

## FAQ's

### MERIT ADMISSIONS

The Health Sciences Department is pleased to be able to offer a merit interview eligibility opportunity for the two-year Radiology Program. Students who have previously been placed on the Radiology qualified waiting list may apply through the merit process to be interviewed earlier than their predicted interview date. The merit application submission deadline is **January 14, 2022** to be considered for the **class of 2022/2024**.

***Merit Radiology Packet – Please see updates on website***

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

#### RADIOLOGY MERIT INTERVIEW ELIGIBILITY

**Q1. What is Merit Interview Eligibility and how do I get Health Care experience?**

A1. Merit Interview Eligibility is a process by which students who have been placed on the qualified interview list may apply for special consideration for priority admission. Points are awarded on pre-set, published criteria. Students are ranked based on their total number of points (with a minimum of ten), see page 3 of the Merit Packet. The top ten students by point total are then moved up on the interview list based on the number of available merit slots. **Students who (within the last five years) received a D, F, or WF in any Pre-Health Care Certificate course, BIO 210, BIO 211, AHS 127 or AHS 131 are not eligible to apply.** Beginning with the 2015 merit application, all applicants are required to have either paid or volunteer patient care experience in a health care setting. This experience has specific guidelines that must be met. The guidelines for obtaining and reporting such experience are described in detail in Question 13. Applicants needing such experience in a volunteer capacity may contact and discuss volunteer options with Mrs. Cindy Quattlebaum at Lexington Medical Center's Extended Care at 803-996-6266. The address is 815 Old Cherokee Road, Lexington, SC 29072.

**Q2. Is Merit Admissions replacing the regular Radiology admissions process?**

A2. No. In order to be eligible for Merit Interview Eligibility, applicants must already be accepted through the regular admissions process to the college and be placed on the Radiology “qualified interview” list by admissions. May 2020 was the last opportunity to get a spot on the interview list. Those following this date will apply under the new application process through Admissions.

**Q3. Who can apply for Merit Admissions?**

A3. Applicants currently on the “qualified interview list” with a minimum of ten points on the checklist and who have paid or volunteer patient care experience in a health care setting within the established guidelines (listed in detail in question 13) can apply. **You are not eligible to apply if you receive a D, F, or WF in any Pre-Health Care Certificate course, BIO 210, BIO 211, AHS 127 or AHS 131 within the last five years.**

**Q4. I already have a future start date. Am I automatically considered for Merit Interview Eligibility?**

A4. No. If you wish to be considered for Merit Interview Eligibility, you must submit a completed Merit Checklist to the Ms. Kristy Blum, Administrative Specialist for Radiology, Health Sciences #203B or mail the merit application or Ms. Kristy Blum, Health Sciences # 203 B, 1260 Lexington Drive, West Columbia, SC 29170, Completed checklists and required documentation, **including references**, must be received by the Ms. Blum by *January 14, 2022* no later than 1:00 p.m. Checklists postmarked on or before January 14, 2022 will be processed, if they arrive after *January 14, 2022* at 1:00 PM they will be considered late and will not be processed. Letters indicating acceptance or non-acceptance for Radiology Merit Interview will be mailed by *January 28, 2022*. **Only completed Merit Checklists will be processed.**

**Q5. I have not yet applied to the Radiology Program. How do I apply for the Application Process?**

A5. When you complete a good amount of your prerequisites you can ask your Health Care Advisor to have an application sent to you. Molly Shealy from Admissions will send you the application via MTC email only. It is titled, “Your Next Step.” Watch for this title. Complete the application and submit it back to Admissions for processing. Each month, radiology is sent a list of students who applied the last 30 days.

**Q6. I’m waiting for my start date and don’t think I’ll qualify for Merit Interview Eligibility. Does this mean I can lose my place or get bumped down the waiting list?**

A6. No. You can apply through the merit application process instead.

**Q7. How many applicants are selected each year from the merit list to be granted an interview for the next class?**

A7. Up to 7 applicants may be selected based on merit. 7 will come from the list who do not have health care experience and have progressed up the list naturally. The last 7 will come from the application process.

**Q8. How are the applicants selected from each process and granted an earlier interview?**

A8. The highest point scores, based on eligibility, academics and previous patient contact experience, will be granted early interviews.

**Q9. If I am not selected for Merit Admissions this year, or the new Application Process must I reapply for Merit Admissions/Application Process again for next year?**

A9. If you were not selected for interview this year you can reapply. If you were interviewed and not accepted to start you cannot apply to the program again.

**Q10. Is my acceptance into the program automatic if I am placed on the merit list to be interviewed early?**

A10. No. Every applicant who is granted an interview *must successfully pass* the interview.

**Q11. When/How will I know if I've been selected for Merit Interview Eligibility?**

A11. Letters indicating acceptance or denial for Merit Interview will be mailed on or before January 28, 2022.

**Q12. If I receive a notification for Merit Interview Eligibility, when will I be granted an interview for the Radiology Program?**

A12. You will be granted an interview either in the spring semester (early March) prior to starting the next summer.

**Q13. How do I prove that I have the required Patient Care experience?**

A13. Beginning with the 2015 merit application, all applicants are required to have either paid or volunteer patient care experience in a health care setting. This experience has specific guidelines that must be met.

**For Volunteer experience:** You must have volunteered in a health care setting with patient contact totaling at least 40 hours between January 8, 2020 and January 14, 2022.

**For paid employee experience:** You must have at least six months or more direct patient contact experience as a paid employee between January 8, 2020 and January 14, 2022.

\*The student must turn in at least two references to support their patient care experience. These references templates are available from the "Application" tab on the Radiology webpage.

**References MUST be turned in directly to Ms. Kristy Blum by the person giving the reference and NOT from the student. Failure to adhere to these requirements will result in the references not being valid.**

Our suggestion is that you should provide an addressed, stamped envelope to the person giving the reference, or provide the fax number or email address for turning in the form. All references must arrive by the January 14, 2022 deadline or your application will not be eligible for merit.

Applicants needing health care experience in a volunteer capacity may contact and discuss volunteer options with Mrs. Cindy Quattlebaum at Lexington Medical Center's Extended Care at 803-996-6266. The address is 815 Old Cherokee Road, Lexington, SC 29072.

**Q14. What if I still have questions?**

A14. After reviewing all available information on Merit Interview Eligibility, you may contact the following person with additional, specific questions:

Millie Massey Director, Radiology Program Midlands Technical College (803) 822-3651 or

[masseym@midlandstech.edu](mailto:masseym@midlandstech.edu)