



# DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY

## Associate of Science

### Option A: General Sonography Option B: Cardiovascular Sonography

#### THE PROFESSION

Diagnostic Medical Sonography, also known as ultrasound, uses high-frequency sound waves to visualize the anatomy and physiology of the body, providing physicians with important information used to diagnose disease. Diagnostic Medical Sonographers use ultrasound equipment to create images of organs, masses, and fluid accumulations within the body. Studies performed by sonographers include examination of organs in the abdomen (liver, gallbladder, pancreas, kidneys, etc.), superficial structures, female reproductive organs, the fetus, heart, and vascular structures. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the growth rate for this profession will be above average through the year 2012.

#### THE PROGRAM

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program at Florida Hospital College seeks to provide an environment where students may develop expertise in the fields of general and cardiovascular ultrasound integrated with Christian values. Students study the clinical aspects of medical Sonography, learn to use ultrasound equipment, and participate in various supervised sonographic procedures. Graduates of Florida Hospital College Department of Diagnostic Medical Sonography are setting the pace with an above average passing rate on examinations administered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS).

**OPTIONS** – FHCHS offers two different options. These options allow students to focus on a particular area of interest and allow maximum opportunities for growth. Students can choose from:

**Option A:** General Sonography Program which includes imaging of abdominal organs, obstetrics, gynecology, and superficial structures.

**Option B:** Cardiovascular Sonography Program which includes echocardiography and vascular imaging.

#### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY

The BSDMS program is completely online and has been specially designed for credentialed sonographers. It offers the opportunity to earn a Bachelor's degree while continuing to fulfill work and personal responsibilities. Call 877-471-1454 or visit [www.onlineimaging.fhchs.edu](http://www.onlineimaging.fhchs.edu) for more information.

#### FACILITIES

The Sonography Skills Lab at Florida Hospital College includes ultrasound scanning phantoms, fully functional ultrasound machines, and a state-of-the-art ultrasound simulator, the *UltraSim*. The *UltraSim* is a \$75,000 computer driven "virtual reality" learning tool. In addition to the College's own on-campus facilities, students also have access to the state-of-the-art imaging equipment at Florida Hospital, the state's largest critical care facility. This rich resource allows students to learn and grow in a cutting-edge medical environment.

#### ACCREDITATION

The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), 1361 Park Street, Clearwater, Florida 33756, 727-210-2350, accredits the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program. Sonography graduates are eligible to apply for the examination and certification offered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS). Florida Hospital College Health Sciences is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award certificates, associate and bachelor's degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences. Note: The Commission is to be contacted only if there is evidence that appears to support an institution's non-compliance with a requirement or standard.

#### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for admission to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program must meet general College requirements and:

- Have an unweighted GPA of 2.70 in high school or on a minimum of 12 college credits.
- Have a minimum GPA of 2.50 in all English, mathematics, and science courses.
- Have a minimum ACT standard composite score of 19 with an individual score of 19 in math. Applicants with 24 or more credits from a regionally-accredited college are exempt from taking the ACT.
- Submit two recommendations on FHCHS recommendation forms. Recommendations submitted at the time of initial application to the College will meet this requirement for current FHCHS students. Students who have attended FHCHS for at least one trimester must submit one of the recommendations from a full-time Pre-Professional faculty member.
- Submit an essay explaining your interest in becoming a sonographer, your reasons for selecting FHCHS, and for choosing to attend a Christian institution. Essays should be typed, double-spaced, and at least one full page in length.

**Note:** Preference will be given to students who have completed the prerequisite requirements.

## ADMISSION PROCESS

Students must first be accepted into the College before they are eligible to be accepted into the Sonography Program. Acceptance into the College does not guarantee acceptance into the Sonography Program. Completed application files are reviewed by the Sonography Admissions Committee. An applicant's file should be complete and contain the official required documents by December 15 for May admission to the A.S. Diagnostic Medical Sonography program. Files completed after December 15 cannot be guaranteed consideration. Applicants meeting admission requirements are prioritized according to GPA and ACT scores and are generally considered for acceptance in that order. The Admissions Committee selects applicants based on how well they meet admission criteria. (*FHCHS students with qualifications equal to non-FHCHS students will be given priority for admission into professional programs.*) Applicants then receive written notification of the Committee's decision, which may be:

- Acceptance to the Program
- Acceptance to the alternate list\*
- Denial to the Program

\*Those accepted to the alternate list meet all minimum admission criteria. As space becomes available, the Admissions Committee selects applicants from the alternate list. Students on the alternate list are not guaranteed a position in the program for the following year.

## PREREQUISITES

Survey of Physics (or equivalent), College Algebra, and English I must be completed before entering the program. **Students are strongly encouraged to take prerequisite courses at FHCHS as they are focused toward students entering healthcare program.**

## RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

A minimum of 50 credits must be earned at FHCHS.

## TRANSPORTATION / CLINICAL INFORMATION

Students are expected to provide their own transportation to clinical sites.

## CURRICULUM

### Prerequisite courses:

Course Name	Credit Hours
Survey of Physics	4
College Algebra	3
English Composition I	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>

### Cardiovascular Sonography Program – 76 hours

Summer		Fall		Spring	
Intro to Sonography	2	Intro to Clinical I (1dy)	1	Intro to Clinical II (1dy)	1
Patient Care	2	Ultrasound Physics I	3	Ultrasound Physics II	3
English Comp II	3	Intro to Sonography Lab I	1	Intro to Sonography Lab II	1
Medical Terminology	2	Fundamentals of Sonographic Imaging	1	Physical Education	2
A & P I	4	A & P II	4	Sectional Anatomy	3
Philosophy of Healthcare	2	Psychology	3	Microcomputers	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>
Summer		Fall		Spring	
Clinical Practicum I (3dy)	4	Clinical Practicum II (3dy)	4	Clinical Internship (4dy)	5
Cardiac Sonography	3	Cardiovascular Specialties	3	Seminars in Sonography	2
Vascular Sonography	3	Case Studies in CV Sonography II	1	Advanced Specialties in Sonography	2
Case Studies in CV Sonography I	1	Pathophysiology	3		
Christian Ethics	2	Grieving and Loss	2		
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>

**General Sonography Program – 76 hours**

<b>Summer</b>		<b>Fall</b>		<b>Spring</b>	
Intro to Sonography	2	Intro to Clinical I (1dy)	1	Intro to Clinical II (1dy)	1
Patient Care	2	Ultrasound Physics I	3	Ultrasound Physics II	3
English Comp II	3	Intro to Sonography Lab I	1	Intro to Sonography Lab II	1
Medical Terminology	2	Fundamentals of Sonographic Imaging	1	Physical Education	2
A & P I	4	A & P II	4	Sectional Anatomy	3
Philosophy of Healthcare	2	Psychology	3	Microcomputers	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Summer</b>		<b>Fall</b>		<b>Spring</b>	
Clinical Practicum I (3dy)	4	Clinical Practicum II (3dy)	4	Clinical Internship (4dy)	5
Abdominal Sonography	3	Obstetrical Sonography	3	Seminars in Sonography	2
Genitourinary Sonography	3	Case Studies in General Sonography II	1	Advanced Specialties in Sonography	2
Case Studies in General Sonography I	1	Pathophysiology	3		
Christian Ethics	2	Grieving and Loss	2		
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>

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