

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY

Program Description

Diagnostic Medical Sonographer is a professional qualified by professional credentialing, academic and clinical experience to provide diagnostic patient care services using ultrasound. The scope of practice includes those procedures, acts and processes permitted by law, for which the individual has received education and clinical experience, has demonstrated competency and has completed the appropriate credentialing which is the standards of practice. Coursework includes use of sonography relevant to gynecology, obstetrics, abdominal subjects, superficial structures and vascular applications.

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program was established in 1984. It is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org). Accreditation is administered by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography. The college is accredited by Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

Graduates of the program meet the educational requirements outlined under Prerequisite 1,2,3A of the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers.

After eighteen consecutive months of competency based, classroom, laboratory instruction and clinical preceptorships, students receive the Certificate of Achievement and may choose to complete an Associate in Science degree option. Students are eligible to take the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) exams.

Learn more about the program on the [Diagnostic Medical Sonography website](#).

Program Learning Outcomes

- Students will demonstrate the necessary knowledge, technical skills, analytical skills, interpersonal skills and diagnostic ability within the scope of practice for diagnostic medical sonography.
- Students will demonstrate the necessary knowledge and values pertaining to professional demeanor, including the implementation of confidentiality and privacy for the practice of diagnostic medical sonography.

Career Opportunities

Students typically pursue technical careers in the hospital, clinic, and office. With additional technical experience career positions may include supervisory positions, as a traveler or independent contractor. Most management, corporate and education positions require a baccalaureate or Master's degree in a related field.

Award Type(s)

- AS = Associate in Science Degree
- CA = Certificate of Achievement

Units Required

- Major: 115
- Certificate(s): 115

Program Application

Admittance to this program is through an application process. Program information, admission criteria and application to the program can be found on the [Diagnostic Medical Sonography program website](#).

Program Prerequisites

Must be completed with a grade of "C" or better, unless otherwise noted.

- High school diploma, GED or equivalent.
- Successful completion of a two-year Allied Health Program with direct patient care experience such as Radiologic Technology, Respiratory Therapy, Registered Nurse and/or bachelor degree from an accredited institution in the United States in a science/medically related discipline such as premed, registered nurse, or kinesiology with physical therapy assistance experience. Not all health care positions can or will provide the appropriate experiences. Please see program website for more information.

Code	Title	Units
BIOL 40A & BIOL 40B & BIOL 40C	HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY I and HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY II and HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY III ¹	15
or a semester of Anatomy and a semester of Physiology with laboratories ¹		
PHYS 2A	GENERAL PHYSICS (or equivalent) ¹	5
MATH 105	INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA (or higher math)	5
ENGL 1A	COMPOSITION & READING	5-8
or ENGL 1AH	HONORS COMPOSITION & READING	
or ENGL 1S & ENGL 1T	INTEGRATED COMPOSITION & READING and INTEGRATED COMPOSITION & READING	
or equivalent		
AHS 52	MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY (or equivalent)	4

¹ Must be completed with a minimum GPA of 2.5.

Associate Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Units
English Proficiency		
Select one of the following:		
ENGL 1A	COMPOSITION & READING	5
ENGL 1AH	HONORS COMPOSITION & READING	5
ENGL 1S & ENGL 1T	INTEGRATED COMPOSITION & READING and INTEGRATED COMPOSITION & READING	8
or equivalent		
Mathematics Proficiency		
Select one of the following:		
MATH 105	INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA	5
MATH 180	QUANTITATIVE REASONING	5
or any MATH course approved for Foothill GE Area V, Communication & Analytical Thinking		

A minimum of 90 units is required¹ to include:

- Completion of one of the following general education patterns:
Foothill General Education, CSU General Education Breadth

Requirements or the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)

- Core courses (115 units)

¹ Additional elective course work may be necessary to meet the 90-unit minimum requirement for the associate degree.

Note: All courses pertaining to the major must be taken for a letter grade. In addition, a grade of "C" or better is required for all core courses used for the degree or certificate.

Core and Support Courses

Core Courses

Course	Title	Units
First Year		
Fall Quarter		
DMS 50A	DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY PRINCIPLES & PROTOCOLS	4
DMS 50B	SONOGRAPHY & PATIENT CARE	2
DMS 60A	CRITIQUE & PATHOLOGY I	2
DMS 72A	DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY PROCEDURES & APPLICATIONS	11.5
Units		19.5
Winter Quarter		
DMS 51A	SECTIONAL ANATOMY	3
DMS 53A	DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY I	2
DMS 54A	GYNECOLOGY	2
DMS 60B	CRITIQUE & PATHOLOGY II	2
DMS 70A	CLINICAL PRECEPTORSHIP I (32 hrs/wk for 13 wks)	11.5
Units		20.5
Spring Quarter		
DMS 52A	PHYSICAL PRINCIPLES OF DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY I	2
DMS 53B	DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY II	2
DMS 54B	GYNECOLOGY & OBSTETRICS	2
DMS 60C	CRITIQUE & PATHOLOGY III	2
DMS 70B	CLINICAL PRECEPTORSHIP II (32 hrs/wk for 12 wks)	10.5
Units		18.5
Second Year		
Summer Session		
DMS 52B	PHYSICAL PRINCIPLES OF DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY II	2
DMS 53C	DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY III	2
DMS 55A	OBSTETRICS I	2
DMS 60D	CRITIQUE & PATHOLOGY IV	2
DMS 70C	CLINICAL PRECEPTORSHIP III (32 hrs/wk for 11 wks)	9.5
Units		17.5
Fall Quarter		
DMS 55B	OBSTETRICS II	2
DMS 56A	VASCULAR SONOGRAPHY	3
DMS 60E	CRITIQUE & PATHOLOGY V	2
DMS 70D	CLINICAL PRECEPTORSHIP IV (32 hrs/wk for 13 wks)	11.5
Units		18.5
Winter Quarter		
DMS 52C	PHYSICAL PRINCIPLES OF DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY III	2
DMS 56B	ADVANCED APPLICATIONS OF VASCULAR TECHNOLOGY	2
DMS 60F	CRITIQUE & PATHOLOGY VI	2
DMS 70E	CLINICAL PRECEPTORSHIP V (32 hrs/wk for 12 wks)	10.5
DMS 80A	ADVANCED SONOGRAPHIC PRINCIPLES	4
Units		20.5
Total Units		115

Certificate Requirements

Certificate of Achievement in Diagnostic Medical Sonography

- Units: 115

The certificate of achievement is awarded upon completion of the core courses. General education courses are not required; however, the prerequisites and application requirements must be met.