PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE

Sonography Program
Admission Packet

Revised 4/2015

Contact Information:

Liesa Bromet, Program Director
850-484-2251
lbromet@pensacolastate.edu

Health Related Programs Admissions Office
850-484-2210
healthprograms@pensacolastate.edu

Pensacola State College does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, age, religion, marital status, disability, sexual orientation or genetic information in its educational programs and activities. For inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies, contact the office of Institutional Diversity at (850) 484-1759, Pensacola State College, 1000 College Blvd., Pensacola, Florida 32504.
The Field of Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Sonographers perform ultrasound exams by transmitting high-frequency, non-ionizing sound waves into a patient’s body and subsequently collect the reflected echoes to form an image. This image, which results from the reflection of sound from the body, is viewed on a screen and may be recorded for permanent record and used in interpretation and diagnosis by physicians. Specialties in sonography include abdomen, obstetrics/gynecology, neurosonology, breast, echocardiography, and vascular technology.

Sonographers also perform other tests and assist with some invasive procedures. There is some exposure to body fluids. Sonographers must understand and practice universal precautions and sterile technique.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography is a direct patient care field. Sonographers interact with patients of all ages, levels of health, and backgrounds.

Diagnostic medical sonographers may work in hospitals, physicians’ offices, diagnostic imaging centers, ambulatory care facilities, and mobile units as well as various other settings.

Some typical tasks in this career:
  o Explain the procedures and prepare the patient for the exam.
  o Perform sonograms and record normal anatomy and pathologic data for interpretation by the physician to formulate a diagnosis.
  o Provide patient education on the diagnostic use of medical ultrasound.

The career outlook for this profession:
  o Employment of diagnostic medical sonographers is expected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations through 2014 (Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics)
  o Sonography/Radiologic Technician is listed among the Top 50 fastest growing occupations in Florida. (Source: Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation).

Physical capabilities required for sonography:
  o Two upper extremities that can function simultaneously. A sonographer must hold the transducer and manipulate the controls on the unit as well as have the ability to extend their extremities to reach the patient and the machine simultaneously.
  o The ability to see the monitor screen accurately at approximately a three-foot distance in a dimly lit room.
  o The ability to communicate effectively with patients and other health care professionals.
  o Details of additional physical requirements are outlined in the “Technical Standard” section in this packet.

Licensure/registry of sonographers:
  o Sonographers are not licensed.
  o Registry is optional at this time, but strongly recommended. There are two national registries for general sonographers. The American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS) and The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT).
Good sources for information about diagnostic medical sonography:
- Society for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (SDMS) at www.sdms.org
- The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) at www.arrt.org
- American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM) at www.aium.org
- American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) at www.ardms.org

Diagnostic Medical Sonography at Pensacola State College
(A.S. Degree)

Mission Statement

The Program’s mission is to prepare students to become competent allied health practitioners in diagnostic medical sonography. Didactic courses concentrate on sonography of the abdomen, superficial structures, obstetrics, gynecology, and sonographic physics and instrumentation. Patient care and other skills required of a general sonographer, including vascular studies performed by general sonography departments, are also covered. Laboratory and clinical courses are integrated into the program to practice and perfect scanning skills. Students earn an Associate of Science Degree. Applicants who have successfully completed a single, two-year program in a patient care allied health field, or are enrolled in one, may be eligible for special admission requirements and exemption from many of the general education courses. Admission requirements are detailed under a separate section of this information packet.

The program has three main focuses: didactic education, clinical experience, and professionalism. These foci combine to produce professional sonographers. The goals of the program include graduating sonographers who: possess the qualities and skills necessary for employment in the health care system, are technically capable of performing entry level routine diagnostic medical sonographic examinations, and are academically prepared to sit for the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography. The program is committed to the community by graduating sonographers prepared to provide quality health care, to the students by providing quality education, and to the field of sonography by maintaining the highest of professional standards.

There is one Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program. A prior allied health degree is not required to enter the program. Admission criteria are detailed below. Students who have already successfully completed a single, two-year allied health education program that is patient care related and who wish to earn their sonography degree may articulate into the program. Their admission criteria are slightly different and detailed below. The general education portion of the program is designed to prepare the student for the sonography core curriculum. It is assumed that health care providers have covered this material to earn their health care degree; thus, they are not required to take the general education courses. All students are expected to have a good recall and working knowledge of all prior anatomy and physiology courses in order to be successful in this program.
Requirements for GENERAL admission: Associate of Science SON-AS

1. Application to the college.
2. Official high school diploma or equivalent received by the college.
3. All official transcripts received by the college.
4. Application to the program.
5. TEAS V AH test with minimum score of 55 in reading, English, science, math, and composite score.
6. Minimum grade of “C” in all pre-requisite courses.
7. Minimum 2.75 GPA combined pre-requisite courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSC 1080</td>
<td>Essentials of A&amp;P</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSC 1080L</td>
<td>Essentials of A&amp;P Lab</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAC 1105</td>
<td>College Algebra (Category IV)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENC1101C</td>
<td>English Composition I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Students may request course substitution by completing the appropriate form.)

8. Minimum overall college 2.5 GPA (after pre-requisite courses are completed).
9. Signed and submitted information/pre-orientation sheet. (The sheet is available at the end of this packet and at the Health Admissions Office.)

Applicants will not be considered for the program (no seat will be held) until all of the admission criteria are met.

Details regarding TEAS V AH entrance testing requirements
- This test is offered by the testing departments of Pensacola State College on both the Warrington and Pensacola Campuses.
- Schedule the TEAS V AH test through the testing at Warrington Campus, 484-1076.
- There is a $50 fee to take this test.
- You can prepare for this exam by visiting [www.studyguidezone.com](http://www.studyguidezone.com) or [www.testprepreview.com](http://www.testprepreview.com) for practice exams. A study guide for the TEAS V AH may be purchased at most bookstores or online. Be sure to use a timer when you take the practice tests: you will be given 3 hours and 30 minutes to take the TEAS V AH exam.
- If you do not achieve a score of 55 or higher in each category of the test (Reading, Mathematics, Science, English and language usage, and Composite) you must take the whole test again. You must wait 90 days to retest and you must pay the $50 test fee again.
- This test may be taken at other locations, and the results transferred to Pensacola State College. Scores are valid for two years.

Health Professionals

Applicants who have already successfully completed a single two-year allied health education program that is patient care related may be eligible to substitute their specialty physics for general physics and their specialty patient care for SON 1004C Basic Sonographic Procedures. The program may be longer than two years, e.g. bachelor’s level, but MUST be in a patient care related field. Examples include: A.A.S. or A.S. radiography, A.A.S., A.S., or B.S. nursing.
Admission Process for ALL students

- The program accepts a new class once a year to begin each January with the spring term.
- Class size is limited by available clinical space. The class size is usually 15 students.
- When applicants successfully complete all the components of the application process, they become candidates and the date this process was completed becomes their placement number.

Candidates may elect to defer accepting their seats in the program for one year the first time a space is offered to them. If they do not accept their seats the next year, they will be dropped from the candidate list and will need to reapply to the program if they wish to be considered for a seat.

Requirements of all students to complete the program (NOT admission criteria)

- Current certification in American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers (CPR & AED) is required before the first clinical course and must be maintained through all clinical courses.
- Students must pass a drug screen and federal background check. These will be completed the semester prior to the first clinical course. The cost is part of the course fee.
- Students must pass a physical exam by a physician and meet the technical standard of the program. The physical must be completed the semester prior to the first clinical course. The form and instructions will be distributed at that time. Any costs involved are the student’s responsibility. The technical standard is included in this packet.
- Students will be required to meet the appearance and conduct standards for the program. Uniforms are required during the clinical rotations. The cost of the uniforms is the student’s responsibility. Hair, jewelry, visible body art, and cosmetics are regulated as part of the uniform as well as the clothing worn. Special accommodations may be restricted in the clinical settings.
- Students may not be employed outside of school past midnight on the nights before a clinical course.
- Once assigned a seat in the program, classes must be taken as sequenced.
- The sonography program is a full-time program. Some of the courses in the first semester may have been taken prior to accepting a seat in the program which would make that semester part time.
- Students must be available for daytime classes Monday through Friday for the last three semesters of the program.
- There is the possibility of some early evening clinical assignments.
- Refer to the information sheet for additional details regarding class and clinic time requirements.
Curriculum:

**FIRST YEAR**  
**Term II (Spring semester)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHY 1025</td>
<td>Intro to Fundamentals of Physics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHI 2600</td>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SYG 2000</td>
<td>Introduction to Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON 1004C</td>
<td>Basic Sonographic Procedures</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term III (Summer semester)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SON 1100C</td>
<td>Principles/Protocols of Sonographic Imaging</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON 1170</td>
<td>Sonography of the Circulatory System</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SECOND YEAR**  
**Term I (Fall semester)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SON 1211</td>
<td>Medical Sonography Physics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON 1111</td>
<td>Abdominal Sonography I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON 1121</td>
<td>OB/GYN Sonography I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON 1214</td>
<td>Practical Aspects of Sonography I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON 1804</td>
<td>Sonography Clinic I</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term II (Spring semester)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SON 1212</td>
<td>Medical Sonography Physics II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON 1112</td>
<td>Abdominal Sonography II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON 1122</td>
<td>OB/GYN Sonography II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON 1215</td>
<td>Practical Aspects of Sonography II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON 1814</td>
<td>Sonography Clinic II</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term III (Summer semester)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SON 1144</td>
<td>Superficial Structures (Small Parts)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON 2061</td>
<td>Seminar in Sonography</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON 1824C</td>
<td>Sonography Clinic III</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL CREDITS</strong></td>
<td><strong>77</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This publication is to provide general career and program information and is not to be construed as a contract between the student and Pensacola State College. The student is encouraged to work closely with counselors and the department to verify the appropriateness of courses before registration. The sequence of courses required may change. Graduation requirements will be based on the sequence of courses when the student is assigned a seat in the core curriculum.
Estimated cost of the sonography program:
Tuition is by credit hour. A.S. = 77 college credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Per Credit</th>
<th>Total Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-state</td>
<td>$104.58</td>
<td>$8,052.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama resident</td>
<td>114.58</td>
<td>8,822.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Florida Resident</td>
<td>419.76</td>
<td>32,321.52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Fees based on 2012-2013 academic year)

_Tuition rates are subject to change. Contact Registrar’s office for current costs._

Additional expenses (approximate):
- Books .......................................................... $800
- Clinic and Lab Fees ........................................ $175
- Uniforms and Equipment .................................. $250
- CPR certification .......................................... $45

Expected expenses that cannot be approximated:
- Transportation to clinical sites
- Immunizations and Physical

Fees may vary and are subject to change

Financial aid:
Students requiring financial assistance are directed to the Office of Financial Aid and Veterans Affairs (OFA & VA) (850) 484-2349 for information on numerous grants and scholarships available. Short-term loans are available at registration. Students needing assistance for an education are encouraged to seek every avenue of financial aid available for that purpose. Financial counseling, as well as help with the application process, is available. Students needing financial assistance must contact the Financial Aid offices as soon as the need is determined.

Advising:
The Health Admissions office is on Warrington campus at 484-2210 or healthprograms@pensacolastate.edu.

General Advisors are available on all campuses. To speak to the Admissions Office at Warrington, call 484-2270, Pensacola, call 484-1600, Milton call 484-4410, South Santa Rosa 471-4630. Other office locations and contact information is online.

Federal law (Family Education Rights & Privacy Act or FERPA) prevents a discussion with anyone other than the student (or applicant) unless the student consents, in writing, to the discussion. If a student wishes to authorize the release of information to a third party, including a parent, the forms for this purpose are available in any registration office. In accordance with federal law, information will not be released by email or telephone. Complete information regarding the federal law as it pertains to our students may be found on the web site at http://www.pensacolastate.edu/docs/studentRightsAndPrivacy/ferpa.pdf.
Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program
Pensacola State College

Technical Standards

Diagnostic Medical Sonography is considered a strenuous profession. The student must be able to perform the following technical standards to be safe and successful in the program.

- Visual acuity to discern sonographic detail and colors on a video monitor and/or film at a distance of approximately three feet in a semi-dark setting
- Sufficient motor skills to be able to respond to medical emergencies
- Sufficient motor skills to manipulate sonographic equipment
  These motor skills may include, but are not limited to the ability to perform the following:
  - extend the hands and arms in any direction and in different directions simultaneously
  - work with arms extended in different directions for periods up to one hour with minimal breaks
  - seize, hold, grasp, turn and otherwise work with both hands simultaneously
  - pick, punch or otherwise work fingers with dexterity
  - push and pull equipment routinely
  - reach object at different heights routinely, from floor level to overhead
  - sit or stand for periods of time up to one hour
- Transfer and assist in lifting patients to and from the exam table safely, without injury to patient, self, or other health care workers
- Communicate sufficiently to be able to respond to patient needs and interact with patients while performing the duties of a sonographer
- Verbal and written skills necessary to respond effectively in communication with patients, co-workers, and physicians
- Function competently and remain calm and professional
  - with diverse patient populations
  - in emotionally charged situations
  - during medical procedures
  - dealing with body fluids (blood, urine, emesis, amniotic fluid, etc.)
  - in emergency situations
- Ability to withstand a physically and emotionally taxing workload

Note: A physical workload of 50 pounds is often required by employers
Student Checklist  (Student worksheet only. Do not submit.)

Date completed:

__________ Complete and submit the Pensacola State College Application.

__________ Complete the Florida Residency Affidavit (if applicable).

__________ Request high school transcripts (Must be received by the college for application to be complete).

__________ Request all college transcripts (Must be received by the college for application to be complete).

__________ Minimum accumulative grade point average of 2.5 after pre-requisite courses are completed.

__________ Complete the health-related program application and submit to the Health Programs Admissions Office on the Warrington Campus. Mail, hand deliver, or fax. Details on form.

__________ Print, read, sign, and return the information/pre-orientation sheet available at the end of this packet to the Health Programs Admissions Office on the Warrington Campus. Mail, hand deliver, or fax. Details on form.

Test of Essential Academic Skills – V Allied Health

__________ Reading (Minimum score of 55)

__________ English (Minimum score of 55)

__________ Math (Minimum score of 55)

__________ Science (Minimum score of 55)

__________ Composite (Minimum score of 55)

Prerequisite Courses: Minimum grade of “C” in each course and minimum combined GPA of 2.75

__________ BSC 1080 Essentials of A&P (3 credits)

__________ BSC 1080L Essentials of A&P Lab (1 credits)

__________ MAC 1105 Algebra (3 credits)

__________ PHY 1025 Intro to Physics (3 credits)

Do NOT send any admission paperwork directly to the Sonography Program or Allied Health Department.
Information/Pre-orientation
Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program

This information sheet is designed to inform potential students of the rigorous requirements of the program. Please read, sign, and return all pages of this information packet (initial pages with no signature) to the Health Programs Admissions Office on the Warrington Campus. This packet will serve as a pre-orientation and is a requirement for acceptance to the Sonography Program. Questions about the program can be directed to Liesa Bromet, Sonography Program Director, at (850) 484-2251 or lbromet@pensacolastate.edu. Questions about the College or admissions can be directed to the Health Programs Admissions Office at (850) 484-2210 healthprograms@pensacolastate.edu.

The Pensacola State College Sonography Program is a two year, 77 college credit (including prerequisites) Associate of Science program. Students with prior college credits may transfer credits if applicable.

Enrollment into the sonography core curriculum is limited. After successfully completing the admission requirements the applicant becomes a candidate. Seats in the program are offered to candidates in a first qualified, first placed order using the date the student became a candidate.

Once students are assigned a seat in the program, courses must be taken as sequenced. The program cannot be taken part time. The second year of the program meets 36 hours per week. Most days are from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, but some students may be assigned a clinical site ending as late as 8:00 pm.

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is an intense area of study. The academic requirements should not be taken lightly. All courses must be completed with a minimum grade of C to progress to the next semester.

Attendance is mandatory for all class sessions and clinical rotations. Tardiness and leaving class early are considered partial absences. Students must make up time lost. Excessive absences may result in the student being withdrawn from the program.

Students will be assigned to a clinical site for each semester. Some students may be assigned to more than one clinical site during a semester. Assignment of clinical sites is made by the program faculty to best utilize the clinical resources and provide an equitable education to all students. Students do NOT select their clinical sites. Personal needs and preferences of the student, while taken into consideration, are NOT the basis for clinical assignment.
Clinical sites assigned during the second year of the program require the student to have independent, reliable transportation. Assignments may be up to a two-hour drive from Pensacola, Florida. Transportation to the clinical site assigned is the student’s responsibility.

Students must successfully complete a health form, have current immunizations, and meet the technical standard prior to clinical assignment. Any costs for the medical form, tests required, or immunizations are the student’s responsibility. The school has contracted with a local facility to provide these services at a reasonable cost and will attempt to continue this arrangement.

All students are required to pass a drug screen and background check prior to attendance at a clinical education site. Students with a criminal record may be restricted from attending some clinical sites and may have difficulty or be denied eligibility to sit for a registry. The Allied Health Department Head, Dr. Christa Ruber, is available to discuss issues and questions in this area. Registry bodies are independent from the school. It is the student’s responsibility to determine his or her eligibility to sit for a registry.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography is considered a strenuous profession. A technical standard must be met for the student to be successful in the profession. Every effort will be made to accommodate students with different abilities and needs, but all accommodations necessary for student success may not be available in all clinical settings. The technical standard is included in the information packet and also available in the department or program offices.

Uniforms are required during the clinical rotations. The costs of the uniforms are the students’ responsibility. Hair, jewelry, visible body art, cosmetics and the uniform worn are regulated. There is very little flexibility in these regulations. Applicants with questions or concerns about the appearance rules should contact the Sonography Program Director, Liesa Bromet.

There is a computer component to all sonography classes. Students are not required to have a personal computer with internet access but will need to access their e-learning courses at least once a week. The school provides computer labs on multiple campuses. Hours the computer labs are open is posted at the labs.
The program encourages students to sit for a national registry. There are two national registries for general sonographers. The American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS) and The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT). The ARRT recognizes the Sonography program at Pensacola State College and graduates are eligible to sit for this sonography registry upon completion of the program. All students should be eligible to sit for the Sonography Principles and Instrumentation part of the ARDMS registry after successfully completing the sonography physics courses. There are several pathways to take the specialty exams for this testing body. Requirements of the ARDMS can be found on their website at www.ardms.org.

At this time, the Sonography Program is not accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs in conjunction with the Joint Review Committee in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

Current program policies and handbooks are available in the program office.

College representatives may need to contact you. It is your responsibility to keep your contact information current with the College. If we cannot reach you by telephone or mail, you will be dropped from the eligible candidate list. Any changes necessary must be made with the Student Affairs Office on any campus. You can also complete any changes online through Spyglass. Please do not call the department or program to make changes for you.

This information sheet is NOT a contract. The requirements of the program and processes may be altered by the college or program. You will be held to the requirements and processes which are current when you are actively participating in the program.

___________________________________  ____________________
Name (Print)  Date

I have read and understand the information sheet regarding the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program at Pensacola State College.

___________________________________
Signature

Return this form to the Health Program Admissions Office at 5555 West Highway 98, Pensacola, FL  32507 or fax to (850) 484-2375.