Dear Prospective Student,

Thank you for your interest in the BGSU Firelands College Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program. We are a general sonography program. Please take some time exploring the information and websites below which provide information on a career in Sonography.

About a Career in Sonography:

A Diagnostic Medical Sonographer is a highly skilled professional who creates images of structures inside the body using soundwaves. Sonographers are responsible for the independent operation of sonographic equipment, and for performing and communicating findings of the examinations to physicians. A sonographer must use independent judgment during the examination to accurately differentiate between normal and pathologic findings.

What can be evaluated?

- Heart
- Organs in the abdomen and pelvis
- Blood vessels in the extremities, neck, and abdomen
- Structures such as the thyroid, breast, uterus, ovaries, prostate, and testicles
- Obstetrical imaging including high-risk pregnancies

Sonography offers a variety of career options:

- Staff sonographers
- Lead sonographers
- Department managers
- Sonographers can work in hospitals, clinics, private practice offices and a variety of other medical settings
- Sales or applications
- Teaching
Potential Salary:

Salaries vary by geographical location. Average starting salary of $64,380 per year according to the Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.


Credentialing:

Several agencies offer board examinations in sonography

- The **American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers** allows sonographers to earn credentials such as:
  - Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer (RDMS)
  - Registered Vascular Technologist (RVT)
  - Registered Diagnostic Cardiac Sonographer (RDCS)
- The **Cardiovascular Credentialing International** (CCI) allows sonographers to earn credentials such as:
  - RCCS: Registered Congenital Cardiac Sonographer
  - RCS: Registered Cardiac Sonographer
  - RPhS: Registered Phlebology Sonographer
  - RVS: Registered Vascular Specialist
- The **American Registry of Radiologic Technology** (ARRT)
  - Sonography R.T. (S)
  - Breast Sonography R.T. (BS)
  - Vascular Sonography R.T. (VS)
Career

Diagnostic Medical Sonography is a dynamic and challenging field. You are encourage to explore the following websites:

(SDMS) Society of Diagnostic Medical sonography
http://www.sdms.org/career/decision.asp

(ARDMS) American Registry Diagnostic Medical Sonography
http://www.ardms.org/careers_in_sonography/

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education
http://www.caahep.org/