

MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY – B.S., CERTIFICATE

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The diagnostic ultrasound profession is a multispecialty field comprised of diagnostic medical sonographers (DMS) with subspecialties in abdomen, obstetrics/gynecology, breast, and pediatrics; vascular technologists (RVT); and diagnostic cardiac sonographers (DCS) with subspecialties in adult, pediatrics, and fetal echocardiography.

The diagnostic ultrasound professional performs patient assessments, acquiring and analyzing data obtained using ultrasound diagnostic technologies. The sonographer provides a summary of findings to the physician to aid in patient diagnosis and management. They utilize independent judgment and systematic problem-solving methods to produce quality diagnostic information. A sonographer must complete comprehensive clinical training and obtain a credential by successfully passing the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS) national boards.

Professional credentialing

Upon completion of either the Bachelor of Science degree or certificate requirements, the student is eligible to sit for the national board examination of the ARDMS.

All students are required to take and pass the ARDMS Standard Physics and Instrumentation (SPI) Examination before completion of the program.

CPR certification (American Heart Association only)

Students are required to have current health-care provider cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification (adult, child, and infant) for all scheduled clinical experiences. CPR certification must be completed at the American Heart Association health-care provider level and prior to beginning the program. CPR classes are available on campus at Life Support Education, University Arts building, 24887 Taylor Street, Suite 102. It is suggested that CPR Certification completion should be done upon acceptance to the program.

Accreditation

The medical sonography curricula in both general sonography and echocardiography have been accredited since 1985 by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), and reviewed annually by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography. Contact information for CAAHEP is: 254 U.S. Highway 19 North, Suite 158, Clearwater, FL 33763; 727/210-2350; e-mail: <caahep@caahep.org>.

Program Requirements

- Diagnostic Medical Sonography – B.S. (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/allied-health-professions/diagnostic-medical-sonography/bs/>)
- Diagnostic Cardiac Sonography – Certificate (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/allied-health-professions/diagnostic-medical-sonography/certificate/>)