
RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY

WHAT IS BEING A RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST ALL ABOUT?

General Program Information



WHAT DO RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS DO?

- Radiologic technologists are healthcare professionals who perform diagnostic imaging examinations.
- Technologists image all parts of human anatomy in order to provide information to assist in diagnosis and treatment for the patient.
- Technologists work closely with other healthcare professionals.
- For additional information you may visit the American Society of Radiologic Technologists at <https://www.asrt.org/main/career-center/careers-in-radiologic-technology>
- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average annual salary for radiologic technologists in the U.S. was \$65,140 in 2022 (this varies greatly with location!)
<https://www.asrt.org/main/career-center/careers-in-radiologic-technology>

THE MEDICAL IMAGING TEAM

- Radiologic technologists are responsible for producing high quality, diagnostic images by accurately positioning patients and choosing correct technical settings.
- Technologists must practice excellent patient care skills in order to obtain the best images possible. This may involve the assistance from a fellow technologist or nurse.
- Technologists work closely with radiologists and physicians, who interpret the medical images to either diagnose, treat and/or rule out a disease or injury.
- The radiologist depends on the technologist to obtain and deliver the best images possible in order to correctly diagnose the patient.

CAREER CHOICES AS A RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST

- There are many careers one can follow after becoming a radiologic technologists.
 - General radiography
 - Bone densitometry
 - Mammography
 - Interventional radiography
- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
- Computed tomography (CT)
 - Nuclear medicine
- Sonography (ultrasound)
 - Radiation therapy
- Quality management

CAREER CHOICES AS A RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST

- Some of the career choices do not require additional education, while other do.
 - Radiology career paths that require additional education are:
 - Nuclear medicine
 - Mammography
 - Radiation therapy
 - Sonography
- (CT & MRI require educational hours but not a formal education program)

RADIOLOGY EVOLVES!

- Radiologic technology has come a long way since its discovery in 1895!

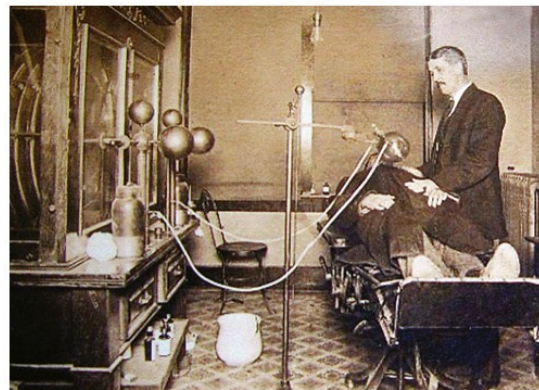


Photo courtesy Alex Peck Medical Antiques.



RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS

- Radiologic technologists must have completed at least two years of formal education in Radiologic technology at either an accredited hospital-based program, a two year Associate degree program or a four year Bachelor's degree program.
 - They must pass a national certification examination administered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT).
 - Credentials are: Registered Technologist Radiography R.T. (R), ARRT
- To remain registered, technologists must earn 24 continuing education credits every two years. In addition, every 10 years they must complete continuing qualifications requirements.

WHERE DO YOU WORK?

- Radiologic technologists can work in many different areas and have several schedule options
 - Hospitals
 - Urgent Cares
 - Doctor's Offices
- Free standing Radiology facilities
 - Mobile x-ray
 - Travel x-ray

HOW TO PREPARE NOW FOR THE RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM BEFORE COLLEGE

- Take classes in Biology: General Biology and Anatomy and Physiology
 - Take classes in Math: Pre-Algebra, Algebra
- Take classes in Allied Health: Medical Terminology, patient care, sports medicine
 - Perfect your organizational skills, especially for your studies
- Perfect your prioritization skills: how to organize/prioritize extra curricular activities, work and your studies

STEPS TO BE QUALIFIED FOR THE RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

- After you have been accepted into Trident Technical College you will need to complete the Health Sciences application. <https://hsapp.tridenttech.edu/HealthApp/>
 - Next you will start working on your pre-requisite courses:
 - MAT 110-College Algebra
 - BIO 210-Anatomy & Physiology I (with lab)
 - BIO 211-Anatomy & Physiology 2 (with lab)
- You will need to have a 2.5 overall GPA or better average in these three courses. All courses must be completed with 5 years of the start of the program.
 - Complete the online information session (this presentation) and score 100% on the quiz
 - Submit your statement of completion after completing all above requirements.
<https://tridenttechcentral.etrieve.cloud/#/form/182>

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

- Once you have met all of the admissions criteria and submitted your statement of completion, you will be contacted by the Health Sciences Admissions Coordinator. Your name will be added to the Radiologic Technology Program for the next available class. We do currently have a waiting list.
- Students **MUST** respond promptly to the Health Sciences Admission Coordinator of their intent to accept or decline the seat being offered. Lack of notification will result in the student being removed from the list.
- It is important to keep your address, phone number, and email account current with the college. Current contact information is necessary in order to notify you of seat availability, and the mandatory orientation date.
- Prior to beginning the program you will receive notification indicating the date, time and place for the Radiologic Technology mandatory orientation. This orientation session is completed right before the student starts the RAD courses. This is typically in May **of the year you are scheduled to begin the program**. Please do not contact us regarding the meeting. Program administrators will contact each student when a date has been determined.

WHAT DO OUR DAYS LOOK LIKE IN THE PROGRAM?

- Your first year you will be in class Monday, Wednesday and Friday. (in the summer , just Monday and Wednesday)
- Starting in the Fall you will go to clinical rotations on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The other three days you will be in class. Your second year you will be in class Tuesdays and Thursdays and clinical rotations on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. A few of the required rotations will involve evenings and weekends.
- Classes usually run from 9 am – 4 pm, depending on when you have lab. Clinical rotations are from 8 am - 3 pm.
- Students can expect to engage in learning experiences that require public speaking, collaboration with other disciplines and professionals.
- Radiology (RAD) courses each semester must be completed with a minimum grade of C in order to progress to the next semester. A minimum GPA of 2.0 must be maintained at all times, including a minimum of a C in all required general education courses. We strongly encourage our students to maintain a grade of 75 or higher in all courses as the minimum required score for the national exam is a 75.

CLINIC AND SKILL COMPETENCIES

- Radiologic technology students are required to successfully demonstrate skill competencies during clinical rotations each semester.
 - Students must successfully complete 51 competencies over the course of two years, per ARRT specifications.
- During clinical rotations students will interact with and care for patients that may have developmental delay, mental health dysfunction, disease and/or injuries.
 - Students may also be exposed to blood and body fluids as well as communicable diseases. You are educated on how to handle these situations.
- Students will be assigned to a different clinical affiliate site each semester. This selection is random. Sites are located within the tri-county area. Students are responsible for any parking fees that they may incur.

COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM

- Upon completion of the program, the student will have an Associate's Degree in Applied Science Radiologic Technology.
- The student will be eligible to sit for the national registry exam, administered by the ARRT. After satisfactory completion of the national certification exam, the graduate is designated as a Registered technologist in Radiography- R.T.(R)
- Graduates must also apply for a state certificate from the South Carolina Radiation Quality Standards Association (SCRQSA) in order to be eligible for employment in SC.
- You will need to complete continuing education credits in order to stay certified as a registered technologist. You will renew your credentials every two years.

HELPFUL LINKS

- Health Sciences Online Application <https://hsapp.tridenttech.edu/HealthApp/>
- Statement of Completion <https://tridenttechcentral.etrieve.cloud/#!/form/182>
 - Radiologic Technology Curriculum Display
- Essential Functions https://www.tridenttech.edu/_files/pdf/academics/health/essential_functions.pdf
 - Immunizations & Titters FAQs
https://www.tridenttech.edu/_files/pdf/academics/health/Immunizations_Titters_FAQs.pdf
 - Estimated Program Costs
https://www.tridenttech.edu/_files/pdf/academics/health/Radiologic_Technology_Program_Tuition_and_Fees.pdf
- Bureau of Labor Statistics <https://www.bls.gov/>
- American Registry of Radiologic Technologists <https://www.arrt.org/>
- American Society of Radiologic Technologists <https://www.asrt.org/>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST!

- Thank you for your interest in the Radiologic Technology Program at Trident Technical College. We look forward to working with you!

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