



**ALLIED HEALTH DIVISION**

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**DELGADO COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY PROGRAM**

Thank you for inquiring about admission into the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program offered through Delgado Community College located at the Delgado-Charity School of Nursing Campus.

Diagnostic Ultrasound is one of the most highly developed and complex diagnostic imaging modalities of the medical field. The field is rapidly changing and growing and promises to remain an important imaging technique which contributes to improved patient care. Diagnostic Medical Sonography involves the use of low intensity, high frequency acoustical waves to provide diagnostic information about human anatomy and pathology. Ultrasound is one of the more operator dependent examinations in diagnostic imagery. The diagnostic medical sonographer, or person who creates ultrasound images with sophisticated instrumentation, has a very important role in the process of providing a patient an optimal Diagnostic Medical Sonography exam. To create images which represent the actual anatomy and pathology for interpretation by a physician, the sonographer must use considerable judgement and have a broad base of knowledge in acoustical wave behavior and instrument variables. The sonographer must have a complete understanding of multiplanar cross-sectional anatomy. The creation of an ultrasound image demands that the sonographer be responsible and conscientious. The sonographer must be able to communicate with the patient, other employees, and physicians who are responsible for interpretation of ultrasound exams and provide the physician with pertinent clinical information from the patient's chart. He/She must be responsible for the immediate safety and comfort of patients while they are receiving the ultrasound exam.

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography program at Delgado Community College is a sixteen (16) month full-time program of formal and practical education in diagnostic medical sonography. Upon successful completion, students will be eligible to take the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography exams in Obstetrics-Gynecology, Abdomen and Physics. The program is academically based with practical experience offered at numerous affiliate hospitals located in the New Orleans area. Students will receive Delgado Community College credits for all successfully completed didactic and practical training.

Classes are to start in the fall semester (August) and extend through the following December. The deadline for receipt of completed applications, transcripts\*, and letters of recommendation is **May 1st** of each year. All applications will be reviewed and evaluated by the Ultrasound Admissions Committee. Those candidates who are not accepted will be advised accordingly by letter.

*\*Transcripts for the current Spring semester courses, other than Delgado, should be submitted as soon as available.*

***PLEASE NOTE: The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is atypical with regard to semester length. Once a student is accepted into the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program, classes begin earlier and last longer than what is printed on the class schedule and in the College Catalog Calender. This is necessary to fulfill Program requirements.***

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS OF THE DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY PROGRAM

### PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS

The applicant must possess the personality and physical ability to work in close contact with patients, hospital employees and physicians on a day to day basis. He/she must also possess a sincere desire to consistently provide high quality diagnostic images and possess the ability to work closely with the supervising physician responsible for interpretation of the ultrasonic examinations. He/she should be able to accept the professional responsibilities that are demanded by one of the more operator dependent examinations in diagnostic imagery.

Delgado Community College assures equal opportunity for all qualified persons without regard to race, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital status or veteran's status in the admission to, participation in, or employment in the program and activities of the college.

**APPLICANTS WITH COLLEGE CREDITS OLDER THAN TEN YEARS SHOULD CONTACT THE ALLIED HEALTH ADMISSIONS OFFICE FOR ADVISING.** Delgado has a policy which addresses Academic Renewal. Academic Renewal is the act of declaring void all prior credits attempted and earned. If you are interested in information regarding Academic Renewal and the procedure to initiate this process you must contact the Delgado Admissions Office at (504) 671-5040.

### ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

To meet the academic qualifications for the **Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program** the applicant must:

1. Complete the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program application.
2. Be able to meet the Technical Standards of the Profession. (See DMS Website)
2. Be a graduate of a 2 year associate degree accredited allied health occupation program such as registered nurse, radiologic technology, respiratory therapist, occupational therapist, medical technologist, etc. **OR** have at least 60 credit hours of post secondary education including the following coursework. Previous or additional coursework **MUST** include the following pre-requisite courses.

Anatomy and Physiology I and II (Lecture and Lab)  
(BIOL 251, 253 and BIOL 252 and 254)

Elementary Physics (PHYS 101)

Medical Terminology (HESC 111)

Contemporary Math (MATH 120)

College Algebra (MATH 130) or  
Introductory Figures (MATH 203)

English Composition I (ENGL 101)

English Composition II (ENGL 102)

\*All coursework must be completed by the end of the ***Spring semester prior to program entrance.***

BIOL 141/143 (general biology lecture and lab) are prerequisites to Anatomy & Physiology courses.

**An Associate Degree is strongly recommended by the Program Selection Committee.**

3. Possess a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 including all colleges attended. Grade reports from Delgado may not reflect this information.

Research into all aspects of the career of sonography is advised to enhance the applicant's general knowledge of the profession.

## APPLICATION

The completed application packet must be received by the Allied Health Division on or **BEFORE MAY 1st** for your application to be considered for admission to the upcoming August class of the **Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program**. **This application is complete only when all information requested is received. STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING SURE THAT THEIR APPLICATION IS COMPLETE.**

You must furnish two (2) letters of recommendation for entrance into the program from a Ph.D., M.D., allied health professional or College Instructor. If applicable, one letter should be from the aforementioned group with whom you have worked with.

- NOTE 1: Notify the **Allied Health Admissions Office**, Delgado Community College, 615 City Park Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70119, promptly of changes in your address/phone number.
- NOTE 2: Please make the necessary arrangements to have all application documents (application, transcripts, letters of recommendation, etc.) bear ONE name. Make sure **ALL** documents are dated.
- NOTE 3: Admission requirements may change from year to year as modifications occur in the program. Applicants are strongly urged to contact the Allied Health Admissions Office periodically to avoid the risk of not meeting admission requirements in the expected time frame.

### **COSTS:**

Diagnostic Medical Sonography students pay the same fee for each semester as other credit students enrolled in the college. Please refer to the current College Student Handbook for tuition cost and fees.

Other costs include, but not limited to, uniforms, textbooks, which are approximately \$700.00 over the duration of the program. Various financial assistance options are available to students. Information on scholarships, loans and grants may be obtained through the college's Office of Financial Aid, (504) 671-5040.

The curriculum for the Post-Associate certificate program for Diagnostic Medical Sonography is as follows:

DMSU 200 Ultrasound Patient Care  
DMSU 201 Directed Reading  
DMSU 211 Superficial Structures  
DMSU 221 Ultrasound Physics & Instrumentation I  
DMSU 222 Ultrasound Physics & Instrumentation II  
DMSU 223 Ultrasound Physics & Instrumentation III  
DMSU 241 Ultrasound Learning Lab I  
DMSU 242 Ultrasound Learning Lab II  
DMSU 251 Ultrasound Practicum I  
DMSU 252 Ultrasound Practicum II  
DMSU 253 Ultrasound Practicum I  
DMSU 254 Ultrasound Practicum IV  
DMSU 261 Ultrasound OB/GYN I  
DMSU 262 Ultrasound OB/GYN II  
DMSU 263 Ultrasound OB/GYN III  
DMSU 271 Abdominal Ultrasound I  
DMSU 272 Abdominal Ultrasound II  
DMSU 273 Abdominal Ultrasound III  
DMSU 280 Comprehensive Seminar

Due to the large amount of "one on one" training required for an active educational experience in Diagnostic Medical Sonography and the limited number of clinical positions available in affiliate hospitals, the number of students enrolled in the program is limited. Selection into the program is based upon the candidate's overall qualities rather than solely relying upon test indicators. College background, academic success, interest in Diagnostic Medical Sonography and evidence of interpersonal qualities which are necessary for completion of the program will be evaluated. The Admissions Committee for the **Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program** reviews and evaluates each application on an impartial basis. The most qualified applicants with the greatest potential for contributing to the profession are selected. Meeting the **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS** does not guarantee admission into the program.

## SELECTION PROCESS

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography program has a limited enrollment based on the number of clinical positions available in affiliate hospitals.

Selection to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program is based on evaluation of the following criteria for each student.

1. College and professional education background.
2. Cumulative grade point average (GPA) and most importantly pertinent GPA (GPA in the prerequisite and required related courses which are part of the curriculum.) The pertinent GPA is calculated on the basis of all courses taken, including those repeated.
3. The number of times a student has applied to program with enhancement. The application can be enhanced with an increase of applicant's GPA in pertinent courses and medical experience, paid or voluntary, documented by the appropriate forms distributed by the Allied Health Admissions office.
4. Professional Letters of Recommendation (Healthcare Professional or College Instructor)
5. Typewritten Personal Statement (Please be professional.)
6. Group Informational Session
7. Resume' (optional)

**\*\*\*Volunteer hours in an ultrasound environment are *STRONGLY* recommended for enhancement of your application. Any rotation through ultrasound during any previous education is *NOT* considered volunteered time. New applicants are recommended to have no more than a maximum 50 observation hours. Applicants re-applying are recommended to have no more than 25 additional hours of observation.**

## **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

Persons accepted into the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program will be required to:

1. Pass a physician's physical examination prior to entrance into the program.
2. Initiate the Hepatitis B Vaccine series prior to entrance into the program.
3. Be tested for tuberculosis prior to entrance into the program. (Within last 6 months)
4. Provide current immunization card, inclusive of all booster shots.
5. Titers must be provided for MMR, Varicella, and Hepatitis B.
6. Be certified in CPR prior to admission, once accepted to the program.
7. Be willing to work with sick and disabled persons, be accurate, thorough, congenial, flexible and ambitious, be dependable, responsible, reliable, and abide by rules, regulations and schedules.
8. Be able to provide own transportation to clinical sites.
9. Meet the Technical Standards of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography profession which are available for review in the Allied Health office. The program has a policy which addresses the pregnant student. Students can request a copy which is available in the Program Director's Office.
10. Be responsible for their own medical insurance
11. Submit to and pass drug test and background check.