

ULTRASOUND TECHNOLOGY

NATURE OF THE WORK

Ultrasound Technologists (Diagnostic Sonographer) utilize high frequency sound waves, specialized equipment and other diagnostic techniques to collect detailed information on anatomical, physiological and pathological state of the patient. This health care professional is able to produce and evaluate ultrasound images and related data that are used by specialized physicians to render a medical diagnosis. Sonographers typically provide technical expertise in abdomen, superficial structures, obstetrics / gynecology, vascular and cardiac applications.

HIGH SCHOOL PREREQUISITES

- Students will have completed a minimum of five university preparatory grade XII level courses with an overall average of 75 percent or higher and no individual grade below 70 percent.
- Grade XII academic English with a grade level of 70 percent or higher, grade XI academic mathematics, physics and biology are required together with at least one grade XII courses from the following: biology, chemistry, global geography, global history, mathematics, modern languages and physics.
- The remaining two grade XII subjects may be taken from the above or from other university preparatory subjects approved by the provincial department of education and acceptable to the University/College where the program of study is offered. Those courses include: accounting, computer-related studies, economics, geography, geology, law, modern world problems, home economics (human ecology), music, political science and sociology.

REQUIREMENTS

Ultrasound Technologists need to complete a four year degree program in Diagnostic Medical Ultrasound Technology and a period of supervised, relevant work experience.

To be a certified technologist you must successfully complete the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS) ultrasound certification examinations.

To practice in Nova Scotia, you must be registered with the Canadian Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (CSDMS), the national professional body for Sonographers. Membership with the CSDMS is maintained through active registration and membership with ARDMS.

WHERE THE PROGRAM IS OFFERED

Dalhousie University in partnership with Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Education offers a four-year Bachelor's degree program in Health Science in Diagnostic Medical Ultrasound Technology.

Contact Information

QEII/Dalhousie School of Health Sciences
Bethune Building
1278 Tower Road
Halifax NS B3H 2Y9

Telephone: 902-473-4148

E-mail: health.sciences@dal.ca

www.dal.ca

CAREER ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Once you have achieved the credential for a registered radiology technologist, with additional training and education you can enrich your career to become:

Echocardiology Technician: The echo technologist uses ultrasound waves to create an image of the heart muscle. Ultrasound waves that rebound or echo off the heart can show the size, shape and movement of the heart's valves

and chambers as well as the flow of blood through the heart. Echocardiography may show such abnormalities as poorly functioning heart valves or damage to the heart tissue from a past heart attack.

EARNING POTENTIAL

Ultrasound Technologists / Echocardiology Technician

Salary Scales- 2008

\$49,567- \$57,845

GENERAL

This work demands skill with your hands, accuracy and close attention to details. You should be efficient yet sensitive to patients' needs. Integrity and a strong sense of responsibility are important, as your results may affect a diagnosis. You must also be comfortable working with technology and be able to keep up with new advances in the field.

For additional information please visit www.csdms.com and/or www.adrms.org.