



[AAS-DMS; CIP Code 51.0910]

**Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.)
— Career**

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography program prepares the student to function as a medical sonographer. The diagnostic medical sonographer performs sonographic examinations using high-frequency sound waves to visualize soft tissue structures, including the gall bladder, kidneys, pregnant uterus and other organs as requested by the physician. For the vast majority of diagnostic procedures, the sonographer has total responsibility for the care and well-being of the patient and must be prepared to produce quality images with care and empathy.

Special Program Admission Requirements

Diagnostic Medical Sonography is a selective admission program. Students must be accepted to the program prior to registering for any DMS courses. Please contact the Enrollment Services office for an admission packet. Clinical agencies require criminal history background checks (CHBC) for all individuals engaged in patient care. All students must undergo a CHBC upon acceptance into the DMS Program. CHBC results are sent to the clinical agencies, who have the sole discretion to decide if the student may engage in patient care at the agency. If a student is denied the opportunity to participate in the clinical agency as a result of the findings of the CHBC, the student will be dismissed from the DMS Program. A minimum grade of "C" is required in all DMS, BIO, ALH, and PHY courses. Students must maintain a Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 to progress in the DMS program. *Refer to the course description section of this catalog for prerequisite/co-requisite course requirements.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS), A.A.S.

FIRST YEAR — Fall Semester

| | |
|--|----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ENG 101 English Composition I | 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BIO 105 Anatomy and Physiology I* | 4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PHY 103 General Physics I | 4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PSY 101 General Psychology | 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 101 Intro. to Med. Imaging | 1 |
| | 15 |

Spring Semester

| | |
|--|----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ENG 102 English Composition II | 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BIO 106 Anatomy and Physiology II | 4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALH 102 Medical Terminology | 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ____ Social Science elective | 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 117 Ultrasound Physics I | 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALH 104 Patient Care | 1 |
| | 16 |

Summer Semester

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|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 113 Cross Section Anatomy | 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 126 Intro. to Clinical Practicum and Scan Lab (10 weeks) | 2 |
| | 4 |

Summer Semester

| | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 105 Abdominal Sonography I | 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 126 Intro. to Clinical Practicum (continuation) | |
| | 2 |

SECOND YEAR — Fall Semester

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|--|----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 201 Sonographic Interpretations I | 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 203 Clinical Practicum I | 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 209 OB/GYN Sonography I | 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 106 Abdominal Sonography II | 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ____ Humanities elective | 3 |
| | 13 |

Spring Semester

| | |
|--|----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 226 Ultrasound Physics II | 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 202 Sonographic Interpretations II | 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 204 Clinical Practicum II | 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 222 Vascular Ultrasound | 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 210 OB/GYN Sonography II | 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HPE ____ Health and Physical Education elective | 1 |
| | 13 |

Summer Semester

| | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 221 Seminars in Ultrasound | 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 208 Small Parts Scanning | 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMS 205 Clinical Practicum III | 1 |
| | 3 |

TOTAL CREDITS: 66

Program Notes

* Refer to the course description section of this catalog for prerequisite/co-requisite course requirements.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography continued

Program Goals

The DMS program will:

- To prepare entry-level sonographers in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains for the abdominal sonography-extended and obstetrics and gynecology sonography concentrations.
- Utilize support services provided by the College to assist in overall course/program retention rate.
- Provide a curriculum designed to meet requirements of professional bodies
- Prepare students to take the ARDMS examinations appropriate for a general concentration program
- Track success of graduates in obtaining employment as sonographers upon successful completion of program
- Survey graduates and employers within six months of graduation for input on DMS program strengths and areas for improvement
- Provide educational opportunities for re-careering and professional renewal consistent with the mission of the College
- Evaluate the appropriateness of the curriculum against the changing environment and assess progress towards achieving its goal

Places of Employment and Outlook

More than half of all sonographers are employed by hospitals and most of the remainder work in physicians' offices and clinics, including diagnostic imaging centers.

There may not be enough openings for all graduates in the Tri-State Delaware Valley area, so some may need to leave the area to gain employment.

Please consult the U.S. Occupational Information included in the Handbook for further information

Graduate Outcomes

Graduates of the program will:

- Utilize professional communication skills when interacting and collaborating with members of the interdisciplinary health care team and clients
- Evaluate normal and abnormal measurements using evidence-based outcome
- Demonstrate critical thinking when assessing situations, solving problems, and making decisions
- Implement holistic care with diverse individuals across the lifespan
- Integrate legal and ethical concepts into the practice of sonography
- Engage in professional development and lifelong learning

To learn more about the program or attend an information session, please visit [RCSJ.edu/gc/SelectiveAdmissions](https://www.rcsj.edu/gc/SelectiveAdmissions).

✦ Are you ready to get started at RCSJ? ✦
Visit [RCSJ.edu/Enroll](https://www.rcsj.edu/Enroll) and complete the interest form. ✦