Medical Imaging, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Associate of Applied Science

Program Information
A Diagnostic Medical Sonographer is a person qualified to provide patient imaging using ultrasound technology and equipment under the supervision of a medical doctor to examine many parts of the body, such as the abdomen, breasts, female and male reproductive systems, and more.

The diagnostic medical sonography program at San Jacinto College:
- Prepares students to work in entry-level positions in hospitals and other health care facilities through hands-on laboratory practice and a variety of clinical rotations;
- Trains students to use high frequency sound waves to produce images used for assessment and diagnosis of various medical conditions. The program concentrates on imaging the organs of the abdomen, pelvis, superficial structures as well as obstetrics; and
- Grants students eligibility to apply to take exams for the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS).

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org) upon the recommendation of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS).

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
25400 US Hwy 19 N, Suite 158
Clearwater, FL 33763
727-210-2350
www.caahep.org

Additional Information
- Full-time days only (clinical day: 8 AM-5:30 PM; lecture day: 8 AM-4 PM);
- ARDMS SPI pass rate of 92 percent in 2017;
- ARDMS Abdomen pass rate of 100 percent in 2017;
- ARDMS OB/GYN pass rate of 100 percent in 2017;
- Clinical site rotations through 15 facilities (including Pearland, Texas Medical Center, and Galveston); and
- Typical school calendar is followed (16-week spring and fall terms; 13-week summer term).

Career Opportunities
Employment of sonographers is expected to grow by 44 percent by 2020, much faster than the average for all occupations. Sonographic technology is expected to evolve rapidly and to spawn many new sonography procedures, such as 3D- and 4D-sonography for use in obstetric and ophthalmologic diagnosis.

Earning Potential
Diagnostic Medical Sonographer average median salary: $74,044 per year

1 Source: texaswages.com (http://texaswages.com), Gulf Coast region, 2017

Campus
Central Campus

Information
Medical imaging technology consists of three Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees and four certificate programs.

The degree programs include:
- medical radiography,
- diagnostic medical sonography, and
- invasive cardiovascular technology.

The advanced or enhanced certificate programs are:
- computed tomography,
- invasive cardiovascular technology,
- magnetic resonance imaging, and
- mammography.

Students selected for any of the medical imaging programs are required to submit a physical exam prior to admission. This physical exam must be consistent with the requirements of the teaching hospitals and agencies the student is assigned during clinical assignments and the performance standards required to function as a student imaging technologist. The exam will also include documentation of any communicable diseases along with immunity to Rubella, Measles, Mumps, and Varicella. Additionally, completion of the Hepatitis B series along, updated Tetanus, an annual TB screening, and annual flu vaccine is required.

In addition to meeting all other requirements, a criminal background check and drug screening are required for all health science students attending imaging courses, and are required prior to admission to the program. Students entering a medical imaging program will also be required to show proof of health insurance and current CPR (American Heart Association–Health Care Provider) certification. Please contact the medical imaging department for details about the criminal background check and drug screening requirements.

Associate of Applied Science Degree
A Diagnostic Medical Sonographer is a person qualified to provide patient imaging using ultrasound under the supervision of a medical doctor. The
Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program prepares students to work in entry-level positions in hospitals and other health care facilities. Upon completion of the Diagnostic Medical Program the student is granted an associate of applied science degree and is eligible to apply to take exams for the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS).

**Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program Goals**

1. Graduates will be clinically competent sonographers.
2. Graduates will be eligible to apply for, take and pass the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography certification exams upon completion of the program.
3. Graduates will be able to find employment.
4. Graduates will be satisfied with their education.
5. Employers will be satisfied with program graduates.

**Admission Criteria**

Students are admitted annually into the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program. Due to limited clinical internship availability, students are admitted on a competitive basis. In addition to the general admission requirements of San Jacinto College, all prerequisite courses must be completed prior to acceptance into the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program. Preference will be given to applicants who meet one of the following when applying to the program:

- Graduate of a two (2) year patient-related allied healthcare program (radiography, respiratory, paramedic, nursing, occupational therapy, or surgical technology);
- Bachelor’s degree (any major);
- Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) graduate;
- Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) +2 years work experience; or
- 3+ years direct patient care work experience.

Computer proficiency is recommended for the Sonography Program. Students who do not have computer proficiency are encouraged to take BCIS 1305 Business Computer Applications or ITSC 1309 Integrated Software Applications I.

The applicant must submit a current resume’, official transcripts, and two letters of recommendation. The applicant must complete and submit an application to the Medical Imaging department. Applicants must attend a mandatory information meeting as posted on the San Jacinto College website (https://www.sanjac.edu/program/diagnostic-medical-sonography) or by calling 281-476-1871 for dates. Acceptance into the Sonography Program is determined after review of the application and completion of all requirements.

Upon acceptance in the program, the applicant must also submit required health records, proof of health insurance, CPR (American Heart Associate–Health Care Provider), criminal background check, and drug screen as stated for all Medical Imaging students.

Prospective applicants should call the Medical Imaging department at 281-476-1871 for additional information.

**Plan of Study**

**Central Campus**

3MED-SONO
Capstone Experience: DMSO 1367 Practicum IV - Diagnostic Medical Sonography