

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM 2020 - APPLICATION INFORMATION

South Plains College
Reese Center
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Thank you for your interest in the Radiologic Technology Program of South Plains College at the Reese Center. Please read the following for guidelines regarding program admission requirements.

General Information

The South Plains College Radiologic Technology Program is committed to providing an environment that facilitates student success in acquiring the theory and technical skills pertinent to a professional medical radiographer. To achieve its mission, the South Plains College Radiologic Technology Program is committed to the following Program goals:

1. To provide students an opportunity to acquire the technical skills, effective communication, patient assessment and patient care skills necessary to complete a full range of radiographic procedures on a diverse population of patients.
2. To provide students with the problem solving and critical thinking skills necessary to make competent, informed clinical decisions regarding radiographic procedures.
3. To provide employers and the community with graduate radiographers possessing the skills required of an entry-level medical radiographer.

The Radiologic Technology Program consists of courses taught over a period of 22 consecutive months and culminates in an Associate of Applied Science degree and eligibility for the national certification exam given by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT). Successful scores will qualify you as a Registered Radiologic Technologist, R.T.(R). The ARRT credentials qualify the graduate to apply for a license to practice as a Certified Medical Radiologic Technologist by the Texas Medical Board (TMB).

South Plains College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate degrees and proficiency certificates. Contact the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of South Plains College.

Program Admission Requirements

The program begins in the fall semester of each year and availability of clinical education sites is a determining factor in the number of students chosen for admission. Individuals interested in the program are to complete the following procedures:

1. Apply for admission to South Plains College. *Admission to the college does not-guarantee admission to the Radiologic Technology Program.*
2. The following courses must be completed before a student is eligible to apply to the Radiologic Technology Program:

BIOL 2401 Human Anatomy & Physiology I*

BIOL 2402 Human Anatomy & Physiology II *

MATH 1314 College Algebra*

*BIOL 2401 has a recommended prerequisite of CHEM 1406.

*A higher-level Math course will be considered as a substitute for College Algebra

*All courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.

*Questions regarding prerequisites, please see your academic advisor.

3. Program applications will only be **ACCEPTED BETWEEN MAY 1ST AND JULY 17TH 2019** (by 12:00pm) of the year the student wishes to be considered for entry into the program.
4. An **APPOINTMENT** is required to submit a completed Radiologic Technology Program application. Please type the information and print the application. Sign and date the application and submit to the Program Director and/or Program Clinical Coordinator **IN PERSON**. An *Admission Qualifications Worksheet* will be completed at this time.

The completed application must include:

- The completed (typed, printed, then signed) 2020 Program Application.
- American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support (BLS) or Red Cross Adult CPR certification.
- Medical-related certificate or degree (if applicable)

All packet materials MUST be submitted at the same time.

The Radiologic Technology faculty will evaluate and determine student admission on the following criteria:

1. Completion of the required and/or additional course work in the Radiologic Technology program degree plan.
2. Grade point average of submitted course work.
3. Re-application factor. In the event an applicant is not admitted, they may re-apply the following year and 10 points will be added to their score.
4. Proof of previous Associate degree or Bachelor's degree.
5. Submission of non-degree plan medical and physical science courses (these courses must be at least a three (3) credit hour course).
6. Submission of previous medical training, medically-related or physical lab-science classes.
7. Proof of American Heart Association or Red Cross Healthcare Provider CPR Certification.
8. No "holds" on the student's SPC Colleague account.

Qualified applicants will be notified by mail of their acceptance status by the end of July of the intended year of Program enrollment.

Students accepted into the Radiologic Technology Program will be required to complete the following:

1. Criminal background check - \$40.00. A student convicted of a felony record WILL NOT be permitted to enter the Program.
2. Proof of immunization
3. Current physical examination
4. Proof of current Influenza vaccination
5. Proof of current TB skin test

Upon completion of the Radiologic Technology Program, the student will be required to answer the following questions as part of the Application to the American Registry of Radiologic Technologist (ARRT) for certification and Texas Medical Board (TMB) for licensure as a Radiologic Technologist:

Have you ever been denied licensure by a licensing authority?

Have you ever had disciplinary action taken against you by a licensing/certifying authority?

Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than minor traffic violations?

Is your ability to safely practice radiologic technology adversely affected by a physical or mental disability/illness which may endanger the health and safety of persons under your care?

Have you been hospitalized or treated for chemical dependency within the past five (5) years?

Are you currently a user of drugs or alcohol?

If the answer “Yes” to any of the above questions, the student **may be ineligible** to take the National Certification exam. To determine eligibility for the National Certification exam, the student may pre-apply to the ARRT prior to admission to the program.

If a student with a criminal background history elects **not** to be pre-evaluated by the ARRT and/or TMB prior to entering the program, it is highly recommended that the student collect the relevant court documents and be prepared to submit these documents with the application to the ARRT and TMB.

Students in the Radiologic Technology Program with a criminal background, please be advised that the background may keep you from obtaining credentials from the ARRT and/or a state radiation license. Students who have a question regarding their background and credentials/licensure, please speak with the Program Coordinator or the Department Chair. The student may request a criminal history evaluation from the applicable credentialing/licensing agency.

Radiologic Technology Technical Requirements

Radiologic Technologists are responsible for the safe administration of radiation to acquire patient imaging, monitoring patients’ health, administering basic patient care, and providing for the basic comfort of patients. A uniform (scrubs) is required in the medical environment, as well as safety gear such as lead aprons, thyroid shields, eye protection, gloves, and gowns. Work involves clinical communication with physicians, coworkers, and interaction with patients as well as skilled use of specialized medical radiographic equipment.

A Radiologic Technologist has responsibility for patient care while performing the requested examination. A Radiologic Technologist shift varies in duration from 4 to 12 hours and may be during the day, night, or weekend. They are also responsible for communication with families, caregivers, and other staff, be it written, verbal, electronic demonstration or other media in relation to their assignment. Duties may require sitting, standing, walking, lifting, bending, twisting, squatting, carrying, pushing, pulling, reaching, writing, typing, gripping, and bimanual dexterity. The work environment is normally in an environmentally controlled indoor setting. Radiologic Technologists are exposed to radiation and medical hazards, such as medications and pathogens. In addition, Radiologic Technologists are expected to maintain safe practices involving administration of radiation and patient care.

Health and Safety Requirements:

Health and Safety Requirements are only suggested guidelines to the applicant. Admission into the program will require a health/physical examination by a physician, physician’s assistant, or nurse practitioner. Conditions, requirements, etc. vary by position and employer.

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Communicate in English in order to converse with and instruct patients.
- Hear a patient talk in a normal tone at a moderate distance.
- Observe a patient to assess their condition and needs at a moderate distance.
- Read a patient’s medical chart and physician’s orders.
- Read and comprehend medical manuals and other similar documents.
- Physically assist patients in moving their bodies.
- Safely maneuver patients and equipment in a hospital environment.
- Physically administer emergency care including CPR as necessary.
- Stand for long periods of time.
- Withstand exposure to chemicals such as medication and processing chemicals.
- Walk, stoop, bend and twist frequently.
- Lift and transfer a person from one location to another.
- Determine temperature, moisture, and texture by touch.
- Use and wear all required safety equipment, including lead aprons, thyroid shields, gloves and gowns.
- Safely and accurately operate radiographic equipment.
- Visually read an LCD display on equipment.

- Remain calm, rational, decisive, and in control at all times, especially during emergency situations.
- Constantly and consistently behave appropriately and professionally in all interactions.
- Maintain a personal hygiene level consistent with close contact.

Due to the nature of the work involved in this career, certain conditions may prohibit an individual from safely and accurately performing the tasks required to be employed. Such conditions may preclude admission to the program. If you are unsure if you can or cannot meet the program requirements, please contact the Program Coordinator.

Physical and Personal Attributes Requirements:

The applicant/student in the Radiologic Technology Program must be able to independently, with or without accommodations:

- Use functionally the senses of vision, hearing, and touch with or without technical compensation.
- Be able to reach and move the radiographic equipment.
- Sit, stand for at least 8 hours per day, bend down, squat down, lift equipment from floor level, and walk for extended periods.
- Be able to wear a lead apron, ~11lbs.
- Push a self-driven mobile x-ray unit.
- Push a bed with a patient in it (approximately 800 pounds).
- Lift 75 pounds independently.
- Lift 250 pounds with assistance in a team-lift.
- Observe a patient accurately at a distance and close at hand (may use corrective lenses).
- Perform CPR.
- Effectively communicate with patients and members of the health care team, including speaking, writing and reading.
- Must be able to speak English effectively to enhance patient communication and use of English must be understood.
- Demonstrate the emotional health required for full utilization of intellectual abilities and exercise good judgment.
- Promptly complete all responsibilities in radiography patient care.
- Tolerate taxing workloads and work effectively under stress.
- Independently perform routine examinations along with patient care.

Examples of skills that must be completed independently include (**This list is not all inclusive**):

- Radiographic exams of the skeletal system, urinary system, lungs, and GI system.
- Vital signs (includes a manual blood pressure cuff requiring the use of a stethoscope).
- Maintaining sterile areas (surgical asepsis).
- Don sterile attire, including gloves on both hands to perform sterile procedures or assist in surgery.
- Preparing and administering radiographic contrast (injected through an IV, given orally, given rectally).
- Perform venipuncture.

Candidates with questions concerning their ability to meet program requirements should contact the Radiologic Technology Program Coordinator *prior* to applying to the Radiologic Technology Program. Students who do not meet the entrance requirements in the Radiologic Technology Program are eligible for South Plains College admission in other fields of study.

Only students diagnosed with disabilities covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act may be allowed accommodations.

South Plains College strives to accommodate the individual needs of all students in order to enhance their opportunities for success in the context of a comprehensive community college setting. It is the policy of South Plains College to offer all educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability or age.

It is the intent of South Plains College to be in full compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 503, 504), the Vietnam Era Veterans Assistance Act of 1974, Texas Statutes 6252-14-V.A.T.S. and 6252-16-V.A.T.S., and Executive Orders 11246 and 11758.

For questions regarding the application process for acceptance into the Radiologic Technology Program, please contact the following:

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Additional information regarding South Plains College, tuition, fees and the Radiologic Technology Program may be found in the online General Catalog.