

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program



For more information and an
application packet, call 304/624-2895

United Hospital Center
#3 Hospital Plaza
Clarksburg, WV 26301
<http://www.uhcwv.org>



**UNITED
HOSPITAL
CENTER**

About the program

United Hospital Center offers a certificate program in Diagnostic Medical Sonography for individuals interested in pursuing training in this field. The program includes formal classes, laboratory practice, and clinical experiences in diagnostic medical sonography under the guidance of a program director, clinical instructor and registered diagnostic medical sonographers. UHC's program curriculum offers learning concentrations in Abdomen, Obstetrics-Gynecology, and Vascular Technology. Upon completion of UHC Diagnostic Medical Sonography program, the graduate is eligible for certification examinations administered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers in these concentrations.

Tuition and fees

Students of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program are responsible for a tuition fee of \$3,000 and the purchase of books and uniforms. Students must also provide their own room and board while in the program.

Tuition assistance is available to students through the Diagnostic Medical Sonographer Scholarship/Tuition Assistance Program. Information about this program is available through the UHC Associate Handbook and in the Student Handbook, which is provided upon acceptance into the training program.

Attendance

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program length is 18 months and begins in July. Didactic education is integrated with structured clinical experiences to demonstrate an increasing level of independence and self-reliance. Formal objectives are provided to ensure preparation toward entry-level performance in general medical and vascular sonography. Students are scheduled Monday through Friday, with no weekend or holiday assignments. They receive three weeks of vacation during the second level of training, two weeks in May and one week in September. In addition, students are allotted six days for personal leave and twelve days for disability.

Curriculum

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography program curriculum is designed to meet the standards and guidelines for an accredited educational program for the Diagnostic Medical Sonographer under the recommendations of the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs and the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

Courses include:

- Introduction to Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Acoustical Physics and Instrumentation
- Obstetric/Gynecologic Sonographic Procedures and Pathology
- Abdomen and Retroperitoneal Sonographic Procedures and Pathology
- Superficial Sonographic Procedures and Pathology
- Vascular Physics and Instrumentation
- Vascular Sonographic Procedures and Pathology
- Interventional Sonographic Procedures and Pathology

Admission requirements

Applicants to United Hospital Center Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program must successfully complete an accredited program in radiologic technology and possess American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) credentials of R.T. (R) with an active status. Recent graduates are considered probationary and will be required to pass the ARRT certification examination in Radiography within the first ninety days of sonography training.

Students will be selected based upon academic and professional transcripts and personal interviews. *It is in the best interest of the applicant to be thorough in submitting academic and professional transcripts, as the system for selection is point-based.*

Documentation which ***must*** be submitted for consideration includes:

- Completed Application Form
- Completed Reference Form Letters (2)
- ARRT Scaled Scores or Radiologic Technology Program Transcript
- Evidence of Advanced Modality Credentials (*i.e.*, copy of ARRT certificate or wallet card)

Documentation which *may* be submitted for consideration includes:

- Academic transcripts for college courses or any postsecondary training programs
- Continuing Medical Education Transcript (documentation of attendance at medical education events which are voluntary and exceed mandatory CME requirements)
- Evidence of Professional Organization membership(s) (*i.e.*, copy of ASRT, WVSRT, SDMS wallet card) Also include verification of any offices held or board memberships.

Interested individuals should contact the program office at 304/624-2895 to request an admission packet, which will include an application form, two reference form letters and a detailed explanation regarding the admission process. The application and reference forms must be completed and returned to the program office, along with other required documentation, by March 1 of the year in which you are seeking admission. Each candidate who meets the application requirements will be contacted so that an interview may be scheduled. Interviews will be conducted within the first two weeks of March, with selection and subsequent notification to all candidates by April 1. The applicants must pass the physical examination and laboratory testing provided by the hospital, prior to admittance into the program.

History of UHC

United Hospital Center is the result of the merger of two well-established Clarksburg hospitals, Union Protestant, which dates its beginning to 1898, and St. Mary's Hospital, which was founded in 1901. The two institutions merged on August 24, 1970 to improve the health care delivery services, to avoid duplication of services and control combined operating costs. The United Hospital Center complex is located at #3 Hospital Plaza, the former location of the Union Protestant Hospital, and is licensed to operate a 350 bed acute care hospital.

The complex includes a Family Practice Center, a Physician's Office Building, United Transitional Care Center, United Cancer Center, People's Hospice, Health Connection, United Wound Care Center, United Home Care and United Summit Center. In 1997, United Hospital Center participated in the formation of the West Virginia United Health System, a regional health care network. This event formally aligned United Hospital Center with West Virginia University, two of the state's finest hospitals.

The mission of United Hospital Center is to meet with excellence the healthcare needs of this region. A natural extension of this mission is sponsorship of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program beginning in 1999 to satisfy the demand, both locally and regionally, for registered diagnostic medical sonographers.

Description of the profession

Diagnostic medical sonographers are highly skilled professionals, qualified by education, to perform patient examinations using high-frequency sound waves to produce sonographic images of body structures. The diagnostic medical sonographer acquires sonographic images under the guidance of a physician who is responsible for the interpretation of the ultrasound procedures. The diagnostic medical sonographer functions in a variety of medical settings including hospitals, clinics and offices.

Job responsibilities include obtaining pertinent patient history, documenting anatomical, pathological and/or physiological data, exercising discretion and judgment during interactions with patients and families, providing patient education related to medical ultrasound, and promoting principles of good health.