

What can you do with a major in Radiography?

Campus(s) program is offered: North Metro

What are the most likely job titles one can expect to qualify for once completely this program?

1. Radiologic Technologist
2. Cardiovascular Technician
3. Vascular Technician
4. Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
5. Nuclear Medicine Technician
6. Radiation Therapist
7. MRI Technician
8. Mammography Technologist

What do students express as the thing they enjoy the most about this program? What is the least?

The students enjoy their clinical rotation at one of the local hospital.

Students say that the program is demanding and somewhat stressful because of the amount of time and work involved. For instance, they are required to be at the hospital from 6:30 am. - 3:00 pm. three (3) days per week. Mondays and Fridays are in the classroom.

What are some typical misconceptions about this program of study?

Probably the biggest misconception about this program is the amount of time the student must sacrifice in order to be successful. It is almost impossible to work full time and pass this course. Some students even have a hard time working part-time.

What are some essential skills a student needs to have in order to be successful in program of study?

1. Basic understanding of sterile technique.
2. Being able to stay focused and anticipate the needs of the physician
3. Good multi-tasking skills.
4. Prioritizes activities when there are many to consider.
5. Uses time wisely and anticipates problems.
6. Assesses own abilities.
7. Demonstrate flexibility.
8. Analyzes the result and accepts feedback from others as part of the learning experience.

Typical work activities/occupational functions:

- Adjust and maintain imaging equipment
- Precisely follow orders from physicians on what areas of the body to image
- Prepare patients for procedures, including taking a medical history and answering questions about the procedure
- Protect the patient by shielding exposed areas that do not need to be imaged
- Position the patient and the equipment in the location needed to get the correct image
- Operate the computerized equipment to take the images

- Work with radiologists reading the images to determine whether other images need to be taken
- Keep detailed patient records

First year students rotate through general radiology, fluoroscopy, GU, outpatient imaging, portables and emergency room. Second year students rotate through surgery and may elect to complete observational rotations through CT, MRI, ultrasound, nuclear medicine, special procedures and radiation therapy.

What additional training would you recommend for a student who wants to go to the next level in this field? Registered Nurse (BSN)

Do any of the occupational courses transfer easily?

Prerequisite courses such as Anatomy & Physiology, English, etc.) may transfer to another institution. Occupational Therapy will not transfer to other institutions.

What are some common limitations, if any, in this program that students face?

Like other healthcare workers, radiologic technologists may be exposed to infectious diseases. Technologists are often on their feet for long periods and may need to lift or turn patients who are disabled. Because imaging is needed in emergency situations, some radiologic technologists work evenings, weekends, or on call.

Are there any exams/certifications that a student needs to take after completing the courses?

Radiologic technologists must be licensed or certified in most states; requirements vary by state. To be licensed in most states, radiologic technologists must have graduated from an accredited program and must pass a certification exam from the state or from The American Registry of Radiologic Technologist (ARRT).

Possible employment settings:

Most radiologic technology Assistants work in hospitals. Some work in physicians' offices or imaging clinics.

Names of employers:

Piedmont Mountain Side Medical Center
 Marietta Surgery Center
 North side Hospital Cherokee
 Marietta Podiatry Group
 Northwest ENT
 WellStar Health System
 Urology Associates Surgery Center, LLC

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