

Additional Admissions Information

Diagnostic Medical Sonography (A.S.)

1. For new students, complete an online application to the College by the review deadline and select Diagnostic Medical Sonography as the Program Plan. For existing students, complete a Program Plan Change if Diagnostic Medical Sonography is not your Active Program of study.
2. Submit all official non-FSCJ [transcripts](#) to the College when applying and prior to the review deadline date.
3. Complete the Required Prerequisite Courses with a minimum grade of C or higher.
4. Complete the following **after** acceptance into the professional phase of the program:
 - Ten-panel drug screening*
 - Level two background screening with fingerprints
 - Healthcare provider CPR certification (American Heart Association ONLY)
5. The following must be completed **after** program orientation:
 - General physical exam, utilizing history and immunization assessment, and TB screening

Application Addendums

Submit all supporting documents to the Health Sciences department at HCIC@fscj.edu by the review deadline, with the following information included in the email:

- Student's **program of study, term, and "Attachment"** in the subject line
 - Include the **student name** and **student ID** in the body of the message
 - Documents must be emailed as attachments
1. Submit a copy of your CPR/BLS certification from the American Heart Association ONLY.
 2. If you have at least six months of direct patient healthcare-related work experience, submit proof of employment as follows:
 - Completed by a company representative
 - Printed on company letterhead
 - Begin and end dates of employment
 - Detailed healthcare-related duties performed
 - Number of hours worked per week

* Affiliated clinical agencies follow federal regulations and do not accept students with positive drug screening results of any kind. This includes marijuana, regardless of whether an applicant possesses a valid medical marijuana card. Applicants with a positive drug screening result will be ineligible for admission to the program.

Competitive Review Process

Applicants must earn a grade of C or higher in each prerequisite course and have a minimum Cumulative GPA of 2.5. Completion of General Education coursework will allow applicants to achieve additional points.

Students are ready for review upon completion of all admission criteria. The ranking rubric is included below. Please note that the admission process is highly competitive.

Students will be notified through their FSCJ Student email of their admissions status 4-6 weeks following the review deadline. Information regarding a student's admissions status will not be provided over the telephone.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Ranking Rubric			Max Points
Minimum Cumulative GPA 2.5			20
Overall GPA	Points		
2.5-2.99	5		
3.0-3.49	15		
3.5-4.0	20		
A grade of C or higher in all required prerequisite courses			130
Course Grade	Points		
A	5		
B	3		
C	1		
Prerequisite Courses:			
Course Title	Course Code	Credit Hours	
Anatomy & Physiology I	BSC 2085C	4	
Anatomy & Physiology II	BSC 2086C	4	
Communications	ENC 1101, ENC 1101C, or ENC 1102	3	
Mathematics	MAC 1105 or higher-level MAC	3	
Humanities	ARH 2000, PHI 2010, MUL 2010, LIT 2000, HUM 2020, or THE 2000	3	
Social and Behavioral Sciences	AMH 2010, AMH 2020, or POS 2041	3	
Medical Terminology	HSC 1531	3	
Physics	PHY1020C	3	
Bonus Points			8
Direct Patient Healthcare-Related Work Experience			
Based on Calculated Full-Time Hours		Points	
> 6 Months		2	
6 - 12 Months		4	
12 - 24 Months		6	
> 24 Months		8	
Total Possible Points			158

Core Performance Standards and Occupational Risks

Florida State College at Jacksonville's Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is committed to the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion. In that spirit, admission to the program is open to all qualified applicants and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Throughout the curriculum, students are expected to demonstrate the behaviors, skills, and performance standards required of entry-level Diagnostic Medical Sonographers in academic, laboratory, and clinical settings. These essential functions reflect the knowledge, professional judgment, physical abilities, and interpersonal skills necessary to provide safe, effective, and ethical patient care.

Candidates for the degree must be able to meet the following Core Performance Standards, with or without reasonable accommodation, in order to successfully complete program requirements and fulfill the responsibilities expected in clinical practice.

Core Performance Standards

Functional Area	Core Performance Standard	Representative Activities
Communication Skills	Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively, professionally, and respectfully with patients, families, faculty, clinical instructors, healthcare providers, and other members of the healthcare team.	Obtain patient histories; explain procedures and provide instructions; respond appropriately to patient concerns; communicate examination information to healthcare personnel; maintain confidentiality in verbal, written, and electronic communications.
Patient Assessment Skills	Demonstrate the ability to obtain, assess, and interpret information necessary to safely perform sonographic examinations and procedures.	Verify patient identity and examination orders; review medical histories and previous imaging; assess patient condition, preparation, and ability to tolerate procedures; verify patient understanding and consent according to facility policies.
Critical Thinking and Clinical Judgment	Demonstrate the ability to analyze information, make appropriate decisions, solve problems, and modify examinations based on patient needs and clinical findings.	Correlate patient history with examination indications; select and adjust protocols; identify examination limitations; recognize abnormal or urgent findings; exercise professional judgment during patient care activities.

Functional Area	Core Performance Standard	Representative Activities
Technical and Psychomotor Skills	Demonstrate the skills necessary to safely and effectively perform sonographic examinations and related procedures.	Operate ultrasound equipment; obtain diagnostic-quality images; perform measurements and calculations; position patients appropriately; adapt scanning techniques; perform clinical procedures for which appropriate education, training, and competency have been obtained.
Image Evaluation Skills	Demonstrate the ability to evaluate examination quality and recognize findings that affect patient care.	Assess image quality and completeness; obtain additional views when indicated; identify examination limitations; recognize findings that require immediate provider notification or additional assessment.
Documentation Skills	Demonstrate the ability to accurately and completely document examination information.	Record patient information, examination findings, protocol modifications, and examination limitations; complete technical reports; communicate critical information according to established policies and procedures.
Physical and Sensory Abilities	Demonstrate sufficient physical, sensory, and motor abilities to safely perform sonographic examinations and provide patient care.	Stand, walk, bend, reach, lift, push, and pull equipment; assist patients with positioning and transfers; maintain prolonged scanning positions; use visual acuity to evaluate images and hearing ability to communicate effectively in clinical settings.
Safety and Quality Assurance	Demonstrate the ability to maintain a safe environment and participate in quality care and continuous improvement activities.	Follow infection-control procedures; practice patient and workplace safety; utilize proper ergonomics; apply safe ultrasound practices; identify and report equipment malfunctions, adverse events, and safety concerns; participate in quality assurance and quality improvement activities.
Health and Wellness	Demonstrate the physical and mental capacity necessary to safely perform academic and clinical responsibilities.	Recognize signs of fatigue, stress, or illness that may impair performance; utilize injury-prevention practices; recognize and report symptoms of work-related musculoskeletal disorders; maintain well-being necessary for safe patient care.
Professionalism and Ethical Conduct	Demonstrate professional, ethical, legal, and accountable behavior in all educational and clinical settings.	Maintain patient privacy and confidentiality; demonstrate integrity and accountability; advocate for patients; provide equitable and respectful care; comply with laws, regulations, professional standards, clinical policies, and program requirements; practice only within demonstrated competence.

Functional Area	Core Performance Standard	Representative Activities
Lifelong Learning and Collaboration	Demonstrate a commitment to professional growth, self-assessment, teamwork, and continuous learning.	Accept constructive feedback; evaluate personal strengths and limitations; maintain professional competence through education; collaborate effectively with healthcare professionals; support peers and students; share knowledge appropriately.

Occupational Risks

Risk Category	Potential Occupational Risks	Examples
Physical Risks	Exposure to physical demands commonly associated with sonography practice.	Repetitive scanning motions; prolonged standing, sitting, bending, reaching, twisting, and lifting; patient transfers and positioning; pushing and maneuvering equipment; development of work-related musculoskeletal disorders affecting the neck, shoulders, back, wrists, hands, and upper extremities.
Biological Risks	Exposure to infectious and communicable diseases encountered in healthcare settings.	Contact with blood, bodily fluids, airborne pathogens, infectious diseases, and patients requiring isolation precautions.
Environmental Risks	Exposure to workplace hazards present in clinical environments.	Slips, trips, and falls; exposure to cleaning agents and disinfectants; crowded patient-care environments; emergency situations requiring rapid response.
Emotional and Psychological Risks	Exposure to situations that may be emotionally challenging or stressful.	Caring for critically ill or injured patients; exposure to trauma, loss, or difficult diagnoses; managing multiple responsibilities and time-sensitive patient-care situations.
Safety and Clinical Practice Risks	Risks associated with direct patient care and clinical responsibilities.	Exposure to adverse events; responding to medical emergencies; performing procedures in varied clinical environments; maintaining patient and personal safety while providing care.
Professional Responsibilities	Responsibilities and requirements necessary for participation in clinical education and professional practice.	Compliance with immunization requirements, health screenings, background checks, confidentiality standards, infection-control practices, ethical requirements, workplace policies, and professional conduct expectations.

**Core Performance Standards and Occupational Risks for Admission into the
Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) Program**

I, _____, have read the "Core Performance Standards and Occupational Risks" for Admission into the DMS program and attest that I am physically and mentally capable of performing the required duties of a Diagnostic Medical Sonographer.

Student's Signature

Date