	
	16	PSY 160	General Psychology	3	F, Sp, Su		
	17	RAD 211	Radiographic Procedures & Patient Care III	4	F	RAD 215, 255	
	18	RAD 216	Clinical Education IV	4	F	Co: RAD 211	
2nd Spring	19	ENG 162	Technical Communication	3	F, Sp, Su	ENG 161	
	20	RAD 221	Radiographic Pathology & Job Search Preparation	3	Sp	RAD 211, 216	
	21	RAD 226	Clinical Education V	5	Sp	Co: RAD 221, 231	
	22	RAD 231	Radiology Technology Capstone	1	Sp	Co: RAD 221, 226	
	23	SPC 156	Interpersonal Communication	3	F, Sp, Su		

Total Program Credits

74