

RADIOGRAPHY APPLICANT INFORMATION

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The faculty of the Radiologic Sciences department of Midlands Technical College thanks you for your interest in our program. The radiologic program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. The graduates are eligible to sit for the certification examination given by the American Registry of Radiologic Technology. Upon successful completion of the examination the graduate will be entitled to use the designation of R.T.(R) signifying they are a registered radiographer.

In following the college's mission and in accordance with the program's philosophy and mission statement, we are committed to graduating caring, competent, and proficient radiographers.

The Radiologic Technology Advisory Committee is a group of prominent professionals in the radiology community that advises the program faculty of the expectations of graduates from the program. The clinical rotations and professional coursework is monitored on a regular basis by this committee. The advisory committee insures that the program at least meets the national accreditation standards and in most cases, exceeds the minimum standards. The goal is to graduate students as entry level (ready to go to work) radiographers that can adapt to many possible job opportunities after graduation. For this reason the program is demanding of you and your time.

There are some very important facts about the Radiologic Technology program you should be aware of prior to applying for this program:

- ❖ Due to the nature of the clinical education requirements and rotations of this program the students do not completely follow the college's academic calendar. Students will be assigned in specialty rotation areas or specific clinical rotations to enhance their skills and to meet program objectives during semester breaks. Appropriate vacation and break times will be provided throughout the curriculum
- ❖ Students in this program are involved in their professional coursework and clinical education rotations between 35 and 40 hours per week. Full time work outside of the program requirements is strongly discouraged. Most students however, have a part time job after school hours.
- ❖ As a radiography student you will be dealing with sick and injured patients of all ages and conditions. Rotations through trauma (emergency) areas, coronary care, and pediatric intensive care will be necessary to provide you with the most comprehensive clinical education.
- ❖ Rotations through the trauma center will be required after the first spring semester. These rotations will be scheduled during the evening hours to insure sufficient clinical education experiences. The hours are from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and are posted well in advance to allow you time to alter work or personal schedules. A student will rotate on a weekly basis through other clinical rotations and can expect to rotate the evening rotations approximately four – five weeks during the remainder of their curriculum to allow for competence and proficiency.

- ❖ Clinical rotations through weekends (Saturday and Sunday) will be required after the first spring semester. These rotations provide the student with experiences that are normally not available during regular weekly clinical education assignments. Rotations are scheduled from 2:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. These rotations are posted well in advance to allow you time to alter work or personal schedules. A student can expect to rotate the weekend rotations approximately four- five times during the remainder of the curriculum to allow for competence and proficiency.
- ❖ Students must be of a physical and emotional state that will allow them to meet all clinical objectives which involve the moving of patients, equipment, and communication with patients and other medical staff.
- ❖ The students will adhere to a prescribed dress code while in the clinical rotations, as well as follow policies and procedures set forth by the program to properly educate students to the hospital setting. Attendance requirements for class and clinical rotations are much more stringent than the overall college's policy.
- ❖ Students will join the South Carolina Society of Radiologic Technologists. The approximate cost for the two year membership is \$25.00.
- ❖ Students must complete a basic first aid and CPR(adult, infant and child) course prior to entering as a full time radiography student. Recertification will be required during the second year.

In addition to the college's placement test and the admissions requirements of the Health Sciences department, specific admission criteria to the Radiologic Technology program are:

- Acceptable admissions tests
- and
- HOBET 60% composite (minimum reading of 60%) and MTC writing sample score of 30% ; or
- SAT 910 (minimum verbal 430) and MTC writing sample score of 30; or
- ACT 19 (minimum verbal 18) and MTC writing sample of 30; or
- An Associate Degree or higher; and
- High school diploma or equivalent
- Completion of BIO 112 , AHS 102 , ENG 102, MAT 102, CPT 101 or 170, PSY 201, and a Humanities course
- High School or college credits in mathematics/science (recommended)
- Attend a scheduled information session of approximately 1½ - 2 hours in length
- Two observations
- Certification in Basic First Aid and CPR
- Formal interview following an information session in either single or group setting

(This information is taken from the MTC College Catalog)

You must have the prerequisite course completed with a “C” (2.5 GPA) or better prior to starting the program. You must qualify in order to be placed on the waiting list. Refer to the criteria above.

If you are attending MTC currently or are a continuing student, you need to go to Counseling Services and do a change of Major/Minor form to indicate Radiology.

If you are not enrolled in the college, you need to complete and return an application. The quickest way to do this is on our website www.midlandstech.edu. You will want to make sure that you have indicated that you want radiology as your major.

Your next step is to report to room 237 in the Student Center and review the Program's Policy and Procedure Manual- Radiologic Technology. The manual contains specific information regarding dress codes, attendance policies, clinical grading, clinical suspension, and other pertinent policies. There will be a form for you to sign indicating you have seen the video and reviewed the Policy and Procedure Manual. Please place the form in the attached envelope and give it to the receptionist to send to the Radiography Department. This form will be placed in your file. Please do not remove the Policy and Procedure Manual from the room.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ACCEPTANCE

To participate in the clinical education portion of the program, the applicant must possess additional non-academic skills. These technical standards are consistent with the duties of the entry level radiographer in a professional position. The applicant should have the

- * ability to lift and transfer patients to and from the imaging table
- * ability to move, adjust, and manipulate equipment to perform imaging procedures
- * ability to review and evaluate recorded images to determine quality of image
- * ability to communicate orally and in writing with patients, doctors, and other personnel, and the ability to follow written and verbal directions
- * ability to use proper discretion and judgment in dealing with patients and others
- * ability to think clearly and rationally. Students cannot be in clinical practice while under prescribed medications which could affect decision making and could jeopardize patient care
- * ability to work harmoniously with others and maintain a high level of enthusiasm.

Midlands Technical College does not discriminate in admissions or employment on the basis of race, sex, national or ethnic origin, age, religion or handicap. The Affirmative Action Officer can be reached at 803-822-3200.

NOTICE

All of the Health Science Programs at Midlands Technical College require criminal background checks and drug screenings prior to admittance into the program. Failure to pass one or both could result in non-acceptance. Applicants with felony convictions and misdemeanors may not be allowed in the clinical sites or allowed to sit for the National or State exams in Radiology.

PREVIOUS FELONY CONVICTIONS

After graduation students are considered candidates to sit for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) National Certification Board Examination. Candidates must comply with the “Rules of Ethics” contained in the American Registry’s “Standards of Ethics.” A conviction of or plea of guilty to or a plea of NoLo contendere to a crime which is either a felony or is a misdemeanor must be investigated by the ARRT in order to determine eligibility.

Applicants who have been convicted of, or plead guilty to or plead NoLo contendere to a crime must contact the Director of Radiologic Sciences for additional information regarding this matter.

MIDLANDS TECHNICAL COLLEGE RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS STATEMENT OF MISSION

STATEMENT OF MISSION:

The Radiography Program is a comprehensive two-year A.S. degree program which provides its students a high-quality, customer service, competency-based didactic and clinical education. The education provided prepares the students to enter the entry level job market in diagnostic radiology, allows them to transfer to senior colleges, prepares advanced students for sub-specialty areas, as well as instilling life-long learning values and assists them in achieving their professional and personal goals.

PROGRAM GOALS:

- Goal 1. Students will possess the knowledge, clinical skills, and proper affective behavior needed for an entry level radiographer.
- Goal 2. Students will be able to problem solve, communicate effectively, and utilize critical thinking skills.
- Goal 3. Prepare students to be professionally minded and to value life long learning opportunities.
- Goal 4. Graduates will be able to function as competent entry level radiographers as evidenced through program assessment.

STATEMENT OF ROLE AND SCOPE:

The Program implements its mission through a clearly defined set of objectives and outcomes that meet and exceed the “Standards” for an accredited program through the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology.

Didactic Instruction. The Program follows the American Society of Radiologic Technologists curriculum guide in the presentation of Radiography content, as well as meeting the Southern Association of College’s and Schools liberal arts requirements for the Associate Degree.

Clinical Education. The Program prides itself on the professional behavior and clinical competency skills of its graduates. Clinical rotations through all phases of radiography are required to meet the job demands of the small office to the large hospital. Critical thinking skills and problem solving methods are emphasized.

Customer Service: The Program teaches and evaluates students in the affective areas of patient care. Teamwork, professionalism, and patient management skills are assessed through the curriculum. Involvement in professional society functions is strongly encouraged.

Access Programs. The Program provides students with counseling, tutoring, and job placement services. Program and student assessment strategies are constantly being performed to improve the Program and the student.

Quality Outcome Assessment: All phases of the Program are assessed to insure quality services are provided to the student, employer, and future patients. Areas such as admissions, RAD 100, Instructor's teaching abilities, ARRT scores, post graduate evaluations, student satisfaction survey, etc. are assessed. The Radiography Advisory Committee is an active integral part of assessing the quality of the Program and providing important input into the necessary clinical skills needed of the graduates.

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY (X-Ray Technologist or Radiographer)

YOUR ROLE AS A RADIOGRAPHER ON THE MEDICAL TEAM

The radiographer plays an important role on the medical team as the technical assistant to the radiologist, a physician who has specialized in the use of x-rays for diagnosis and treatment. A registered technologist is qualified to work in hospitals, doctors' offices, public health projects, industrial medical clinics, and veterans' and military hospitals. As a skilled radiographer, you would assist the radiologist in examining for broken bones, ulcers, tumors, diseases or malfunction of organs.

You would adjust x-ray equipment to the correct setting for specific examinations, put the patient into the correct position, make the required x-ray exposure, and process radiographs. You will be called upon to use mobile x-ray equipment in the emergency room, in surgery or at a patient's bedside. Your responsibilities may also include maintaining x-ray equipment in efficient operating condition except for major repairs and keep records of patient's radiographs and reports, ordering supplies, and mixing processing solutions. In addition, you would be responsible for the mental and physical comfort of patients while they are in your care, as well as assuming responsibility for adequate radiation protection.

Successful completion of our program at Midlands Technical College is based on clinical competency which involves emergency room rotations and scheduled weekend rotations to meet clinical education objectives.

EDUCATION OF A RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST

(Begins summer session or fall semester depending on prior college work completed.)

To become a registered radiographer you must attend a Radiologic Technology Program accredited by the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation (CAHEA) of the

American Medical Association (AMA). There are over 600 approved programs operated by university, colleges, and hospitals. Candidates for admission must be high school graduates or equivalent. The program is open to both men and women. Experience has shown mathematics and other courses; especially physics, chemistry, and biology are helpful in preparation for a career in radiologic technology. As most programs have a limited enrollment, preference is usually given to applicants with a superior educational background. Your formal education will last a minimum of two years and will include courses in anatomy, physiology, physics, medical terminology, professional ethics, and radiation equipment and protection. You will also get clinical experience with sick and injured patients under qualified radiological and technical supervision.

CLASS AND CLINICAL SCHEDULING

The radiography program's curriculum is based on six semesters of academic study and clinical rotations to acquire clinical competency. The purpose of clinical rotations through hospitals and offices is to provide students the variety and number of radiographic procedures they need to be evaluated on to be performed before competency and graduation can be obtained.

In order to graduate from the program within the published six semesters, a standard number of radiographic procedures must be competently completed by each student as well as other written assignments and the completion of specific clinical objectives.

All radiology classes will follow the college's academic calendar. However, due to the clinical requirements needed for graduation and time needed for elective rotations through Sonography, Nuclear Medicine, and other related modalities, students will start back 2 – 3 days prior to classes starting. Also, clinical course outlines and requirements are reviewed during this time.

Students will receive specified breaks as noted in the college calendar. However, those students who have not obtained the required number of competencies would be strongly encouraged to schedule designated break days for clinical rotations in order to achieve the number of exams as required. There will be break days that all students receive. Students who meet their clinical assignments and competencies would not need to be in clinical rotations during certain breaks unless they desired to be. There will be several occasions during the program that all students will be scheduled for clinical rotations during breaks in order to meet clinical objectives in special rotations or other areas of clinical rotations that are difficult to schedule.

The purpose of clinical scheduling during college breaks is to assist those students that have not met established program clinical requirements during the semester. This additional time provides the clinical time and rotations necessary to meet semester requirements. This would assist the student in graduating as scheduled and be able to sit for the national board examination with their classmates.

A student entering the radiography program must be willing to devote their time and energies into a medical technical specialty that requires dedication and commitment.

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY CURRICULUM
Freshman Year

SUMMER SEMESTER		LECTURE	LAB	CREDIT
CPT 101	Introduction to Computer	3.0	0.0	3.0
MAT 102	College Algebra II	3.0	0.0	3.0
ENG 101	English Composition I	3.0	0.0	3.0
PSY 201	General Psychology	<u>3.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>3.0</u>
		12.0	0.0	12.0

FALL SEMESTER				
ENG 102	English Composition II	3.0	0.0	3.0
BIO 112	Basic Anatomy & Physiology	3.0	3.0	4.0
ELECTIVE	(Humanities)	3.0	0.0	3.0
RAD 101	Introduction to Radiography	1.0	3.0	2.0
RAD 102	Patient Care Procedures	0.0	6.0	2.0
RAD 153	Applied Radiography	<u>0.0</u>	<u>9.0</u>	<u>3.0</u>
		10.0	21.0	17.0

SPRING SEMESTER				
RAD 105	Radiographic Anatomy	2.0	6.0	4.0
RAD 110	Radiographic Imaging I	2.0	3.0	3.0
RAD 130	Radiographic Procedures I	1.0	6.0	3.0
RAD 155	Applied Radiography I	<u>0.0</u>	<u>15.0</u>	<u>5.0</u>
		5.0	30.0	15.0

Senior Year

SUMMER SEMESTER				
RAD 115	Radiographic Imaging II	2.0	3.0	3.0
RAD 136	Radiographic Procedures II	2.0	3.0	3.0
RAD 165	Applied Radiography II	0.0	15.0	5.0
RAD 235	Radiography Seminar I	<u>1.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>1.0</u>
		5.0	21.0	12.0

FALL SEMESTER				
RAD 121	Radiographic Physics	3.0	3.0	4.0
RAD 225	Selected Radiographic Topics	0.0	6.0	2.0
RAD 258	Advanced Radiography I	<u>0.0</u>	<u>24.0</u>	<u>8.0</u>
		3.0	33.0	14.0

SPRING SEMESTER				
RAD 220	Selected Imaging Topics	1.0	6.0	3.0
RAD 268	Advanced Radiography II	0.0	24.0	8.0
RAD 284	Fluoroscopic Procedures	<u>0.0</u>	<u>6.0</u>	<u>2.0</u>
		1.0	36.0	13.0

TOTAL CREDITS 83.0

INFORMATION FOR OBSERVATIONS AND THE INTERVIEW PROCESS

You will be notified by the program that it is time for your information session. Please let the program know if there is a change in your phone number or home address. There will initially be an Information Session that will be for a pre-determined number of qualified applicants. The

session will last approximately 2 hours. During the information session, Dr. Mulkey will explain the requirements to get to the interview.

The role of a radiographer, clinical rotations, policies, and other relation information will be covered during the information session. Also the first observation will be scheduled at that time or shortly thereafter.

Please call the program to find out your status on the waiting list. Please feel free to call the program regarding your questions about the application process, the program's requirements, or about the radiology profession. If you wish, names and phone number of some of our current full time radiography students will be provided to you so you may contact them for additional information.

LOCATION FOR INFORMATION SESSION

You will be notified of the location for your Information Session.

OBSERVATIONS

Your 1st observation will be set up either at the information session or you will be contacted very soon after the information session. You are to report to the assigned hospital radiology department at 8:00 a.m. You will ask for Mrs. Wilson or Mrs. Tilton. If you are unable to keep your appointment, please contact 803-822-3491 as soon as you can about making a change.

Lexington Medical Center – Mrs. Tilton – Go to the North Entrance and park in the visitors parking lot. Radiology is on the second floor. Ask for Mrs. Tilton at the Radiology Desk on the second floor. She will be right with you.

Palmetto Health Richland – Mrs. Wilson – Go to the main entrance, to the second floor and ask for Mrs. Wilson at the desk as you get off the elevator. She will be right with you.

During your observation you can ask as many questions you need to find out more about our program. Please ask questions out of the hearing range of the patients. Be polite and respectful of patients while you are in the hospital. Please follow the students around to get an idea of the pace at which you are to function. You may take notes if you wish, however, notes will be allowing during the interview. **Please note that you are NOT allowed to wear jeans (or any type of denim) or shorts during your observation (or any time while you are in the hospital). This is a hospital policy and you will be asked to go home and change if this policy is not followed.**

After the observation, please reflect on what you have observed about our program and radiologic technology as a career. Call 822-3491 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. as soon as you decided whether you would like to make a second observation (2 are required before the interview).

The second observation will be schedule at a different hospital. The same rules and expectations will apply.

Full acceptance into the Radiologic Technology Program will be granted upon the successful completion of the two observations and the interview.

While you are waiting, it would be to your advantage to take the college related courses for our program. All liberal arts courses should be completed by the fall semester of the year entering as a full time radiology student.

THE INTERVIEW PROCESS FOR RADIOLOGY

1. Please report 15 minutes before your interview time to room 211. You will be given papers to fill out and asked to wait in our sitting area. We may already be with another student and will be with you shortly.
2. The interview will last approximately 30 minutes. There will be three to five people on the Radiologic Technology Interview Committee. You will be asked approximately 12 to 16 questions involving information about yourself, your interest in Radiologic Technology, your observations, and qualifications.
3. Applicants will be reviewed for communication skills and the ability to deal with stressful situations, their awareness of the duties of a radiologic technologist, and overall characteristics that would be most beneficial for the applicant to possess. Also specific program policies regarding dress code, clinical attendance, etc., from the program's policies and procedures is expected to be provided by the applicant.
4. The applicants are notified within two weeks of their interview through the College Admissions office by mail. A health form will need to be completed prior to entering the program along with a criminal background check and drug screen.
5. When you receive word of your acceptance, please call our office at 822-3491 to inform us of your decision to enter the program.
6. Since all applicants cannot be accepted due to the limited number of spaces, we appreciate your interest in our program and hope you will pursue your education at Midland Technical College.

If you need additional help, please call our Counseling and Career Services for assistance.