

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Admission Criteria

This is a selective and competitive admission program. Admission to the college doesn't guarantee admission to the clinical component of the program. You will be admitted as a pre-DMS student and work with your advisor to apply to the clinical/core component of the program.

Minimum Criteria to Apply: See the point system

The accepted time limit for science courses (HACC or transfer) for use in health career program requirements is 7 years.

Advising: Prior to submission of a clinical program application, you must meet with the program director – Prof. Julia Imboden. Please call Holly at 717-221-1392 to schedule appointment. Every student is urged to attend an information session during the first year as a DMS student and must attend an information session the spring prior to applying for clinicals.

Shadowing: Information regarding the required 8-hour shadowing experience is provided only during the mandatory information sessions held each fall and spring.

Application: Applications will be done on-line in May

Application Deadline: May 31

Class Selection Date: early July for late fall start

Admission Interview: Based on the review of the applications by the Admissions Committee, top ranked applicants will be invited for on-campus personal behavioral interviews. Interviews will be pass/fail. Students who pass the interview will be offered clinical admission.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO STARTING THE CLINICAL PORTION OF THE PROGRAM (after acceptance)

Additional information and required forms will be provided to you upon acceptance into clinicals. Failure to provide all the necessary documentation before the established deadline could lead to denial of admission into the clinical program. The following must be completed (at your own expense) after you have been selected for, but prior to starting the clinical portion of the program:

Physical Examination and Required Immunizations

All students accepted into the clinical component of the program must submit a health examination form completed by a physician/nurse practitioner/physician's assistant with immunization history including verification through blood work. No student will be admitted with a disqualifying result or failure to meet the specified deadline.

Background Checks

All students accepted into the clinical component of the program must undergo annual Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance, FBI Check and State Police Criminal Record Check. No student will be admitted with a disqualifying criminal history or child abuse clearance. Students with criminal backgrounds interested in admission into the clinical portion of any health career program at HACC must follow the [Prohibitive Offense Procedure](#) for Health Career Programs, effective for admission into the clinical portion of any health career program after May 1, 2011.

Drug and Alcohol Screens

All students accepted into the clinical component of the program must undergo a drug and alcohol screen annually at the laboratory specified by the program on or before the stated deadline. This lab is used to protect the integrity of the results being reported. No student will be admitted or retained in the program with a disqualifying result or failure to meet the specified deadline.

Current Certification in American Heart Association Healthcare Provider Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)

Any candidate not meeting these criteria will be denied admission into the program.

5/9/08 rev 3/7/11

HACC
Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program
Point System – Late Fall 2012 Clinicals

Students will be considered for admission into the diagnostic medical sonography program who have:

- High school diploma or GED or equivalent foreign education as verified by a HACC-approved credential evaluation service
- 2.5 overall GPA
- Completed English 101, 102, and Speech 101 or 104, Math 103, Physics 151, Biology 121, 122, Allied Health 140, and 141 with a "C" or better +
- Completed a shadowing experience
- Met with the program director
- Attended a mandatory information session during the spring prior to the application.

+ Courses must be completed by May 31.

All sonography program applicants will be ranked on the following criteria:

Points	Criterion
5 to 15	* Grade in BIOL 121 A-15 points, B-10 points, C- 5 points
5 to 15	* Grade in BIOL 122 A-15 points, B-10 points, C-5 points
5 to 15	* Grade in PHYS 151 A-15 points, B-10 points, C- 5 points
5 to 15	* Grade in AH 140 (3 or 4 credit course) A- 15 points, B-10 points, C-5 points
1 to 5	* Grade in AH 141 (1 credit course) or AH 140 (4 credit course) A- 5 points, B- 3 Points, C-1 point
5 to 15	* Grade in MATH 103 A-15 points, B-10 points, C-5 points
1 to 5	*Grade in ENGL 101 A- 5 points, B- 3 Points, C-1 point
1 to 5	* Grade in ENGL 102 A- 5 points, B- 3 Points, C-1 point
1 to 5	* Grade in SPEECH 101 or 104 A- 5 points, B- 3 Points, C-1 point
* Note: All transferred BIOL 121, 122, PHYS 151, AH 140, AH 141, MATH 103, ENGL 101,102, SPEECH 101 or 104 will be assigned the number of points based on the actual grade earned. Students with Bachelor's degrees who transfer to HACC may automatically receive transfer credit for ENGL 101, 102, and SPCH 101. However, for any course where credit is given but the course was never taken a grade of "C" will be assigned.	
1	Humanities & Arts (Core A) elective
1	Social & Behavioral Science (Core B) elective
1	Free Elective
1	PE (W)
-2 (per occurrence)	Minus 2 for each W, D, or F in BIOL 121, 122, PHYS 151, AH 140, AH 141, or any MATH, ENGL, SPCH, DMS, NURS or other Allied Health program core course (within the past 7 years). Equivalent transfer courses are subject to the same deductions.
5	Ranked applicant from previous year (max 5 points awarded one time only)
Total Score (104 MAX)	

TRANSFER STUDENTS

- A minimum overall GPA of 2.5 will be required on any transfer transcript
- The accepted time limit for science courses (HACC or transfer) for use in health career program requirements is 7 years.

In event of a tie, HACC overall GPA will be used.

Admission Interview: Based on the review of the applications by the Admissions Committee, top ranked applicants will be invited for on-campus personal behavioral interviews. Interviews will be pass/fail. Students who pass the interview will be offered clinical admission.

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HACC does not discriminate in employment, student admissions, and student services on the basis of race, color, religion, age, political affiliation or belief, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability, place of birth, General Education Development Certification (GED), marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran status, or any other legally protected classification.



Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) Essential Qualifications

All individuals, including persons with disabilities, who apply for admission to the DMS program must be able to perform specific essential functions with or without reasonable accommodation.

The following outlines the abilities and behavioral characteristics necessary for the student to be admitted to, continue in, and graduate from, the DMS program at HACC. These are standards of admission.

The applicant should carefully review the essential qualifications for the program and ask questions if not familiar with the activities or functions listed. The applicant must decide if he or she has any limitations that may restrict or interfere with satisfactory performance of any of the requirements. It is ultimately the applicant's responsibility to meet these essential qualifications if accepted into the program.

The applicant should consult with the program director or the director of clinical education to discuss any individual situation if he or she may not be able to meet these essential qualifications. Requests for reasonable accommodation will be considered. Contact the program director if you have any questions about this matter.

Any candidate *not* meeting these criteria will be denied admission into the program.

Hearing - Sufficient hearing ability to interpret messages not solely based on visual cues, to interpret conversation, and to detect sounds such as heart tones and Korotkoff (blood pressure) sounds and equipment function while performing sonographic examinations.

- Communicate and interact with patients, staff and families from a variety of cultural backgrounds
- Follow verbal instructions
- Interpret audible Doppler Waveforms
- Detect and discriminate between sounds of normal conversation
- Give and receive information over the phone

Mobility - Mobile and strong enough to support and move patients. Able to work remaining in a standing position for 60 - 90 minutes. Able to move quickly from place to place to perform patient care.

- Support and transfer patients safely from bed to wheelchair, and modify patient position in bed
- Move in and out of treatment areas
- Respond to emergency situations in a timely manner
- Reach equipment and parts of patient's body
- Move heavy equipment on wheels (approximately 500 pounds)
- Reach below waist level to manipulate equipment
- Maintain prolonged arm positions for scanning
- Perform CPR

Visual - Ability to distinguish shades of gray, primary colors.

- Read written instruction/orders
- Read fine print and calibrations
- Differentiate body structures on ultrasound and color Doppler images
- Interpret color flow signals
- Chart (write) procedures and observations legibly in a permanent medical record

Motor Skills (fine and gross) - Perform multiple motor tasks simultaneously. Fine and gross motor skills sufficient to provide safe sonographic examinations.

- Operate and manipulate equipment; multiple operations may be required
- Ability to keep arm and hand steady while manipulating transducer
- Push/pull hospital beds; transport patients
- Lift and move patients safely
- Position patients for imaging

Tactile - Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.

- Distinguish hot or cool temperature
- Feel anatomical landmarks
- Distinguish textures

Communication – verbal, nonverbal, reading and writing

- Able to communicate in English orally and in legible writing with clients and members of the health-care team using correct grammar, punctuation and spelling.

- Able to quickly, accurately, and independently follow verbal and written instructions
- Actively participate in group discussions
- Verbal communication must be clear and easily understood.
- Able to accurately read and comprehend written material in English
- Able to quickly and accurately clarify information and reconcile conflicting information
- Able to accurately convey and interpret nonverbal communication
- Able to use communication equipment – telephone, computer, translation device

Intellectual and Cognitive Abilities: Candidates must be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, synthesize, integrate and apply information. Problem solving, a clinical skill required of sonographers, requires all these intellectual abilities.

Behavioral and Social Attributes:

- Candidates must possess the emotional health required to use their intellectual abilities fully, such as exercising **good judgment**, promptly completing all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients, and **developing mature, sensitive and effective relationships** with patients and other healthcare workers.
- Candidates must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads and to **function effectively under stress**.
- They must be able to **adapt to changing environments**, to **display flexibility**, and to learn to function in the face of uncertainties and ambiguities inherent in the clinical problems of many patients.
- Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest and motivation are personal qualities that will be assessed during the admissions and education process.

Ethical Standards: A candidate must demonstrate professional demeanor and behavior and must perform in an ethical manner in all dealings with peers, faculty, staff and patients.

As an applicant to this program or student in this program, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the essential qualifications. **I acknowledge that I am capable of performing the abilities and skills outlined in this document** with or without reasonable accommodation and understand that my status as a student in this program depends on my continued ability to successfully demonstrate these abilities and skills. **I understand that if I am no longer able to meet these essential qualifications I will immediately notify the program director.** _____ (Initial)

I have read and understand the program admission criteria as posted on the HACC Health Careers website. _____ (Initial)

I understand that all students accepted into the clinical component of the program must undergo (at the student's expense) annual drug and alcohol screening at the laboratory specified by the program on or before the stated deadline. This lab is used to protect the integrity of the results being reported. The test is at the cost of the student. No student will be admitted or retained in the program with a disqualifying result or failure to meet the specified deadline. _____ (Initial)

I understand that all students accepted into the clinical component of the program must undergo (at the student's expense) annual Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance, FBI Check, and State Police Criminal Record Check. No student will be admitted or retained in the program with a disqualifying criminal history or child abuse clearance. _____ (Initial)

I understand that students accepted into the clinical component of the program may perform procedures which may expose them to bloodborne pathogens, ionizing radiation and potentially hazardous materials. _____ (Initial)

I understand that all students accepted into the clinical component of the program should have the following immunizations: Hep B, MMR, DPT, and an annual TB screen. _____ (Initial)

Applicant Signature

Date

HACCid