Sonography
Welcome to the field of Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Palm Beach State College
Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program
Who We Are

- **Program Director**
  - Patty Moraino-Braga MS-ED, RT(R), RDMS(OB/GYN, ABD), RVT, RDCS

- **Clinical Coordinator**
  - Janet Jones, RT(R), RDMS(OB/GYN, ABD), RVT, RDCS
Who We Are

Adjunct Professor
– Cindy Cicalese, RN, RDMS

Adjunct Professor, Lab Instructor
– Eva j. Wisuri, RDMS(OB/GYN, ABD), RVT

Adjunct Professor
– Meg Roy, RT(R), RDMS(OB/GYN, ABD), RVT, RDCS
What Do We Do!

➢ A diagnostic medical sonographer is a highly-skilled professional who uses specialized equipment ....
What Do We Do!

• to create images of structures inside the human body that are used by physicians to make a medical diagnosis.
What Do We Do!

- Sonographers have extensive, direct patient contact that may include performing some invasive procedures.
- They must be able to interact compassionately and effectively with people who range from healthy to critically ill.
So is this the field for you?

Sonography
REQUIREMENTS

• The employee must be physically capable of carrying out all assigned duties.
• Emotional health sufficient to meet the demands of the position.
PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Strength sufficient to: lift some patients, move heavy equipment on wheels (up to approximately 500 lbs), and to move patients in wheelchairs and stretchers.
PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Ability to maintain prolonged arm positions necessary for scanning.
EMOTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

• Ability to communicate effectively with the patient, family members and the health care team, recognizing the special nature of sonographic examinations and patient's needs.
PATIENT: *STARING AT ME DURING ENTIRE EXAM*

ME: ...
"... There is a very important difference between sonographers and other imaging technologists. Other technologists may reject an image because of sub-optimal technical quality, but the sonographer usually rejects over 95% of the scans because they do not provide the diagnosis. The sonographer must make the diagnosis and be able to interpret the scan to document the presence of any abnormalities. This is the unique responsibility of the sonographer."
Dr. ROY FILLY:

“Diane, I have studied all of the major imaging technologies over the last 25 years - CAT scanning, magnetic resonance imaging, angiography, and nuclear medicine. All of these technologies are very complicated in their own right. But among those, there is no question in my mind that ultrasound is the most difficult to learn.”

• ABC Primetime Live; January 14, 1998; DIANE SAWYER...
And one last opinion

• “The accuracy of the [sonographic] exam is almost exclusively dependent on the skill and experience of the sonographer, no matter how knowledgeable the interpreter. If the sonographer misses the disease during the scan, it is unlikely that it will be detected. This places a unique responsibility on the sonographer.”

• Parhar, Gordon; Director Sonography Business Unit, Toshiba America Medical Systems, Inc. in RT IMAGE, May 1, 2006, p. 20-21.
Skills & Abilities

• Ability to effectively operate sonographic equipment.
• Ability to evaluate sonograms in order to acquire appropriate diagnostic information.
Skills & Abilities

• Ability to integrate diagnostic sonograms, laboratory results, patient history and medical records, and adapt sonographic examination as necessary.
Keys to Success as a Medical Sonographer

- **Necessary Skills and Qualities**
- Thorough knowledge of anatomy
- Ultrasound is unique in imaging because it is so operator-dependent. The sonographer must have a thorough understanding of anatomy and be able to detect any existing pathology in order to document it and pass it along to the reading doctor, who often never actually sees or scans the patients themselves.
Keys to Success as a Medical Sonographer

• Attention to detail
• Since small changes in an image may signal a problem within a patient, precision is necessary to create a quality image using complex equipment.
• Ability to multitask
• Sonographers must be able to concentrate when performing a diagnostic test, even as they interact with the patient.
Keys to Success as a Medical Sonographer

• Good physical health and strength
• Sonographers are on their feet for extended time periods and often must help to move ill or disabled patients.
• Dexterity in both arms
• The left hand is used to operate the machine while the right hand scans.
You have chosen the wrong field if.....

• Your current job is too mentally or physically challenging
• You are looking for a job with less stress
• If salary is your primary reason for your selection
You have chosen the wrong field if.....

- You like short cuts
- Do not like invasive procedures or blood & guts
- **Thoracentesis**
You have chosen the wrong field if…..

• Can not devote 15 months of your time to this program.

• This is a FULL TIME COMMITMENT – if you cannot devote the time you will not be successful.
Cost of program

- Tuition costs $ credit hour x 77 credit hours for AS degree and 47 credit hours for certificate.
- Books, clinical fees, uniforms, liability insurance, screening and professional association membership dues total approx. $1,150.00.
- Transportation considerations for attendance to clinical training typically ranges between $950 - $1,450. (Gas, oil, maint.)
How do you apply

- New Student to Palm Beach State College—Must fill out an application for Palm Beach State and pay application fee of $40.00—Students new to PBSC must have their high school transcripts as well as all other college work attempted on file with the admissions office. Do not declare Sonography as your major

- Palm Beach State application fee is nonrefundable
How do you apply

- The high school transcript may be waived for admissions purposes if a student has earned an Associate, Bachelor, or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution.
Applying to the program

- All applicants—Submit a limited access application to the admissions office of the Palm Beach Gardens location and pay appropriate fee—The limited access application fee is $20.00
- Limited access application fee is nonrefundable
Applying to the program

• Transcripts
• IF you need to send transcripts we ask that you forwarded them to Palm Beach State College-the Eissey Campus
Applying to the program

- Application and All Documents due on campus by– July 8, 2020
- Selection of class– July 20, 2020
  Letter will be mailed out 3 to 5 days after selection
- Classes start August 2020
- There will be a mandatory orientation on Thursday August 13, 2020.
Requirements

- Transcripts must be submitted to the registrar’s office here at Eissey Campus if you have not already submitted them.
- If you need to have transcripts evaluated, it is best to make an appointment with an academic advisor.
Requirements

• Minimum of 2.5 in all previous college work
Requirements

• Test Placement test must meet minimum requirements for entrance into college
• Must be less than 2 years old
• If you have completed 3 units in College level English and Math, this may be used in lieu of the placement score
• Any questions please see an advisor
Requirements

- Limited access application with the $20.00 Fee
- Open House/counseling session
Requirements

- Proof of completion of two-year college level allied health education program from an accredited institution that is patient care related-with required classes*.

- OR

- Proof of completion of a college level allied health education program from an accredited institution that is patient care related(MUST have documented clinical component)* but less than two year, includes but not limited to; medical assistant and EMT -with required classes*

- OR

- Completion of college level Patient Care Assistant program from an accredited institution (MUST have documented clinical component)* with required classes*. Enrollment in the AS program is strongly suggested if no previous degree./ State license with one year DOCUMENTED and confirmed patient care work history can be used )- with required classes*.
• The CNA course at PBSC is as follows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Courses</th>
<th>Clock Hours: 215</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HSC0003 Health Care Concepts (PSAV)</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSC0003L Health Care Concepts Lab (PSAV)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCP0300 Home Health Aide (PSAV)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCP0120 Nursing Assistant (PSAV)</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The courses are full time or part time at night

Program Entry: The Patient Care Assistant program has an entry three times a year during the Spring, Summer, and Fall terms.

https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/programs/PatientCare/default.aspx
Requirements

• REQUIRED CLASSES–
• ENC1101 English Composition I or SPC1017 Fundamentals of Speech Communication
• College Algebra (or higher course from Mathematics - Area III),
• Anatomy & Physiology I with Lab completed within the last 10 academic years.**&
• Applied Physics (students who have completed an accredited radiology program may use radiographic physics to fulfill the applied physics)
Points

- Registered Radiologic Technologist   +1.0
- Previous PBCC student                     +0.5
- College Degree (one)                        +0.5
- Health Credential less than 2 years  +0.75
- PCA or CNA course                          +0.25
- Sono Lab Volunteer                          +0.5
  (1 hour sessions-see sign up sheet)

Page 5 in Application
Points

• Points will be given for the each as follows:

  • BSC 2086 & Lab + 0.5
  • Humanities + 0.25
  • Psy 2012 + 0.25
  • BSC1010 & L + 0.5

• PLUS OVER ALL GPA

PAGE 5 in Application
What if I am taking classes in the summer?

- The student would be considered in the applicant pool for the fall term and \textbf{IF} accepted into the Sonography program it would be conditional upon having passed the PCA courses or required courses. One would \textbf{NOT} receive the $\frac{1}{4}$ point (PCA) as points are calculated based on what we have for the student by the deadline date. It would be the same for any courses and/or degrees. We only give points for what we have by the deadline date. If we don’t have grades or degrees posted we cannot give the points for something that may or may not happen in the future.
Do Not wait till the last minute to get you paper work in
Do Not wait till the last minute to get your paperwork in.

For the Sonography Program there are a possible 1.5 points for sonography courses. When the page was set up on our system they gave a 2.5 points range in case anything was added in the future because it is very hard to have changes made to the computer. As of right now the maximum is 1.5.
Selection Process

• All points will be totaled
• Top 16 applicants between Palm Beach County and north counties will be notified by e-mail & mail of acceptance, others will be notified of either alternate status or non acceptance
• Selection is July 20, 2020
• Students accepted into the program are agreeing to:
Selection Process

- Medical Examination Immunizations
- Hepatitis B Vaccination
- Level 2 FDLE Background Check - students whose background checks show evidence of activities that will prohibit their participation in clinical assignments will not be able to complete their program. - Must provide SS Number – No number, no program
- Drug Screening
- Flu Vaccination
- HIV/AIDS Training / BLS
Once selected

➢ If accepted into program
  • Classes start August 2020
  • There will be a mandatory orientation on Thursday August 13th at 10AM
Once selected

- You will complete your FDLE Background Check before the start of classes in August. You will begin classes in August.
- You will have 5 classes: 2 on Mon & Wed, one on-line class, and one clinical class for the last 8 weeks of semester.
- All other paperwork—drug screening, physical, etc—MUST be completed 6 weeks after the start of class.
Once Selected

- Starting January students will be on campus M and W
- In the clinical centers T, Th and Fri or as assigned
- You must be able to supply your own transportation to the clinical centers
Once selected

• Clinical sites are in all Palm Beach, Hendry, Martin, St. Lucie, and Okeechobee counties. Clinical sites are changed at least every semester. Clinical sites are determined by the needs of the student to be a GREAT sonographer – **NOT** by location to home or employment.

• You may drive an **hour or more** to your clinical site. Some clinical sites may require evening and/or weekend day shift.
The Good, The Bad & The Ugly

Good
– Become part of a small, very specialized facet of the healthcare team
– Make life-long friends
– Become familiar with a wide variety of healthcare settings

Bad
– Very challenging courses
– Many hours of studying required

Ugly
– Many hours spent driving to/from clinical sites
– Ultrasound Physics
Once selected

- **Sonography** students wear **blue** color scrubs and a white lab coat
Palm Beach State Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is accredited by Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.
Accreditation

• You will be able to take the following exams by the ARDMS (American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonographers) within 60 days of graduation.
Why I Love This Profession

1979

1979

2018
Open House Counseling Form

- Please remember to turn in your Pre-Admission Open House Counseling Form before you leave today!!!!
WHAT WE DO

• what we do

Isabella R.
Age: 1 year
SONOGRAPHY
A Sound Career Choice
5 THINGS TO KNOW

1. THE JOB GROWTH IS PHENOMENAL.
   Plus, the pay is excellent. The median base hourly wage for sonographers as of October 1, 2015 was $34.00.

2. IT TAKES BRAIN POWER.
   It requires amazing eye-hand coordination, an inquisitive mind, and an understanding of physics and human anatomy.

3. IT IS VERY REWARDING.
   You are a valued member of the healthcare team and your scans will help your patients receive the best care possible.

4. YOU WILL NEVER STOP LEARNING.
   Maintaining your credentials requires continuing medical education and being able to deliver quality care means that you have to stay up-to-date with current practices.

5. COMPASSION IS REQUIRED.
   Your patients may be sick, scared, or confused and you will interact with them and their loved ones every day.

SDMS.ORG
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