

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Information Packet

Updated 11/11/11

Thank you for your interest in Volunteer State Community College's Diagnostic Medical Sonography program. In order to apply to this program, you must meet the following criteria:

DEGREE REQUIREMENT

To be considered for admission to the sonography program, applicants must graduate high school with a regular diploma or higher. High school certificates of attendance, special diplomas, or the like are not sufficient for admission to this technical certificate program.

Applicants must also meet the general admission requirements for the College and ONE of the following degree requirements to be considered a valid applicant to the DMS program:

1. Associate of Applied Science Degree

Successful completion of a nationally recognized and regionally accredited Associate of Applied Science Degree in a Health Sciences area that is patient related with clinical rotations (including but not limited to: Radiologic Technology, Respiratory Care Technology, Nursing, Occupational/Physical Therapist Assistant, Ophthalmic Medical Technician, Medical Laboratory Technology, Dental Assisting, Paramedic, or Sleep Diagnostics Technology).

OR

Successful completion of a bachelor degree program from a regionally accredited college or university major (does not have to be health care related).

OR

Successful completion of the 3+1 pre-Diagnostic Medical Sonography Degree program at Middle Tennessee State University.

PREREQUISITE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to meeting one (1) of the above degree requirements, applicants must complete the following prerequisite courses or their equivalent.

VSCC COURSE NUMBER	COURSE DESCRIPTION	CREDIT HOURS
BIOL 2010	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	at least 4 credit hours w/lab
BIOL 2020	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	at least 4 credit hours w/lab
AHC 115	Medical Terminology	at least 3 credit hours

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

Once the degree and prerequisite requirements are met, all the following tasks must be performed to apply to the VSCC DMS program. Tasks #1-4 are requirements of application. Tasks #4-7 must be mailed in one envelope to the address at the bottom of this page. ALL tasks are required to be considered an eligible candidate. Failure to complete all tasks will result in dismissal of application packet. (Items to be mailed in to create your application are indicated by *)

1. Submit application to Volunteer State Community College <https://www.volstate.edu/admissions/apply>
2. Send all official transcripts to Vol State's Office of Admissions.
3. Submit the "Application Form" on the VSCC DMS website <https://www.volstate.edu/academics/healthsciences/dms/application>

Applications are accepted Jan 1-May 1st for the cohort beginning the fall term.

4. * Submit a completed VSCC DMS "Application Packet Table of Contents" with your application packet. <https://www.volstate.edu/academics/healthsciences/dms/form>
5. * Submit a completed VSCC DMS "Application Summary Form" with your application packet <https://www.volstate.edu/academics/healthsciences/dms/form>
6. * Submit a resume or curriculum vitae with your application packet.
7. * In addition to sending the Office of Admission your official transcripts, submit an additional official or unofficial copy of all college transcripts with your application packet. Please highlight the required prerequisite courses on the transcripts going in your application packet.

Note: If you are submitting a transcript from a foreign country, you must also submit a translation and interpretation of all transcripts. Contact the 04 T1r u (ffic)]TJ9 (i)10.6 (o)-6.69259 al1.9 (d)2.3 (m)-6.4 (is)9..4 (c)-

Send all required application materials (#4 - #10) in ONE ENVELOPE between January 1st and May 3rd to:

Lisa Kirkland
Volunteer State Community College
Wallace Health Sciences Complex South, S231
1480 Nashville Pike
Gallatin, TN 37066

*Typically, a minimum of a 3.0 GPA is needed to be considered a competitive candidate.

SELECTION & NOTIFICATION PROCESS

1. The DMS Program admits one class annually with courses beginning during the fall term. The deadline for application submission is May 1st of any year. The applicant pool varies from year to year; however, we typically receive 70-100 applicants and accept the most qualified applicants every year based on a competitive admission format.
2. Up to 16 students will be offered a position in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program cohort each year.
3. A selection committee will review applications, conduct interviews, and make recommendations on selections. These selections are based on a point total calculated from the applicant's grade point average, observation hours, letters of references, completion of the entire application, an interview score, and an evaluation of a writing sample.
4. Interviews are typically held in late May or early June.
5. Following acceptance into the DMS program, students must respond, in writing, to accept the position and confirm their intent to enroll. Accepted applicants who fail to respond will forfeit their place in the cohort.
6. Upon acceptance into the program, students must submit documentation of an acceptably scored mandatory background check and drug screening. Selected applicants are not determined to have a secured seat in the DMS program until the background check AND drug screening have passed and been accepted by the college and the Program Director.

* In an effort to comply with the recommendations of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the majority of the major healthcare facilities and agencies utilized by the College for clinical training require that each student undergo a background check and a urine drug screening. Students seeking enrollment in this program must provide evidence of a passing score on a background check and a urine drug screen prior to official acceptance/enrollment into their respective program. Either the failure to provide the required

tuberculous screening and influenza shot. Depending on the clinical site, other vaccinations may be required by the time of enrollment. If you have any questions about this process, please notify the program director.

** *Volunteer State Community College practices and supports nondiscriminatory recruitment, admission, and employment practices.

TECHNICAL & PHYSICAL STANDARDS

In order to perform the duties of a diagnostic medical sonographer an individual must be able to:

1. Push and pull wheelchairs with a seated patient.
2. Lean over to lock wheelchair and lift footrests.
3. Push, pull, lock, and unlock stretchers and beds with resting patients.
4. Maneuver equipment around patient beds and through hallways in hospitals and surgical suites.
5. Verbally instruct patient in a clear, concise, easily understandable manner.
6. Visually assess patient's condition.
7. Visually assess sonographic images.
8. Interact professionally with patients, coworkers, visitors, and hospital staff.
9. Read and comprehend written communications (i.e. charts, exam requisitions, medical records, etc.).
10. Provide written communication to medical and technical staff.
11. Demonstrate manual dexterity in handling of items such as, syringes, needles, sterile items and transducers.
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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I need a degree in order to apply to this program?

Yes. You will need either an associate of applied science degree in a health science field with clinical rotations, or a bachelor's degree in any field. The other option would be completing MTSUs 3+1 program. In addition to the degree requirement, all applicants will need to complete all of the prerequisite courses.

Will Vol State accept my Bachelor's Degree and/or transfer credits?

This is answered on a case-by-case basis. Most degrees from an accredited institution will transfer. Please call the Vol State admissions office at 236-688 for more information about specific institutions or specific degrees.

Can I still be taking prerequisite courses and still apply to the program?

Yes, we allow up to one prerequisite course to be taken in the summer prior to the application year, pending 3 (thD6.6 (r 24T a

No, even though work experience is extremely valuable, it does not substitute for prerequisite requirements. For example: working as an LPN for ten years does not equate to graduating from a programmatically accredited nursing program.

What financial aid is available?

Financial aid is extremely situational and is best answered on an individual basis by the Financial Aid office, 615 3456. Several opportunities will be made available for scholarships and grants while enrolled in the program.

Can you send me more information?

All of the information we might send is located on our web site. Please visit www.volstate.edu/docs or contact the program director (615-230-3339) for specific questions about the program or the profession.

What about background checks and drug screens?

Students seeking enrollment in this program must provide evidence of a passing score on a background check and a panel urine drug screen prior to official acceptance/enrollment into the program. Either the failure to provide the required results by the due date or the receipt of anything other than a passing score will make a stipulation score will (ra