

Careers

Diagnostic medical sonographers, also known as “ultrasonographers,” are qualified by academic and clinical training to operate sophisticated equipment to help physicians and other health practitioners diagnose and treat patients.

Diagnostic medical sonographers keep patient records, and adjust and maintain equipment. They may also prepare work schedules, evaluate equipment purchases, or manage a sonography or diagnostic imaging department. They may specialize in obstetric and gynecologic sonography (the female reproductive system), abdominal sonography (the liver, kidneys, gallbladder, spleen, and pancreas), neurosonography (the brain), ophthalmologic sonography (the eyes), vascular (the blood vessels), or echocardiography (heart).

Salary

Median annual earnings of diagnostic medical sonographers were \$52,490 in 2004 (\$51,860 in hospitals, \$53,790 in physician’s offices). According to online career sites, a sonographer with a minimum of two years’ experience and completion of a two- to four-year accredited program can earn from \$56,900 to \$66,100 in the D.C. Metro area.

Job Outlook

Continuous advances in ultrasound and expansion of hospitals and health services create constant demand for skilled, qualified sonographers. Employment of diagnostic medical sonographers is expected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations through 2014. Career rewards include opportunities for diversity and advancement.

Education & Training Options

Montgomery College offers an associate of applied science degree (A.A.S.) in diagnostic

medical sonography. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. (See reverse for *diagnostic medical sonography curriculum*.)

With an A.A.S. or certificate, students are eligible to apply to the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers to sit for their national exams.

■ Degree

The A.A.S. curriculum requires a minimum of two years of classroom instruction and clinical experience. At the end of the first year, students choose to specialize in one or more of the following tracks:

- general sonography
- echocardiography
- vascular technology

Upon completion of the A.A.S. curriculum, the graduate will be eligible to sit for the national registry exam.

■ Certificate

The certificate program is designed for health care professionals. Credits earned in this curriculum may be applied toward the associate’s degree.

■ Skills Upgrade

Health care professionals, such as obstetric nurses and radiologic technologists, can increase their marketability by cross-training in sonography.

Contact @ MC

Takoma Park/Silver Spring

Campus240-567-5569
or Admissions Office240-567-1501
www.montgomerycollege.edu/Departments/hlscitpldms

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Curricula

Degrees, Certificates, and Letters of Recognition

Montgomery College is authorized by the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) to offer four degrees (associate of arts, associate of science, associate of applied science, and associate of arts in teaching) and certificates. In addition, the College recognizes students who satisfactorily complete certain course sequences with letters of recognition.

Some curricula are offered at all campuses, whereas others are limited to one or two. When a curriculum is offered at a specific campus, it is indicated by G for Germantown, R for Rockville, or TP for Takoma Park/Silver Spring.

Admission to Montgomery College is open to all.

Math, English, and reading assessment tests are required prior to registering. (Some students may be exempt from assessment. Consult the *Montgomery College Catalog* for criteria.) Financial aid and scholarships are available to qualified candidates.

Take the next step.

Complete an Application for Admission form (online @ www.montgomerycollege.edu/admissions/mcadmiss.htm) or call 240-567-5000 for information.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography A.A.S. (TP)

General Education and Other Requirements (33 credit hours)

BI	204	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
BI	205	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
EN	101	Techniques of Reading and Writing I	3
EN	102	Techniques of Reading and Writing II	3
		or	
EN	109	Writing for Technology and Business	3
HI	125	Medical Terminology I	2
HI	126	Medical Terminology II	2
HI	135	Concepts of Disease	3
		Mathematics foundation	3
PY	102	General Psychology	3
SP	108	Introduction to Human Communication	3
		Arts or humanities distribution	3

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Fundamental Requirements (24 credit hours)

MS	101	Orientation to Diagnostic Medical Sonography	3
MS	102	Acoustical Physics I	2
MS	201	Introduction to Sectional Anatomy	3
MS	202	Acoustical Physics and Instrumentation II	2
MS	220	Sonography Practicum	1
MS	221	Sonography Practicum I	2
MS	222	Sonography Practicum II	4
MS	223	Sonography Practicum III	4
MS	225	Sonography Practicum IV	1
MS	226	Sonography Practicum V	1
MS	224	Seminar–Diagnostic Medical Sonography	1

(more)

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Curricula

(continued)

Diagnostic Medical Sonography

General Sonography Track (13 credit hours)

MS 113	Obstetrics/Gynecology Sonography I	3
MS 213	Obstetrics/Gynecology Sonography II	3
MS 112	Abdominal Sonography I	3
MS 212	Abdominal Sonography II	3
MS 210	Breast Sonography	1

**Total credit hours for
general sonography track 70**

Echocardiography Track (9 credit hours)

MS 215	Adult Echocardiography I	3
MS 218	Adult Echocardiography II	3
MS 211	Pediatric Echocardiography	3

**Total credit hours for
echocardiography track 66**

Vascular Track (6 credit hours)

MS 216	Vascular Sonography I	3
MS 219	Vascular Sonography II	3

Total credit hours for vascular track 63

*Students should check the prerequisite for BI 204.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Certificate (TP): 151

General Sonography Track (13 credit hours)

MS 113	Obstetrics/Gynecology Sonography I	3
MS 213	Obstetrics/Gynecology Sonography II	3
MS 112	Abdominal Sonography I	3
MS 212	Abdominal Sonography II	3
MS 210	Breast Sonography	1

**Total credit hours for general sonography track
37**

Echocardiography Track (9 credit hours)

MS 215	Adult Echocardiography I	3
MS 218	Adult Echocardiography II	3
MS 211	Pediatric Echocardiography	3

**Total credit hours for echocardiography track
33**

Vascular Track (6 credit hours)

MS 216	Vascular Sonography I	3
MS 219	Vascular Sonography II	3

Total credit hours for vascular track 30