



DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY TECHNICAL STANDARDS

To assist in making a decision about pursuing this program, the following is a general overview of the physical requirements, working conditions and job duties of a Diagnostic Medical Sonographer.

Diagnostic Medical Sonographers

Sonographers use specialized equipment to create images of structures inside the human body to help physicians make a medical diagnosis. This process involves placing a small device called a transducer against the patient's skin near the body area to be imaged. It sends high frequency sound waves into the body that reflect back to the transducer from internal structures.

Sonography is usually performed in small, dark exam rooms, at patient bedsides, in emergency rooms or operating rooms. Sonographers may be required to work various shifts to provide 24-hour coverage, including early morning day, evening and night shifts. Shifts may be 8, 10 or 12 hours in length. Some facilities will also require sonographers to be on call. Sonographers must be able to tolerate physical and emotional stress while still being able to function effectively and compassionately with sick and injured patients. The sonographer must be able to conceptualize and comprehend multi-dimensional screen. Most facilities will require sonographers to be credentialed after successfully completing a sonography principles and instrumentation (SPI) examination and a specialty examination. The American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) and the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) are two such credentialing agencies. Additionally, some states have licensure requirements for sonographers.

Diagnostic Medical Sonographers are expected to have the ability to:

- Communicate clearly, promptly and effectively via speech, reading and writing in English
- Regularly talk and hear
- Regularly stand, walk, sit, kneel, squat, bend/stoop, use hands and fingers to handle or feel
- Routinely push/pull with good body mechanics, 20 lbs constantly (67 – 100%), over 50 lbs frequently (34-66%), over 100 lbs occasionally (0-33%)
- Routinely lift, carry and/or move using good body mechanics, 10 lbs constantly (67 – 100%), 25 lbs frequently (34-66%) and 50 lbs occasionally (0-33%)
- Have full use of both hands, wrists and shoulders to perform fine and gross activities, manipulate or handle objects and operate equipment
- Assist patients on and off exam tables
- Distinguish audible sounds
- Distinguish multiple shades of grey and color

Source: www.sdms.org and local job descriptions

By signing below, I am acknowledging I have read the above information and understand the general physical requirements, working conditions and job duties typically associated with a Diagnostic Medical Sonographer. Furthermore, my signature signifies that I believe I meet the above minimum technical standards and that as part of final acceptance to the program, I will be required to have a physical exam by a physician/licensed practitioner of my choice and at my own expense as verification.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____