



Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Gwinnett Technical College Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is to offer a high quality and comprehensive didactic and clinical education in general sonography. The faculty and clinical instructors will do this by providing students the cognitive knowledge, psychomotor skills (clinical and technical skills), and applicable affective behaviors to safely and competently perform diagnostic sonographic exams along with the experience required to be principal members of the health care team.

PROGRAM GOALS

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program, in concert with the mission and philosophy of Gwinnett Technical College, is committed to provide a quality and comprehensive education in general sonography. Through didactic information, educational resources, and a variety of clinical experiences, the program is designed to develop competent, responsible, and independent sonography professionals. The program's mission is also supported by a dedicated team of experienced faculty, sonographers, and physicians who encourage and model life-long learning in the field.

The GTC DMS program goals are derived from the expectations of the communities of interest served by GTC, namely students, graduates, faculty, the college, employers, potential patients, and the sonography profession. **The goal of Gwinnett Technical College's Diagnostic Medical Sonography program is to prepare competent entry-level general sonographers in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains.**

Cognitive:

- ◆ Obtain, review, and integrate pertinent patient history and supporting clinical data to facilitate optimum diagnostic results for each client.
- ◆ Demonstrate critical thinking skills while performing sonographic examinations to obtain the highest level diagnostic images.

Psychomotor:

- ◆ Perform appropriate sonographic procedures and record anatomic, pathologic, and or physiologic data for interpretation by a physician.
- ◆ Record, analyze and process diagnostic data and other important observations made during the sonographic procedure for presentation to the interpreting physician as evidenced by critical thinking, technical abilities, and perseverance.
- ◆ Maintain optimal function of sonographic equipment.
- ◆ Utilize patient care and comfort skills.

Affective:

- ◆ Demonstrate appropriate communication skills with patients, colleagues, and others involved in the care of the client; act in a professional and ethical manner.
- ◆ Provide the patient and the public, education related to general sonography and/or other

diagnostic vascular techniques and promote principles of good health.

- ◆ Exercise discretion and judgment in the performance of sonographic and/or other diagnostic services.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Achievement of the stated program goals is assessed through various aspects that include but are not limited to the Annual Report mandated by the Joint Review Committee in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, graduate surveys, employer surveys, advisory committee surveys, ARDMS SPI registry exam pass rates, ARDMS exam pass rates in Abdomen, OB/GYN, or Breast and employment statistics. The Imaging Sciences Advisory Committee also reviews the above information and makes recommendations to the program faculty concerning necessary changes in the curriculum if the outcomes are not satisfactory. The program faculty is in constant contact with clinical affiliate administrators and clinical instructors for on-going assessment of course content and student clinical performance. Annual evaluations of the GTC DMS program are completed by the program clinical instructors to assure proper content from the clinical perspective is being taught with accuracy. Continuous program assessment is done by the DMS program faculty through end of course surveys and GTC faculty evaluations.

Upon graduation from the Gwinnett Technical College Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program:

- Graduates will be clinically competent by possessing entry-level knowledge and skills gained through successful completion of the program.
- Graduates will function as independent productive sonographers as part of the imaging team.
- Graduates will have acceptable work habits and attributes to fill needs of the health care community.
- Graduates will have skills needed to problem solve in their work environment and careers.
- Graduates will utilize ergonomically correct scanning practices.
- Graduates will consistently be aware of potential ultrasound bioeffects and continuously implement ALARA standards.
- Graduates will have the desire for life-long learning and self-growth.
- Graduates will have attempted to pass the ARDMS certification examination in Abdomen and OB/GYN.
- Program will have an average student completion rate of not less than 80%.
- Graduates will find jobs within six months of graduation.