

School of Radiologic Technology



In keeping with the Mission of St. John's Mercy
Medical Center, the School of Radiologic
Technology strives to provide quality education
and development of highly skilled, patient-
oriented registered radiographers.



ST. JOHN'S MERCY
MEDICAL CENTER



Curriculum

Junior Year

Anatomy and Physiology I & II
 General Mathematics Review
 Introduction to Radiologic Technology
 Medical Ethics and Law
 Medical Terminology
 Patient Care and Management
 Principles of Exposure
 Radiation Biology and Protection
 Radiographic Skeletal and Visceral Positioning

Senior Year

Anatomy and Physiology III & IV
 Communicative Writing
 Computer Literacy
 General Review
 Pharmacology
 Principles of Exposure
 Quality Assurance & Departmental Administration
 Radiation Physics
 Radiographic Evaluation/Critique
 Radiographic Pathology
 Radiographic Positioning of the Head and Neck
 Special Procedures I
 Special Procedures II

The student is required to maintain a C average minimum in each didactic class and a B average in clinical rotation in order to proceed in the program.

This is a diploma program. No college credits are awarded. A certificate of completion is presented by the school upon completion of the program. Students spend a total 30 to 40 hours per week (Monday through Friday, days) in the Radiology Department, including class and clinical time. Included in the diagnostic clinical experience are rotations through Nuclear Medicine, Radiation Therapy, Ultrasound, CT Scan and Magnetic

Resonance Imaging Departments, Cardiac Catheterization Lab, Spine Center, GI Lab, and the Mercy Doctors Building at the Medical Center. Class and clinical rotations are performed on the Medical Center premises.

Upon completion of the prescribed curriculum, the graduate is eligible to complete the Registry Examination for Radiographers as presented by the American Registry for Radiographic Technologists. A passing grade is required to become a Registered Radiographic Technologist (R.T.).

Graduation Requirements

To be eligible for graduation, the student must successfully complete the following:

- ✓ Certification in CPR
- ✓ Terminal competencies/evaluation
- ✓ Required clinical competencies
- ✓ Didactic and clinical courses
- ✓ Clinical rotations and objectives
- ✓ Minimum number of clock hours
- ✓ Required program evaluations
- ✓ Tuition/Fees paid in full
- ✓ Returned all property belonging to program or Medical Center

Career Opportunities

Hospitals, doctors' offices, and clinics offer opportunities for employment. Positions are also available in education, administration, research, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, interventional radiography, cardiac catheterization, radiation therapy, nuclear medicine, ultrasonography, and other modes of imaging. The latter positions require additional training after graduation from a two-year radiography program.

The Field of Radiography

A radiologic technologist, also known as a radiographer, is a professional in the medical field specifically trained to produce various types of diagnostic radiographic images. The radiographer renders an important service to the medical profession and contributes to the welfare of humanity by providing personal services to the community.

A radiograph, commonly labeled an “x-ray,” is the ultimate product of the radiographer’s work. The radiograph serves as a diagnostic tool for the physician. Accuracy and quality are imperative in attaining an optimum diagnostic study.

As with every health care professional, the radiographer’s main objective is to provide excellent patient care and to maintain high standards of quality. Such an individual must be personable, flexible to change, physically agile, understanding, compassionate, and ever mindful of his/her purpose – patient care.



St. John’s Mercy Medical Center

St. John’s Mercy Medical Center, a member of St. John’s Mercy Health Care, is a 979-bed non-profit, Level I trauma center. The Medical Center sponsors a two-year program for radiographers. The school is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology which is recognized by the United States Department of Education as an independent accrediting agency.

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The Profession

The profession of radiography requires the ability to provide appropriate health care services. Radiographers are highly skilled professionals qualified by education to perform imaging examinations and accompanying responsibilities at the request of physicians qualified to prescribe and/or perform radiologic procedures. The radiographer is able to:

- Apply knowledge of anatomy, physiology, positioning and radiographic techniques to accurately demonstrate anatomical structures on a radiograph or other imaging receptor.
- Determine exposure factors to achieve optimum radiographic techniques with minimum radiation exposure to the patient.
- Evaluate radiographic images for appropriate positioning and image quality.
- Apply the principles of radiation protection to the patient, self and others.
- Provide patient care and comfort.
- Recognize emergency patient conditions and initiate lifesaving first aid and basic life support procedures.
- Detect equipment malfunctions, report same to proper authority, and know the safe limits of equipment operation.
- Exercise independent judgment and discretion in the technical performance of medical imaging procedures.
- Participate in radiographic quality assurance programs.
- Provide patient/public education related to radiologic procedures and radiation safety/protection.

Goals

The goal of the Program is to develop a radiographer who:

- ✓ Understands and practices the Art and Science of Radiography.
- ✓ Produces radiographs with maximum information obtained with exacting exposure techniques.
- ✓ Exercises radiation protection practices toward the patient and the health care team.
- ✓ Contributes to the physical and psychological comfort of the patient.
- ✓ Engages in promoting professional values and life long learning to improve radiologic health care in the community.

Admission

It is the policy of St. John's Mercy Medical Center School of Radiologic Technology to recruit applicants for admission without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender, age, or disability except where such condition is a bona fide occupational qualification for the field of Radiologic Technology.

Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or equivalent.

Prerequisite courses include biology and algebra, one semester each with a minimum grade of a C. A high school grade point average of 2.5 or better is required. ACT (American College Testing) is required. The following courses are suggested but not required: one semester each, chemistry, geometry, physics, computer literacy and typing.

Should the applicant be accepted to enter the School of Radiologic Technology, the student must pass the routine physical and drug testing given by Unity Health. The student must be able to perform all required technical and physical standards of a student in the Radiologic Technology Program.



Enrollment Procedure

1. Complete the enclosed application form and return with \$35.00 application fee (non-refundable) to:
St. John's Mercy Medical Center
School of Radiologic Technology
615 S. New Ballas Road
St. Louis, MO 63141
2. Forward official high school and college (if attended) transcripts to the above address.
3. Forward three letters of personal or professional reference. References from family members are not acceptable.

From July through March, completed applications, transcripts, personal or professional references will be accepted for enrollment in the class beginning the following July.

Each applicant will be required to take an entrance exam. This is typically scheduled the last Saturday in March. In April, the top applicants will be eligible for interviews based on transcripts, applications and entrance exam scores. After interviews have been completed, the Admission Committee will again review each applicant's file. Letters of acceptance or denial will then be mailed.

Because of limited enrollment capacity, the Program must realistically offer few student positions. Therefore, should an applicant decide to accept student position or terminate consideration of the application, he/she is expected to notify the School of Radiologic Technology in writing of such action immediately.

Tuition

Tuition is \$2000.00 per year and is payable by year, semester, quarter or month. Should the student resign or be dismissed from the program, tuition paid for a semester which has not yet begun will be refunded. Upon notification of acceptance into the program, a \$100.00 deposit of tuition becomes due. This will be credited toward tuition upon entry. If the application is not withdrawn before June 1, no refund will be made.

Books

The cost of textbooks varies slightly, however approximately \$700.00 will cover these costs for the two-year program.

Uniforms

Each student is responsible for the purchase and upkeep of his/her duty apparel.

Fees

A \$35.00 application fee (non-refundable) is due upon receipt of application at the School of Radiologic Technology. A miscellaneous fee (non-refundable) of \$100.00 is due upon entry into the school to cover the cost of markers and the depreciation of materials utilized by students during the training program.

General Information

Students are provided with 7 weeks off for personal time during the 24-month program. This includes 4 weeks of vacation, 8 personal days and 7 sick/absent days. Students will also be scheduled off for 6 national holidays each year.

Prospective students will receive the program's policy and procedure manual. The manual will be given to each student sitting for the entrance exam.

Should any medical treatment be warranted while on the Medical Center premises, the student will assume responsibility for the cost. Therefore, he/she must provide the school with evidence of medical insurance in the form of a policy number, certificate number, or written statement verifying responsibility for costs accrued.

The cost of uniforms, books, housing and transportation are also assumed by the student.

Diplomas and school pins are awarded each July at a graduation ceremony provided by the Medical Center. Registry examinations are conducted each July, October and March.





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