**2025 - 2026**

**Diagnostic Medical Sonography**

PROGRAM InFORMATION PACKET



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**Diagnostic Medical Sonography**

**Revised to assist students applying in Fall 2025 for Summer 2026 program entrance.**

# Program Summary and Accreditation

The Dallas College School of Health Sciences offers a 65-credit hour curriculum leading to an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Diagnostic Medical Sonography at the El Centro campus. This information packet contains application eligibility guidelines for the curriculum track for the Fall of 2025 application. The next Diagnostic Medical Sonography program will begin in June 2026. The Diagnostic Medical Sonography program starts a new cohort once a year (in June) and is 5 semesters in length (not including prerequisites).

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography program prepares individuals to perform diagnostic examinations using high-frequency sound waves to visualize soft tissue structures including the liver, gallbladder, kidneys, pregnant uterus, and other organs as requested by the physician. The General DMS Program sponsored by Dallas College-El Centro is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org) upon the recommendation of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

CAAHEP

9355 – 113th St. N, #7709

Seminole, FL 33775

727-210-2350

Graduates of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program are eligible to sit for designated registry exams through the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) to obtain their Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer credential (RDMS) in Abdominal (AB) and or Obstetrics & Gynecology (OB) and or Vascular Technology (VT).

Acceptance to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program is via a **competitive selection process based on the point system outlined in section L.** This information packet details the procedure for program application.

**This information packet contains specific application guidelines and requirements. Submission of application materials verifies that an individual has:**

**1) Read the packet thoroughly.**

**2) Obtained all necessary documents from designated website addresses**

**3) Understood the policies and procedures for application and acceptance to the program.**

**Equal Educational Opportunity**

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Educational opportunities are offered by Dallas College without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

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A. Diagnostic Medical Sonography Checklists

## Associate degree Track

This checklist is organized for an applicant just beginning their college experience. Some items may not be applicable if you have previous college credits.

1. \_\_\_\_Download and read through the Diagnostic Medical Sonography [program information packet](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-packets-sessions.aspx).
2. \_\_\_\_If you have questions about the program, email AskSOHS@dallascollege.edu.
3. \_\_\_\_Obtain the [immunization and physical examination](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx) requirements document. *Some immunizations require multiple doses on a specific timeline over several months. Therefore, potential applicants should review their immunizations at least six to seven months before the application deadline.* Schedule and take your Hepatitis B titer test early.
4. \_\_\_\_Determine your [Application Eligibility](#_Eligibility_to_Apply_1)
5. \_\_\_\_Complete an [application for college admission](https://www.applytexas.org/), if not already a Dallas College student.
6. \_\_\_\_Submit official transcripts from all previously attended colleges/universities to studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu or to Dallas College, Attention: Admissions Processing, 3737 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.
7. \_\_\_\_See a [Success Coach](https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/success-coaching/pages/default.aspx) (advisor) as needed for TSI counseling, placement testing, etc., and complete any developmental courses as may be determined from the test scores.
8. \_\_\_\_If desired, request an [Educational Plan](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) for evaluation of external credit coursework that applies to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography curriculum.
9. \_\_\_\_Complete the Diagnostic Medical Sonography prerequisite courses with [min GPA](#_C._Prerequisite_Courses_1):
	1. \_\_\_\_ENGL 1301
	2. \_\_\_\_BIOL 2401
	3. \_\_\_\_MATH 1314
	4. \_\_\_\_SCIT 1420
	5. \_\_\_\_BIOL 2402
	6. \_\_\_\_DMSO 1110
10. \_\_\_\_Prior to applying to the program, applicants are also encouraged to complete these Diagnostic Medical Sonography Support Courses with a grade of “C” or higher in each:
	1. \_\_\_\_PSYC 2301
	2. \_\_\_\_SPCH 1311 or 1315 or 1321
	3. \_\_\_\_Humanities/Fine Arts Elective
11. \_\_\_\_Complete the appropriate [admissions exam](#_E._Program_Application) (HESI Exam)
12. \_\_\_\_Watch the [Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program online information session](https://dcccd-my.sharepoint.com/%3Ap%3A/g/personal/hxh0005_dcccd_edu/EX9yfhB9ZrlIt20iu0kh4EoBmpcDuhaXr_mmQwKnth2mrg?e=JJhyGZ)
13. \_\_\_\_Request access to Secure Link to upload all application documents, by completing the online [Secure Link Request Form](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=U1R-1i9z3EqUpEiI8tl9XUakwsM_5KVEgQl5nK5D38ZUMTdSWFZVNkNCTTJYRTVXOFZVOFZIN1pHNiQlQCN0PWcu&route=shorturl) during availability window of October 1st through December 15th.
14. \_\_\_\_Upload Hep B immunization record and proof of a positive titer to the Secure Link.
15. \_\_\_\_Upload all [required materials](#_I._Diagnostic_Medical) to the Secure Link before the filing [deadline](#_H._Application_Filing).

# B. General Admission Requirements to the College

Applicants to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program must meet all [college admission requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/pages/default.aspx) as outlined in the official college catalog.

Applicants must have earned a high school diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) and comply with Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements before they are eligible to apply to the program. Students should consult Success Coach/advising office to determine their TSI status before application to a Health Sciences program.

## Official College Transcripts

Before application to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program, potential applicants must have submitted ***official transcripts from ALL colleges and universities the applicant has attended whether the coursework is or is not relevant to the program application***. Transcripts from Dallas College (formerly Dallas County Community College District) campuses are not required.

The transcripts must be current with the **print date no earlier than three years** prior to the applicant’s anticipated admission to the program unless the student has not had a break in enrollment with Dallas College since the transcripts were originally submitted. If the official transcripts have not been submitted, the individual’s application will be voided.

Official transcripts must be sent electronically from the applicant’s previous colleges to studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu. Transcripts sent by the applicant in PDF or other formats are not accepted. Transcripts may also be mailed from a college in a sealed envelope to Dallas College, Attn: Admissions Processing, 3737 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.

## Initial Advisement

Students who are beginning college for the first time will follow the [Steps to Enrollment](https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/application/pages/default.aspx) which will guide them from applying the college system to placement testing, selecting a degree plan, contacting a Success Coach, and enrolling in basic courses. <https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/pages/new-credit-students.aspx>

A student who has not completed college coursework should request a general Associate of Science Degree plan from [Success Coaching](https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/success-coaching/pages/centers.aspx) as a starting point toward future application to a health sciences program. ***Note: Additional assessment testing in computer literacy and learning frameworks courses may be required for certain students.***

## Program Information Sessions

Potential applicants are **required** to view an online informational session video [Diagnostic Medical Sonography](https://dcccd-my.sharepoint.com/%3Ap%3A/g/personal/hxh0005_dcccd_edu/EX9yfhB9ZrlIt20iu0kh4EoBmpcDuhaXr_mmQwKnth2mrg?e=SClQrG) (click link to go to information session) where the program, application procedures, and acceptance policies are discussed in detail. The information session must be viewed as a running PowerPoint, at the end of the presentation, you will be given instructions for acknowledging orientation completion. Follow instructions provided in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Information Session to request access to the Secure Link during its annual availability window: October 1st through December 15th.

## Online Application Form Submission

Once you have viewed the online Information Session and have followed instructions provided in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Information Session to request access to the **Secure Link** you will be notified via email with detailed application submission instructions.

# C. Prerequisite Courses

Applicants must complete the prerequisite courses listed below with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher to apply to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program. The prerequisite GPA is considered in the point award ranking process.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Prerequisite Courses | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| BIOL-2401\*^ Anatomy/Physiology I | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| BIOL-2402\*^ Anatomy/Physiology II | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| ENGL-1301 Composition I | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| MATH-1314\*\* College Algebra | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| SCIT-1420#^ Physics for Allied Health | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| DMSO-1110## Introduction to Sonography | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Total Sonography Core Prerequisites: | 16 | 10 | 19 |

\* BIOL 1406 is the prerequisite course for BIOL 2401 and must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher within the last three years or present a satisfactory score on the CLEP Biology exam.

\*\* MATH 1414 – College Algebra will also be recognized as the Sonography Prerequisite math course; however, it will be calculated as a three-credit hour course for ranking purposes only. Higher level math courses such as Calculus may be evaluated for substitution if a student did not complete a college algebra course.

 # PHYS 1401 & PHYS 1405 are also accepted for program application. Students planning to pursue a bachelor’s degree in a related field are strongly encouraged to take PHYS 1401 for their physics prerequisite course.

 ^ BIOL-2401, BIOL-2402, and SCIT 1420 or PHYS 1401 must be completed less than 5 years before the anticipated program entrance date. See [Section E](#_Five-Year_Time_Limit) for information on petitioning for a 5-year waiver.

 ## It is recommended the student take BIOL 2401 before taking DMSO 1110. A basic understanding of anatomy & physiology will be to the student’s advantage.

# D. Support Courses

The following courses are included within the Diagnostic Medical Sonography associate degree curriculum track. These courses may be completed prior to application to the program or completed once admitted to the program, with the other sonography courses. If the student is unable to complete the support courses in the semester as scheduled in the program curriculum, they assume the risk of being dismissed from the program or not completing their degree as scheduled. Failure to graduate will result in ineligibility for the credentialing exam and employment in the field.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Support Courses | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| PSYC-2301 Intro to Psychology | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| SPCH-1311+ Intro to Speech Communications | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Humanities Elective ++ | 3 | 0 | 3 |

+ SPCH 1315 – Fundamentals of Public Speaking and SPCH 1321 – Business and Professional Communication are also accepted for the speech requirement.

++ Humanities elective must be chosen from the Humanity, Creativity and Aesthetic Experience section of the general Associate Degree of Arts/Sciences degree plan. See your success coach for accepted courses. **Suggested courses include: PHIL 2306 - Intro. to Ethics,** **HUMA 1315, PHIL 1301, PHIL 1304, selected ENGL literature courses at the 2000 level or higher, sophomore level foreign languages such as SPAN 2311.**

A minimum grade of “C” is required in each course which applies to the Sonography program.

**Important Note**: Significant points are awarded in the applicant ranking process for the Support Courses and grades earned in those courses. Therefore, potential applicants are encouraged to complete the Support courses if possible BEFORE application to the program.

# E. Previous Coursework Evaluation toward Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Official transcripts are fully evaluated by the Dallas College Transcript Evaluation Center after a student has been enrolled for at least one regular semester. However, students can request an Educational Plan, an evaluation of their previous coursework toward a Health Sciences program. The [Educational Plan](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=U1R-1i9z3EqUpEiI8tl9XR-JTZXG4gtGtI5xwkPieuFUOFdER1BQS1k5TU02R09FQTU0WFVDTEJQWSQlQCN0PWcu) is a preliminary, unofficial degree plan for advisement purposes and only reflects specific courses toward a health sciences program. Educational Plans are optional and are not required for application to a health sciences program. They are usually completed within 4-8 weeks. An Educational Plan should be requested at least one semester prior to a program application filing deadline if possible.

The School of Health Sciences and the Allied Health Admissions Office reserve the right to accept or reject any coursework completed at other colleges presented for transfer evaluation toward Health Science programs.

## Five-Year Time Limit for Select Courses

BIOL-2401 (Anatomy and Physiology I), BIOL-2402 (Anatomy & Physiology II), SCIT 1420 (Physics for Allied Health), PHYS 1401 (College Physics I), or PHYS 1405 (Elementary Physics I), must have been completed less than five years before the anticipated program start date of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program. For example, SCIT 1420 completed in Summer 2020 would be valid only up to application for a program that begins in Summer 2025.

An applicant may petition for a waiver of the five year time limit under one of the following considerations:

1. The student has current and active work experience in a healthcare setting utilizing their related physics and anatomy knowledge.
2. The student has successfully completed advanced courses in a related physics & anatomy area with a grade of “C” or higher.

The student may petition for a waiver of the time limit by emailing the Pathway Specialist Team at ASKSOHS@dallascollege.edu. The waiver is only good for the current application cycle.

Note: A science course taken at other colleges must be approved for transferability to be approved for a five-year time limit waiver.

## Credit by Examination, CLEP and Advanced Placement Credit

Credit through CLEP, High School Advanced Placement (AP) Exams and Credit by Examination may be awarded for a limited number of courses toward Health Sciences programs including MATH 1314, PSYC 2301, and PSYC 2314. CLEP credit is not awarded for ENGL 1301. Advanced Placement (“AP”) credit for ENGL 1301, PSYC 2301, and MATH 1314 is acceptable if the credit appears on a college transcript as ENGL 1301, PSYC 2301, and MATH 1314 equivalency. A letter grade is not awarded for “AP” credit.

**Note:** **An applicant may present credit by exam, CLEP, or “AP” credit for one of the prerequisite courses and one support course. Credit will be acknowledged but not calculated with the grade point average.**

## Coursework from Institutions Outside of the United States

Only courses such as college algebra/calculus, human anatomy/physiology, chemistry, physics, and microbiology may be considered for transfer to Health Sciences program from colleges or universities outside the United States. **No other courses will be considered.** Anatomy & Physiology, and Physics must be within the five-year time limit. [Foreign Coursework Evaluation](https://www.dcccd.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) is a multi-step process which may take several weeks. **The student must be enrolled in credit classes at a Dallas College campus before the evaluation process can be** [**initiated**](https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/application/pages/default.aspx)**.**

# F. Program Application Exam HESI A2

Diagnostic Medical Sonography utilizes the HESI A*2*, a computerized test as an application condition.

**Required Minimum Score:** Applicants must earn a score of at least 70% on each of the required sections.
Test scores are valid for **two years** from the date of testing to the application filing deadline date.

**Required Sections:** 5 required section components: **Reading Comprehension, Grammar, Vocabulary/ General Knowledge, Math, and Anatomy/Physiology.**  **ALL FIVE SECTIONS** must be taken in one sitting.

**Required Testing Site:** Dallas College’s El Centro Campus Health Sciences Center / Paramount Testing Center, located at 301 North Market Street Dallas Texas 75202 – Room P119. Visit the following link for more details on [HESI A2](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-hesi-a2-admissions.aspx). The HESI A2 **must** be taken at the required testing site unless the following exception applies.

**\*\*Exception Qualification:** Applicants who reside over one hundred miles (> 100 miles) from the required testing site address may opt to complete the HESI A2 at an alternate site. Downtown Health Sciences Center does not offer online testing.

**Schedule Testing**: Schedule a testing date at Dallas College by emailing 5tests@dallascollege.edu. You will need to provide your name, your Dallas College student ID number, the program you’re applying for, and the date you would like to test.

**Applicants must submit satisfactory HESI A*2*** **test results, prior to the application filing deadline.** Applicants are awarded ranking points for each section, based on the scores attained, according to the table shown in Section L.

Please note the following important information regarding HESI A*2*:

* Applicants are responsible for **securing their own testing appointment** at the required testing site. HESI A*2* testing appointments at the required testing site fill quickly. Applicants are encouraged to schedule their HESI A*2* several weeks prior to a testing deadline. Email 5tests@dallascollege.edu to schedule your appointment.
* Each scheduled date requires a payment – all sections require a payment. The approximate cost of the HESI A*2* test at the El Centro campus Paramount Testing Center) is $57.00. Email 5tests@dallascollege.edu for instructions. See [HESI A*2*](https://www.dcccd.edu/HESI) for more information.
* Applicants are responsible forsubmitting their satisfactory HESI Transcript with their program application materials. The official HESI transcript request form, available through [Evolve/Elsevier](https://service.elsevier.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/8093/supporthub/evolve/role/student/), must be completed following the exam. Send transcript to HealthOccAdmissions@DallasCollege.edu by the application deadline using this official process. **Note:** HESI Transcripts(Score sheets) may not be available for download from the Elsevier website for 2-3 days. **Do not assume** that the college will have your HESI Transcript (Score sheet) by the deadline if you test near or on the testing deadline date.

* The **HESI A*2* Study Guide** is available at various bookstores including the Follett Bookstore at the El Centro campus. A **HESI A*2* Prep** course is periodically offered by the Continuing Education Division. Contact Continuing Education at ContinuingEd@dallascollege.edu for dates and times of the prep course.

* **There is no limit on the number of times an applicant may take the HESI A*2* test for application to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program.** If the applicant desires to retake the HESI A*2*, **ALL FIVE SECTIONS** must be retaken in one sitting. Only one HESI A2 Transcript(Score sheet) should be submitted with scores of 70 or higher on each of the five required component sections. Scores on individual test sections which are printed on separate score sheets will not be accepted. If more than one HESI A2 Transcript(Score sheet) is submitted, the scores from the latest HESI A*2* testing attempt will be considered the official scores.

* Before retesting, the applicant is encouraged to review the study guide and/or enroll in the HESI A*2* prep course to prepare for the retest opportunity.

See [HESI A2](https://www.dcccd.edu/HESI) for more information on paying for and scheduling the HESI A2 exam.

# G. Ultrasound Student Assessment (USA)

The Ultrasound Student Assessment (USA) is a job skills assessment tool that determines an individual’s compatibility with sonography. Questions cover both cognitive and non-cognitive skills. The assessment looks at an applicant’s aptitude in areas such as visualization, dexterity, judgement and problem solving.
As such, there is no study guide or way to prepare for this assessment tool. The assessment is timed.
4 hours are allowed to complete the assessment.

After the official deadline for application, all applications are reviewed for completeness. All applicants who have submitted complete applications along with all required documentation are considered eligible and thus become known as “qualified” applicants. These “qualified” applicants will be invited to participate in the USA via email sent to their Dallas College email address prior to Spring Break (late February to early March).

The USA does not determine eligibility; thus, it is ONLY offered to “qualified” (eligible) applicants by invitation. Application status for admission (qualified or ineligible) is determined in advance of any invitation to participate in this assessment. The invitation to participate is only sent to qualified / eligible applicants and participation prior to program entry is optional.

For qualified applicants choosing to participate, the USA assesses aptitude in the essential program requirements necessary for successful completion of one of the sonography programs at Dallas College (see the Essential Requirements for the Student).  **Participation in the USA cannot detract from any applicant’s earned ranking points, rather, it offers every applicant the equal opportunity to potentially garner additional ranking points.**

A minimum of 4 testing times will be available. The assessment will be proctored through the Dallas College - El Centro Campus Paramount Testing Center. This assessment may only be taken one time in an applicant’s lifetime. Applicants must advise Allied Health Admissions if this assessment was previously taken.

*In the event an applicant without completing the USA, ranks into the program cohort, they will be required to complete the exam following program entry, as results from this assessment may be useful for remediation throughout the program.*

# H. Digital Records – SurPath

Students who are chosen for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program are required to have a current physical examination, current health care coverage, specific immunizations, a tuberculosis screening, and American Heart Association CPR certification at the BLS – Basic Life Support Provider level. The School of Health Sciences utilizes SurPath, a medical record management company, to verify these requirements for program students.

**FOR APPLICATION PURPOSES ONLY:** Applicants will submit their Hepatitis B immunization record and their Hepatitis B Titer to the Secure Link. To be clear to attend clinicals, a positive Titer is required by April.

Once a student has been chosen for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program, they must then submit all remaining documentation for the following items: a current physical exam, current health care coverage, specific immunizations (or exemptions), screenings and CPR directly to SurScan: [SurPath](https://dallascollege.surpath.com/Account/Login) for verification of whether these records are complete.

***Important Note: Some of the immunizations require multiple doses on a specific timeline over several months. Be prepared to meet these guidelines if you are accepted into the program.***

# I. Diagnostic Medical Sonography Application Materials Submission

**Read the following instructions carefully.**

After completing the Diagnostic Medical Sonography prerequisite courses and designated sections of the HESI A2 test, and acknowledging the required physical exam, immunization and CPR documentation, the student is ready to submit their application materials. **Incomplete application materials will be disqualified.**

The application materials must be scanned as PDF documents and uploaded to the Secure Link by the **application filing deadline: 12/31/25.** Request access to the Secure Link to upload all application documents by completing the online [Secure Link Request Form](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=U1R-1i9z3EqUpEiI8tl9XUakwsM_5KVEgQl5nK5D38ZUMTdSWFZVNkNCTTJYRTVXOFZVOFZIN1pHNiQlQCN0PWcu&route=shorturl).

Application materials must include the following to be considered complete and valid:

1. All applicants must submit a completed **Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program Application Form.**
2. All applicants must submit a **signed Statement of Students’ Responsibility form.**
3. All applicants must submit a completed **Acknowledgement of Immunization, CPR and Physical Exam Requirements form.**
4. Additional documentation, if applicable:
	* 1. If an applicant has completed one or more of the recommended Health Professions Coursework (HPRS courses), the coursework will be verified on official transcripts and/or the advising report.
		2. If an applicant has completed one or more of the recommended Health Professions Coursework (HPRS courses), the coursework will be verified on official transcripts and/or the advising report.
		3. Recent Work Experiences involving 2 years of direct patient care:
			1. **Official letter from your place of employment** on original healthcare facility letterhead with the ink signature of your supervisor verifying your employment position, specific duties, and employment dates.
		4. Degree Completion:
			1. **Photocopy of approved current professional healthcare credential.**
			2. **Official transcript or other official document** authenticating the completion of the qualifying degree or certificate and required prerequisite courses.
		5. Current related certifications:
			1. **Photocopy of approved current professional healthcare credential.**
			2. **Official transcript or other official document** authenticating the completion of the qualifying degree or certificate and required prerequisite courses.
		6. Documented Community Service.
		7. Extracurricular Activities.
5. All applicants must submit a completed **Proof of Hepatitis B Immunization and Titer.**
6. All applicants must submit their **HESI A2 transcript** via the official process describedin [**Section F**](#_F._Program_Application)indicating achievement of **a minimum score of 70 or higher on each of the five required sections in one sitting.**
7. Copies of any course substitution request forms (for evaluated transferred courses) or 5-year waiver forms granted to the student, if applicable.
8. All applicants must submit a signed [**DMS Essential Functions form**](#_Essential_Requirements_for)**.**

**Note: Applicants are solely responsible for ensuring that their current official transcripts from ALL PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED COLLEGES and UNIVERSITIES (excluding Dallas Colleges) are submitted to a Registrar/Admissions Office at a Dallas College campus prior to applying to any health sciences program. Official transcripts must have a print date no earlier than three years of anticipated entry to a health sciences program.**

**Submitting incomplete application materials will disqualify the application and the student will not be considered further in the application process. Students are advised to retain a photocopy of all materials submitted for application.**

# J. Application Filing Period

Applicants ***MUST*** request access to the ***Secure Link*** Applicant Portal for submission of the application and any accompanying documentation. Access to the ***Secure Link*** will ONLY be granted during the availability window described below. Applicants ***MUST*** have requested access prior to the end of availability:

***Secure Link*** availability begins October 1*st* and **ends December 15*th***

Applicants requesting the ***Secure Link*** beyond the above window of availability will not be granted access. The official annual filing period for application and the selection process to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program is:

October 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Applicants who have been granted access to the ***Secure Link*** may continue to submit documentation throughout this official annual filing period.

Complete application materials must be submitted to the ***Secure Link*** Applicant Portalby the **Application Filing Deadline:** 11:59pm on December 31st*,* 2025.

**Application materials are not accepted in person or by conventional mail.** Early submission of an application during a specific filing period does not influence ranking for admission.

K. Preliminary Applicant Evaluation

After the Application Filing Deadline, application materials will be evaluated for completion. All preliminary applicants who have met the application guidelines and submitted all required documentation will become known as “**Qualified Applicants**”. Only Qualified Applicants will progress forward in the application process and be invited to complete next steps such as the **Ultrasound Student Assessment (USA)** in the application selection process (Phase 2).

Please note: The decision to repeat a course successfully completed with a grade of “C” or higher to improve an applicant’s GPA rests solely with the applicant. The last grade earned on a repeated course will be the grade of record. Applicants may also consult a Success Coach at successcoach@dallascollege.edu for assistance.

# L. Selection Process

Selection is point based and includes two distinct phases. The point system described below rewards academic achievement in the completion of prerequisite courses and related activities,
all which serve to enhance an applicant’s preparedness for the rigor of the program and career.

Both phases of the process are summarized in the tables below. Designated criteria, along with associated point scales, and specified documentation requirements are provided in the pages which follow. (220 point maximum)

|  |
| --- |
| **Selection Process: Criteria Summary and Point Score Ranking** |
| ***Phase 1: Status Designation and Initial Point Score***In phase one, ALL applications received by the submission deadline are evaluated for completion of prerequisite coursework and related activities. Points are earned according to the academic criteria listed. Initial evaluation criteria are used to determine each applicant’s qualification status and initial point score for ranking purposes. Complete applications become known as “qualified” and advance to the next phase of the process. Incomplete applications earn a DNQ status. This status designation indicates the applicant “does not qualify” to progress to the second and final phase. |
| ***Initial Evaluation Criteria: Determination of Qualification and Initial Ranking***  | ***Point Potential*** |
| *Cumulative GPA: Diagnostic Medical Sonography Prerequisite CoursesSupport Courses: PSYC 2301, SPCH 1311/1315/1321 & Humanities Elective* *DMSO 1110**HESI A2 Section Scores* | *30**18**12**30* |
| ***Initial Point Score Maximum – Phase 1:***  | ***90*** |
|  |
| ***Phase 2: Final Ranking and Selection***The final phase, offered ONLY to “qualified” applicants, provides opportunity to garner additional ranking points toward one’s application. During this phase, all qualified applicants are invited to take the USA. Simultaneously, documentation received with application of the final evaluation criteria is evaluated for points prior to calculation of final point score, rank and cohort selection.  |
| ***Final Evaluation Criteria:******Determination of Final Rank and Cohort Selection*** | ***Point Potential*** |
| *ONLY qualified applicants (by emailed invitation): Ultrasound Student Assessment (USA)* Health Professions Readiness CourseworkRecent Related Work ExperienceCurrent Professional CredentialsPrior Degree CompletionCurrent Related Certification(s)Documented Community Service: Volunteer / Lab ShadowingRelated Coursework: PHIL 2306 - Intro. to EthicsExtra-Curricular Activities: Phi Theta Kappa | *70**20**20**6**4**1**6**1**2* |
| ***Additional Point Score Maximum – Phase 2:*** | ***130*** |
| ***Final Point Score Maximum for Ranking:*** | ***220*** |

**Phase 1:** *Status Designation and Initial Point Score* 90 Point Score Maximum

Points are awarded for initial ranking, based on academic performance in 4 distinct areas (Cumulative GPA for Diagnostic Medical Sonography Prerequisite Courses, Support Courses, DMSO 1110 Final Grade, and HESI A2 Scores) according to the designated point scales described below.

**1. Cumulative GPA** **(DMS Prerequisite Courses): 30 point max**

Points are awarded for the GPA on the Sonography Prerequisite Courses according to the scale below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **DMS****Prerequisite Cumulative GPA** | **Point****Scale** |
| 4.003.75 – 3.993.50 – 3.743.25 – 3.493.00 – 3.24 | **30****25****20****10****5** |

***Required Documentation****: Course completion must be verifiable via official transcripts on file with the general admissions office at Dallas College or via Dallas College’s academic advising report by the application deadline for ranking points to be awarded.*

**2. Support Courses Final Grade: 18 point max**

Points are awarded for the Final Grade achievement on the 3 DMS Support Courses (PSYC 2301, SPCH 1311/1315/1321 & Humanities Elective) according to the scale below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Final Letter Grade** | **Point****Scale** |
| ABC< C | **6****3****1****0** |

***Required Documentation:*** *Course completion must be verifiable via official transcripts on file with the general admissions office at Dallas College or via Dallas College’s academic advising report by the application deadline for ranking points to be awarded.*

**3. DMSO 1110 Final Grade: 12 point max**

Points are awarded for the Final Grade achievement on DMSO 1110 – Intro to Sonography according to the scale below. NOTE - Points for DMSO 1110 will be assessed on first or second attempts only. The grade on the **most recent of the two attempts** will be used to assign points. For example: DMSO 1110 was taken in the Summer of 2022, the Fall of 2022, and the Spring of 2023. The Fall 2022 grade will be used for application points.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Final Letter Grade** | **Point****Scale** |
| ABC< C | **12****8****2****0** |

***Required Documentation****: Course completion must be verifiable via official transcripts on file with the general admissions office at Dallas College or via Dallas College’s academic advising report by the application deadline for ranking points to be awarded.*

**4. HESI A2 Score Points: 30 point max**

Points are awarded for the section score achieved on each of the 5 required sections of HESI A2 :
Reading Comprehension, Grammar, Vocabulary / General Knowledge, Math, Anatomy
Physiology Components according to the scale below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Section Score** | **Points per Section** |
|  96 - 100 91 - 95 86 - 90 81 - 85 70 - 80 |  **6** **5** **3** **2** **1** |

***Required Documentation:*** *The official HESI transcript request form, available through* [*Evolve/Elsevier*](https://service.elsevier.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/8093/supporthub/evolve/role/student/)*, must be completed following the exam. Send transcript to* *HealthOccAdmissions@DallasCollege.edu* *by the application deadline using this official process. No additional documentation will be required unless exceptions apply. See* [*Section F*](#_E._Program_Application) *for detailed requirements regarding exception qualification.*

***\*\*Exception Documentation:*** *A copy (front and back) of the applicant’s state-issued ID
is required to qualify for this exception. This documentation must be submitted with program application by the application deadline. Such applicants must follow all other HESI A2 requirements, including but not limited to, ensuring all sections are completed in one sitting. Additionally, the official HESI transcript request form, available through* [*Evolve/Elsevier*](https://service.elsevier.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/8093/supporthub/evolve/role/student/)*, must be completed following the exam. Send transcript to* *HealthOccAdmissions@DallasCollege.edu* *by the application deadline using this official process.*

**Phase 2:** *Final Ranking and Selection* 130 Point Score Maximum

Additional points may be awarded based on participation and performance in the following prescribed activities and practical experiences (USA Weighted Section Scores, HPRS Coursework, Recent Related Work Experience Involving Direct Patient Care, Current Healthcare Professional Credentials, Prior Degree Completion, Current Related Credential(s), Documented Community Service, Program Related Coursework, Extracurricular Activities) each of which are aimed at identifying well-rounded applicants. Points are awarded according to the point designations and scaled described below.

**1. USAWeighted Score Points: 70 point max**

Points are awarded for the percentage score achieved on each of the 3 required sections, Physics, Clinical, & Question Analysis, according to the following criteria:

Each section will be scored separately then weighted as indicated below to generate a single point score indicating candidate strength. Results are not made available to applicants.

To ensure validity of results, this assessment should only be taken once in one’s lifetime; thus, only first-time scores will be utilized to earn ranking points.

*Applicants* ***must*** *report if the assessment has been previously attempted through Dallas College or other institution. Failure to accurately report one’s status when scheduling the exam upon invitation, specifically with regard to any prior USA attempt, will be considered a falsification of documentation, disqualifying the applicant for point and program consideration.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Required Sections and Weight** | **Point Potential** |
| **Physics:** 40% of USA Score Points are allocated to this section | **28** |
| **Clinical:** 50% of USA Score Points are allocated to this section | **35** |
| **Question Analysis:** 10% of USA Score Points are allocated to this section | **7** |
| **USA Point Maximum** | **70**  |

A percentage score below 46% results in 0 ranking points for that specific section. Total points for the above items are calculated for each student and a final ranked list of applicants is then generated. If two or more applicants have the same total points, the points awarded in the USA Clinical section will be used to break the tie. Review [Section G](#_G._Ultrasound_Student) for timeline information regarding this assessment.

***Required Documentation****: Qualified applicants must respond to their emailed invitation by completing the electronic scheduling form included. Applicants who fail to complete this form forfeit potential points earned from the USA. This electronic form provides available testing dates and times and allows each applicant to specify if and when they would like to schedule their USA at Dallas College in an effort to potentially garner more ranking points. When completing the form, applicants* ***MUST*** *specify if the exam was taken previously, and if so, where.*

*In the event an applicant without completing the USA, ranks into the program cohort, they will be required to complete the exam upon program entry, as results from this assessment may be useful for remediation throughout the program.*

**2. Health Professions Readiness Coursework (HPRS):** **20 point max**

Points are awarded for prior completion of any of the 4 Health Professions Readiness (HPRS) courses listed below, provided they are completed with a grade of “C” or higher as per the following point scale.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **HPRS Course:** | **Final Letter Grade** | **Points**  |
| HPRS 1204 – Basic Health Professions SkillsHPRS 2201 – PathophysiologyHPRS 2300 – PharmacologyHPRS 2210 – Basic Health Professions Skills II | A B C< C | **5****4****1****0** |

***Required Documentation****: Course completion must be verifiable via official transcripts on file with Dallas College general admissions office or via Dallas College’s academic advising report and must be submitted by the application deadline for ranking points to be awarded.*

**3. Recent Work Experience involving 1 or more years of Direct Patient Care:** **20 point max**

Points are awarded for documentation of one or more years of direct patient care experience within the past five years as described below. A minimum of 20 hours/week on average must be met for point consideration.

**Direct Patient Care:** Involves hands-on clinical activities aimed at diagnosing, treating, or managing a patient's health. In this way, direct patient care is significantly different than direct patient contact.

Scope: Focused specifically on actions that directly impact a patient's health and well-being.

Examples: administering medications, performing procedures, providing therapy, verifying patient information, interviewing patient and recording medical history, confirming purpose of visit, preparing patients for examination, assisting patients during transfers from beds, wheelchairs, etc., assisting nursing staff in administering basic treatments, monitoring and documenting vital signs, obtaining fluid samples or other specimens.

Work experience in a healthcare setting involving **Direct Patient Care** will only be accepted from the following types of employers:

· Hospitals · Skilled Nursing Facilities

· Urgent Care Facilities · Physical Therapy or Rehab Centers

· Doctor’s Offices or Clinics · Imaging Center or Mobile Imaging Services

**ONLY** recent work experience involving direct patient care that is consistent with the provided description will be awarded available points according to the scale below, provided the acceptable documentation is received with application submitted by the application deadline.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Recent Related Work Experience** **Involving Direct Patient Care** **as described above** | **Points** |
| > 2 years:greater than or equal to 24 monthswithin the past 5 years | 20 points |
| > 1 year but < 2 years:greater than or equal to 12 monthsbut less than 24 months within the past 5 years | 10 points |
| Less than 1 year | 0 points |

***Required Documentation:*** *This experience must be thoroughly documented with a signed letter(s) from the specific employer(s) on company letterhead, as specified below.*

*Documentation of one’s experience* ***MUST*** *include all of the details below:*

*1.) Name of employer (company)*

*2.) Name of employee (applicant)*

*3.) Dates of employment (mm/dd/yy – mm/dd/yy)*

*4.) Average hours worked per week*

*5.) Employee’s job description / responsibilities*

*6.) Handwritten signature of the individual providing the letter to the applicant*

*7.) Name, title/designation and contact details (email and phone number) of the signee*

**4. Current Professional Credentials: 6 point max**

Points may be awarded for Documentation of a current professional credential
in a healthcare profession, (such as Cardiac Sonography, Invasive
Cardiovascular Technology, Radiography, Nursing, or Respiratory Care, or as
approved by the DMS Program Director)

***Required Documentation:*** *Documentation (such as cards or website verification) of current professional healthcare credentials* ***must*** *include:*

***a)*** *Name of applicant*

***b)*** *Specified credential*

***c)*** *Registry or licensure number*

***d)*** *Date of expiration*

**5. Prior Degree Completion: 4 point max**

Bachelor degree or Higher – Healthcare Related 4 points (or)

Bachelor degree or Higher – Other Field or Discipline 2 points

Associate degree – Must be Healthcare Related 2 points

***Required Documentation:*** *Degree must be verifiable via official transcripts, which must be on file with Dallas College general admissions office by the application deadline for ranking points to be awarded.*

**6. Current Related Certification(s): 1 point** **max**

Points are awarded for Documentation of the following related Certifications:

Dental Hygienist, Vet Tech, Emergency Medical Technician, Certified
Rhythm Analysis Technician, Certified Cardiographic Technician,
Medical Assistant, Patient Care Technician, or as approved by the

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program Director.

***Documentation Required:*** *Documentation of current related certifications* ***must*** *include:*

***a)*** *Name of applicant*

***b)*** *Specified certification*

***c)*** *Certificate number (if applicable)*

***d)*** *Date of expiration*

**7. Documented Community Service: 6 point max**

Points are awarded for documentation of community service experiences. A service date must include greater than or equal to 2 service hours. Students may earn a point for each service date, up to a maximum of 6 service dates.

Volunteering / Lab Shadowing 1 per occurrence

***Required Documentation****:* To earn available points, applicants must upload a signed document from the supervisor of each community service experience. A separate document is required for each individual service activity.

**8. Program Related Coursework: 1 point max**

Completion: PHIL 2306 – Introduction to Ethics: Final Grade > B 1 point

***Required Documentation****: Official transcripts which must be on file with the general admissions office at Dallas College or via Dallas College’s academic advising report. Course completion must be verifiable via specified documentation by the application deadline in order for ranking points to be earned.*

**9. Extracurricular Activities: 2 point max**

Phi Theta Kappa membership (submit certificate/card with application) 2 points

***Required Documentation****: Documentation of membership* ***MUST*** *include all of the details below:****1.)*** *Name of applicant****2.)*** *Name of extracurricular activity****3.)*** *Membership number (if applicable)****4.)*** *Date of validity*

Total Ranking Points for the above items are calculated for each student and a final ranked list of
applicants is generated. If two or more applicants have the same Total Ranking Points, the points
score awarded in the USA Clinical section may be used to break the tie.
This point system incentivizes students to take relevant courses but also encourages them to engage in extracurricular activities and gain practical experience, creating a well-rounded applicant profile.

**Please note:** The decision to repeat a course completed with a grade of “C” or higher to improve an applicant’s GPA rests solely with the applicant. The last grade earned on a repeated course will be the grade of record. Applicants may also consult a Success Coach at [Success Coach](https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/registration/pages/group-advising-reg.aspx) and a Pathway Specialist at askSOHS@dallascollege.edu for assistance.

# M. Notification of Acceptance

Individuals who receive an acceptance email must return a confirmation form within a specified time to verify their place in the class. Failure to return the confirmation form by the specified date or failure to attend the scheduled preregistration/orientation seminar for the accepted class will result in forfeiture of their space in that class. Notification emails of acceptance, non-acceptance, or disqualification are sent on the same day. **Notification emails are sent by April 1st.**

**Note:** There is no “waiting list” for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program. Application materials submitted during an official filing period are not “held over” to the next year’s official filing period. Students who are not selected for admission to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program or students who decline their acceptance may reapply again during next year’s filing period to be considered for a future admission opportunity.

N. Curriculum Overview

# Diagnostic Medical Sonography - June 2026 Admission

|  |
| --- |
| Prerequisites |
| Course | Title | Lecture Hours | Lab Hours | Credit Hours |
| ENGL-1301 | Composition I | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| BIOL-2401 | Anatomy & Physiology I\* | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| BIOL-2402 | Anatomy & Physiology II | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| MATH-1314 | College Algebra | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| SCIT-1420 | Physics for Allied Health \*\* | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| DMSO-1110 | Introduction to Sonography | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Subtotal |  | 16 | 5 | 19 |

|  |
| --- |
| Semester 1- SUMMER (10 WEEKS) |
|  |  | Lecture Hours | Lab Hours | Credit Hours |
| DMSO-2343 | Adv. Ultrasound Physics | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| DMSO-1101 | Techniques of Medical Sonography | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Subtotal |  | 3 | 4 | 4 |

|  |
| --- |
| Semester 2- FALL |
|  |  | Lecture Hours | Lab Hours | Credit Hours |
| DMSO-1355 | Sonographic Pathophysiology | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| DMSO-1366 | Practicum-Diagnostic Medical Sonography | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| DMSO-1441 | Abdominopelvic Sonography | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| Subtotal |  | 6 | 2 | 10 |

|  |
| --- |
| Semester 3- SPRING |
|  |  | Lecture Hours | Lab Hours | Credit Hours |
| PSYC-2301 | General Psychology | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| DMSO-2341 | Sonography of Abdominopelvic Pathology | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| DMSO-2405 | Sonography of Obstetrics/Gynecology | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| DMSO-1367 | Practicum-Diagnostic Medical Sonography | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Subtotal |  | 8 | 4 | 13 |

|  |
| --- |
| Semester 4- SUMMER (10 WEEKS) |
|  |  | Lecture Hours | Lab Hours | Credit Hours |
| DMSO-2253 | Sonography of Superficial Structures | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| DSVT-1200 | Principles of Vascular Technology | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| DMSO-2366 | Practicum-Diagnostic Medical Sonography | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Subtotal |  | 3 | 2 | 7 |

|  |
| --- |
| Semester 5- FALL |
|  |  | Lecture Hours | Lab Hours | Credit Hours |
| SPCH-1311 | Introduction to Speech Communication + | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| DMSO-2130 | Advanced Ultrasound & Review ++ | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| DSVT-2200 | Vascular Technology Applications | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| DSVT-2367 | Practicum-Diagnostic Medical Sonography | 0 | 0 | 3 |
|  | Humanities/Fine Arts Elective # | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Subtotal |  | 7 | 5 | 12 |
|  | **TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS** | 43 | 27 | 65 |

\* BIOL 1406 is the prerequisite course for BIOL 2401 and must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher within the last three years or a satisfactory score on the Biology CLEP exam.

\*\* PHYS 1401 or PHYS 1405 is also accepted for program applications. Students planning to pursue a bachelor’s degree in a related field are strongly encouraged to take PHYS 1401 for their physics prerequisite course.

BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402, and SCIT 1420 or PHYS 1401 must be completed less than 5 years before the anticipated date of program entrance. See page 7 for information on petitioning for a 5-year waiver.

+ SPCH 1315 – Public Speaking and SPCH 1321 – Business and Professional Communication are also accepted for the speech requirement.

++ DMSO 2130 – Advanced Ultrasound and Review is the Capstone experience in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program.

# Humanities elective must be chosen from the Humanity, Creativity and Aesthetic Experience section of the general Associate Degree of Arts/Sciences degree plan. See your success coach for accepted courses. **Suggested courses include: PHIL 2306 - Intro. to Ethics,** **HUMA 1315, PHIL 1301, PHIL 1304, selected ENGL literature courses at the 2000 level or higher, sophomore level foreign languages such as SPAN 2311.**

# O. Estimated Expenses for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography

|  |
| --- |
| Prerequisites |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks(19 credit hours) \*\* | $1,881.00 | $3,211.00 | $4,750.00 |
| HESI A2 Test | $57.00 | $57.00 | $57.00 |
| USA Assessment Tool | $70.00 | $70.00 | $70.00 |
| SurPath+ | $150.00 | $150.00 | $150.00 |
| Physical Exam & Immunizations + | $225.00 | $225.00 | $225.00 |
| CPR Certification + | $65.00 | $65.00 | $65.00 |
| SDMS student membership | $45.00 | $45.00 | $45.00 |
| Subtotal | $ 2,493.00 | $ 3,826.00 | $ 5,362.00 |

|  |
| --- |
| Semester 1 (Summer) |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks(4 credit hours) \*\* | $396.00 | $676.00 | $1000.00 |
| Uniforms (min. 3 sets) | $200.00 | $200.00 | $200.00 |
| Shoes | $100.00 | $100.00 | $100.00 |
| Subtotal | $ 696.00 | $ 976.00 | $ 1,300.00 |

|  |
| --- |
| Semester 2 (Fall) |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks(10 credit hours) \*\* | $990.00 | $1,690.00 | $2,500.00 |

|  |
| --- |
| Semester 3 (Spring) |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks(13 credit hours) \*\* | $1,287.00 | $2,197.00 | $3,250.00 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Semester 4 (Summer) |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks(7 credit hours) \*\* | $693.00 | $1,183.00 | $1,750.00 |

|  |
| --- |
| Semester 5 (Fall) |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks(12 credit hours) \*\* | $1,188.00 | $2,028.00 | $3,000.00 |
| ARDMS student membership, SPI + 1 Specialty # | $515.00 | $515.00 | $515.00 |
| Subtotal | $ 1,703.00 | $ 2,543.00 | $ 3,515.00 |
| Program Total | $7,862.00 | $12,415.00 | $17,677.00 |

\* \* Tuition now includes textbook costs. These and other fees are subject to change. See the official catalog for the tuition table. A [Tuition Payment Plan](https://www.dcccd.edu/paying-for-college/payments/pages/payment-plans.aspx) option is available in the fall and spring semesters.

+ Estimated cost of a physical exam, immunizations, and CPR certification. SurPath costs include immunization tracking and two background/drug screens.

# Registry Exams may be taken before completion of the program (optional but encouraged).

This cost does not reflect the cost of parking at the El Centro campus or transportation to area hospital clinical sites.

# P. Diagnostic Medical Sonography General Information

1. The Diagnostic Medical Sonography accepts 14\* students annually for the June class. Classes are offered Monday-Friday during daytime hours. Students will attend class or clinical about 40 hours per week during the Fall, Spring, 2nd Summer, and 2nd Fall semesters. Clinical hours are usually 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Students should be prepared to attend clinicals during alternate hours and alternate days of the week. Clinical hours may be any day of the week including weekends. Orientation and Meet & Greet dates will be scheduled before the start of summer courses with ample notice.

**\* The School of Health Sciences reserves the right to make changes in program enrollment capacity.**

1. The sonography program's clinical experiences require that a student be able to care for sick patients. This involves lifting, moving, and transferring patients. Students will be exposed to patients with infectious diseases. Protective and precautionary procedures are employed. The student must be able to stand on his/her feet for two to three-hour periods of time and be able to reach across patients while scanning. Students must have good spatial and visual perception from a two-dimensional screen, including the ability to visualize subtle greyscale and color differences and to hear subtle sound variations. Students will train in lab and clinical in low lighting conditions. (A detailed list of physical ability requirements is available upon request from the Program Coordinator.)
2. Students who must be absent from clinical experience due to a physical or mental illness, surgery, or pregnancy will be required to obtain a ***written physician release*** before returning to the clinical setting. A maximum of two days of clinical experience can be missed in a semester. The student will be dropped from the course if absences exceed the two clinical day limit. Students anticipating surgery or delivery of a baby and who will require a longer recuperation period before a physician release can be obtained are urged to wait to apply to the program. (A program Pregnancy Policy is available upon request from the Program Coordinator.)
3. Many of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Prerequisite Courses, including many of the HPRS courses are offered online. See the presentation [Getting Ready for Online Learning](https://www.dcccd.edu/cd/credit/online-learning/getready/pages/default.aspx) to see if you are a good candidate for online learning.
4. Students are responsible for obtaining their own living accommodations. Students are responsible for transporting themselves to their assigned clinical site. Although many sites are accessible through public transportation many are not. It is also necessary for students to consider transportation costs to the college, as well as hospitals throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Clinical rotations vary among select hospitals. Any parking fees at the El Centro campus and/or the hospital clinical site are the student's responsibility.
5. Applicants to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program at Dallas College must submit physical examination and immunization documentation to SurPath no later than 30 days from program acceptance. Review information on required immunizations, CPR, and physical exam requirements at the following link: [Immunization Requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx).

The physical examination must be on the **official physical form (see link above for form)** and must have been documented no earlier than 12 months before the program start date (June). Students who get their physical too early end up having to repeat it while in the program to stay in compliance with SurPath. **Note: Additional proof of immunizations, including titers, may be required by hospital clinical sites.**

1. All applicants must be certified in BLS (Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers) CPR certification as designated by the **American Heart Association** and a photocopy of the front and back of the card must be submitted to SurPath no later than 30 days from program acceptance. The CPR certification must not expire before the anticipated program entry date and must not expire during a semester when enrolled in the program. CPR classes are available through Continuing Education at several Dallas College campuses, the American Heart Association, various hospitals, independent instructors, etc. **Online CPR certification classes must include an in-person skills check-off on a manikin. Totally Online CPR certification classes including those offered by the Red Cross are not valid for application to health sciences programs.**
2. Proof of current personal healthcare insurance coverage is required for all health sciences students. **If documentation of coverage is not submitted to SurPath with immunization records, proof of coverage must be submitted no later than 30 days prior to the first day of clinical.** Students must secure their own coverage and the insurance policy must cover the student at any hospital facility. Information on college student policies and rates can be found at <https://www.healthcare.gov>.
3. Clinical opportunities may be limited for students without Social Security numbers. If accepted to the program, a student must contact the Designated School Officer at international@dallascollege.edu concerning their eligibility to obtain a Social Security number before graduation from the program for future employment opportunities.
4. *Criminal Background Check / Drug Screening*

All students enrolled in Health Sciences programs are required by the Dallas/Fort Worth Hospital Council member facilities to undergo a [Criminal Background Check and Drug Screen](https://www.dcccd.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) before beginning their clinical experience. Students are responsible for all charges incurred. **This procedure is conducted *after* a student has been accepted to their respective program.**

These screenings are forwarded to the School of Health Sciences for review and verification that a student can attend clinical rotation. All background check and drug screening results become the property of the School of Health Sciences and will not be released to the student or any other third party.

A clinical agency reserves the right to remove a student from the facility for suspicion of substance use or abuse including alcohol. The clinical agency reserves the right to request that a student submit to a repeat drug screening at the student’s expense on the same day that the student is removed from the clinical facility. Failure to comply will result in the student’s immediate expulsion from the clinical facility. Furthermore, regardless of testing or testing results, a clinical agency reserves the right to expel a student from their facility.

***Note: Should a student who has been accepted to a Health Sciences program be prohibited from attending a clinical rotation experience due to findings of a criminal background check and/or drug screening, the student may be dismissed from the Health Sciences program.***

1. Dallas College students who are enrolled in 6 credit hours or more during a fall or spring semester and 3 credit hours or more during a summer semester are entitled to a free [DART Go-Pass](https://www.dcccd.edu/resources/dart-gopass/pages/default.aspx) for that semester. DART passes are available two weeks after the semester begins.
2. Individuals who were first-time college freshman students in Fall 2007 or after are subject to the guidelines of section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code which prohibits a student from dropping more than six (6) college-level credit courses during their entire undergraduate career. See [Six Drop Rule](https://econnect.dcccd.edu/DroppingFacts.jsp) for more information.
3. Dallas College charges a higher tuition rate for courses in which a student registers for the third or more times. The [Third Attempt Policy](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/ce/pages/policies.aspx) includes courses taken at any of the Dallas College campuses since the Fall 2002 semester. Developmental courses are not considered in this policy.
4. A student may apply to more than one Health Sciences program during a given filing period. However, if the student receives an acceptance letter to a specific program and confirms their intent to enter that program, their application to any other Health Sciences program that may share that filing period will be null and void.

Further, an individual accepted for admission and currently enrolled in a Health Sciences program may not apply or be considered for admission selection for another Dallas College Health Sciences program unless their current program of study will complete before the second program curriculum begins.

Note: An individual cannot earn both the associate degree and the Advanced Technical Certificate in this program.

1. Financial Aid: Students should apply for [financial aid](https://www.dcccd.edu/paying-for-college/financial-aid/pages/default.aspx) well in advance of program application. Work Study positions may be available.
2. Contact the Pathway Specialists at askSOHS@dallascollege.edu or the DMS faculty below for assistance (physical addresses).
3. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to seek out volunteer or shadow experiences at a healthcare facility, preferably in a sonography department. Please note: the program does not arrange these experiences. Students may also request to visit the sonography classroom and lab at the El Centro campus to observe students and the program environment or to volunteer to be scanned. Email the Program Coordinator to schedule your volunteer opportunity in the El Centro campus Sonography lab.

#  Essential Requirements for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Student

**Applicants to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program are required to read the Essential Requirements for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Student, sign the document as an acknowledgement that they understand this information, and submit the document with their application materials.**

Successful completion of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program requires the acquisition of general knowledge and basic skills needed to perform safely and adequately as a Diagnostic Medical Sonographer. Faculty in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program have a responsibility for the welfare of the patients treated or otherwise affected by students enrolled in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program, as well as for the welfare of students enrolling in the program. In order to fulfill this responsibility, the program has set forth the following minimum essential requirements that must be met, with or without reasonable accommodation, in order to participate in the program and graduate. The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program, as part of Dallas College at the El Centro campus, is committed to the principle of equal opportunity. The program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, disability, and disabled veteran or Vietnam era veteran status.

Admission and retention decisions for the program students are based not only on prior satisfactory academic achievement, but also on non-academic factors which serve to ensure that the candidate can complete the essential requirements of the program for graduation. Essential requirements, as distinguished from academic standards, refer to those cognitive, physical, and behavioral abilities that are necessary for satisfactory completion of all aspects of the curriculum and for the development of professional attributes required of all students at graduation.

The program curriculum requires essential abilities in information acquisition. The student must have the ability to master information presented in the course work in the form of lectures, written material, and projected images. Additionally, the student must have the cognitive abilities necessary to master relevant content in basic science and clinical courses based on industry standards for entry level technologists.

The student must be able to safely and accurately perform all aspects of the role the Diagnostic Medical Sonographer performs in the health care system. The student must have sufficient upper and lower body coordination to safely handle equipment used in the cardiology field, as well as assist in transferring and transporting patients and performing CPR. The student must have fine manual dexterity to m Diagnostic Medical manipulate transducers and other equipment. The student must also possess the integrity and strength in their upper extremities (including neck, arms, elbows, wrists, hands and fingers) in order to sustain a pinch &/or palmer grip on a transducer and sustain a repetitive and prolonged pressure on a transducer in contact with a patient’s chest or other body region. The student must have the visual acuity to observe the ECG/hemodynamic monitor CRT screens at a distance and distinguish the red, blue and other color palettes presented in Color Doppler signals. The student must have hearing acute enough to clearly distinguish vocal commands in a noisy environment and in which the speakers’ mouths may be covered with masks and be capable of distinguishing the pitch variations of audible Doppler signals. The student must have touch discrimination to discern veins in order to perform venipuncture.

The student must be able and willing to work with blood and with organisms that may be infectious. The student must be willing and able to work in environments where the possibility of contact with communicable disease and patient bodily fluids exists. He/she must assume the risk of exposure to ionizing radiation; that risk is minimal, however, if the student observes proper radiation safety precautions.

The student must possess the emotional stability required for full utilization of his/her intellectual abilities. He/she must be able to work accurately and safely under stress, e.g., work under time constraints; read and record numbers accurately; perform repetitive tasks; concentrate in distracting situations; and make subjective evaluations and decisions where mistake may have a high impact on patient care. He/she must be able to adapt to changing environments and be able to prioritize tasks.

The student must have the capability to quickly comprehend and absorb urgent and/or complex verbal directions and instructions and have the critical thinking capability to accurately, efficiently and effectively follow through on these directions in what could be very loud, stressful and/or urgent situations.

The student must be able to communicate effectively in written and spoken English in order to transmit information to members of the health care team. The appropriate communication may also rely on the student’s ability to make a correct judgment in seeking supervisory help and consultation in a timely manner.

The student must possess attributes that include integrity, responsibility, and tolerance. He/she must show respect for self and others, work independently as well as with others, and project an image of professionalism.

These technical standards identify many of the requirements for admission, retention, and graduation of applicants and students respectively. Graduates are expected to be qualified to enter the field of Diagnostic Medical Sonography. It is therefore the responsibility of the student with disabilities to request those accommodations that he/she feels are reasonable and are needed to execute the essential requirements described.

The student’s successful completion of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program depends on his/her ability to carry the subject matter from one experience to another. What is learned in class and/or clinical one day must be incorporated into the performance in class and/or clinical in future situations.

Common threads that run through the entire Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program include:

1. Aseptic technique
2. Medical terminology
3. Knowledge of pharmacology with math skills
4. Knowledge of anatomy and physiology
5. Knowledge of electrocardiograms
6. Knowledge of hemodynamics
7. Awareness of psychological and physiological aspects of noninvasive diagnostic medical imaging care
8. Legal and ethical aspects
9. Proper documentation
10. Diagnostic Medical procedure skills
11. Safety precautions
12. Communication skills

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I understand the expectations of a Diagnostic Medical Sonography student by reading and acknowledging the aforementioned information. I further understand that I must sign this document and submit it with my application materials.

Signature Date

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**Program information packets are revised September 1st of each year and at other times throughout the academic year as necessary. Program guidelines are subject to change. Students are responsible for ensuring they have the latest program information packet from:**

[**Diagnostic Medical Sonography information packet/information session**](https://www.dcccd.edu/health-packets-sessions)

Visit the [Diagnostic Medical Sonography](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/diagnostic-medical-sonography/pages/default.aspx)  webpage.

\*An applicant may view the Program Information Session multiple times. An applicant is responsible for reviewing the Information Session available during the application filing period. Otherwise, the applicant risks not having the most up-to-date information.