

Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Associate of Applied Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Diagnostic Medical Sonographers or sonographers are highly-skilled professionals who use specialized equipment to create images of structures inside the human body that are used by physicians to make a medical diagnosis. Sonographers have extensive, direct patient contact that may include performing some invasive procedures. They must be able to interact compassionately and effectively with people who range from healthy to critically ill. Sonographers demonstrate behavior and ethics consistent with standards and ethics of all imaging science professionals. Sonographers are involved in critical thinking skills, clinical decision making and patient education.

Career Opportunities

The profession of diagnostic medical sonography includes general sonography, cardiac sonography, vascular technology and various other subspecialties. BGSU Firelands provides a rigorous program that instructs students how to recognize, identify and appropriately document normal and variant anatomical structures. Medical sonographers are employed in hospitals, clinics, private practices, mobile services, laboratories and public health facilities. Career advancement opportunities exist in education, administration, research and in commercial companies such as education/ application specialists, sales representatives, technical advisors, etc.

Graduates will be held to the Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Educational Programs in Diagnostic Medical Sonography as defined by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

Admission Requirements

Following admission to the University, the student is responsible for filing a separate

application with the program director. Obtain program application and deadlines from the program director or from the program web page.

Students must meet the following criteria:

1. Graduated from an accredited high school having attained a GPA of 2.5 or GED or have completed twelve semester hours of college work with an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher;
2. Formally admitted to BGSU;
3. Completed developmental courses in general studies writing, reading and study strategies, or math, if more than six credits are required;
4. Completed courses in Physics, Medical Terminology, English, Math, and Human Anatomy & Physiology (Human Anatomy & Physiology must have been completed in the last five years);
5. Completed a 4-8 hour observation experience in a clinical ultrasound location (forms can be obtained from the program director);
6. Participated in a personal interview in which attitude and enthusiasm for the program will be considered;
7. Submit a criminal history background check allowing them to enter clinical settings, as required by Ohio law.

After gaining admittance to the program, students must meet the following minimum requirements to be in good standing and continue in the program:

1. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher;
2. Earn a grade of "C" or higher in DMS 1000, 1010, 1110, 1120, 1210, 1220, 1410, 2410, 2110, 2120, 2210, 2220, and 2510. Also BIOL 3310,3320, AHTH 2300 and BIOL 1040 or 2050 if chosen as an elective or prerequisite;
3. Earn a "S" in DMS 1810, 1820, 2810, 2820 and 2830;
4. Demonstrate the achievement of competency in all areas of clinical practice;

5. Complete prerequisite coursework in good standing. Nothing less than a C in prerequisite courses will be accepted
6. Comply with DMS clinical policies and procedures; failure to comply will result in ineligibility to continue in the program.

To be admitted to clinical directed practice, the student must meet the following requirements:

1. Complete prerequisite coursework in good standing;
2. Pass a criminal history background check/drug test;
3. Meet all physical requirements to perform the essential functions of a student sonographer, as evidenced by a completed physical examination on file with the program;
4. Sign a BGSU liability waiver form;
5. Submit a copy of a current CPR card, indicating successful completion of an AHA Health Care Provider course;
6. Review and agree to comply with guidelines in the Student Clinical Handbook. The healthcare facilities (clinical affiliations) have strict policies regarding clinical rotations of individuals with visible body art and body piercings.

While admission to the program is closely tied to the number of clinical spaces, occasionally exceptions can occur that are beyond the control of BGSU Firelands. In the event that the number of eligible students exceeds clinical space available, admission to the clinical directed practice may be determined by a rank order based upon date of acceptance into the program, college grade point average, program hours completed, and the recommendation of program personnel.

Students are responsible for the following expenses related to participation in the clinical directed practice:

1. Pre-clinical physical examination, including lab work and immunizations;
2. Textbooks and/or clinical training manuals and folders;

3. Lab fees;
4. Transportation to and from clinical sites;
5. Scrub attire, lab coats, and other appropriate uniform attire;
6. BGSU Firelands student name tag;
7. Trajecsyst reporting system fee;
8. Health insurance coverage.

Items that may be provided to students by clinical sites at no cost include:

1. Facility identification badges/name tags;
2. Parking at most clinical sites;
3. Professional liability insurance coverage is provided by BGSU and is not a student expense

Learning Outcomes

Graduates from this program will possess the following knowledge, skills, and behaviors:

- Understand the relationship between theoretical and clinical components of the curriculum and apply these principles to proper anatomical part presentation, pathological adjustments required for optimal examination, quality of image, and care for all patient age groups at a rate not less than 74%, as evidenced in student grade and competency records.
- Apply interpersonal skills appropriately to meet the needs of patients in a variety of clinical settings, as documented in directed practice assessment at the level of satisfactory.
- Demonstrate the ability to comprehend, apply and evaluate didactic knowledge and clinical information relative to their role as entry-level general sonographers.
- Demonstrate technical proficiency in clinical and scanning skills necessary to fulfill the role of entry-level general sonographer for the general concentration.
- Demonstrate personal behaviors consistent with professional and employer standards and expectations for an entry-level general sonographer.

- Complete the credentialing examination administered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS) as documented by the report of registry results to the program. Pass rate to exceed programmatic accreditation standards.
- Demonstrate independent decision making and competent skills performance in the role of primary care provider in a broad range of sonography and intervention services, as determined by an analysis of employer surveys and graduate surveys.

Program Outcome

To prepare competent entry-level general sonographers in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains.

Accreditation

The BGSU Firelands College Diagnostic Medical Sonography program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org) upon the recommendation of the Joint Review Commission on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
 25400 US Highway 19 N., Suite 158
 Clearwater, FL 33763
 Phone: 727.210.2350
 Web: www.caahep.org

For Further Information

Cara Vickery, Program Director
 Diagnostic Medical Sonography
 BGSU Firelands
 One University Drive
 Huron, Ohio 44839
 419-433-5560 ext. 2-0884
 email: cvicker@bgsu.edu

Web site: www.firelands.bgsu.edu

Your University Opportunity

BGSU Firelands, located in Huron, Ohio, is a regional campus and one of the seven undergraduate colleges of Bowling Green State University. We offer many of the advantages and resources of a major university, but in a smaller, more personal environment.

Generally, students are able to complete at least two years of coursework toward most of the 200-degree programs at BGSU before transferring to the main campus, or to another college or university.

BGSU Firelands offers students a wireless environment campus wide. Kiosks and public-access computers located in most campus buildings provide easy Internet access. In addition, there are several on-campus computer labs with a variety of computers and software programs.

The library, containing more than 30,000 volumes, is computer-linked to the more than 4 million items available through BGSU's libraries to provide excellent research opportunities.

Academic advisors work individually with students to plan their degree programs and small class sizes allow students to have close, personal contact with their professors. Free tutoring is readily available through the Teaching and Learning Center. Scholarships, grants and loans are available to assist students with tuition.

NOTE: Information in this guide is subject to change without notice. To learn more about the official program of study for Diagnostic Medical Sonography, please check the undergraduate catalog online at www.bgsu.edu/catalog