**BATON ROUGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY**

**Thanks for your interest in the BRCC Sonography program!**

This packet will assist you in understanding the prerequisites for entry into the DMS program and provide basic information you will need while completing your curriculum plan. General information regarding the program will also be provided in our program presentation**.** You mayalsoseek advisement as needed from one of the individuals below:

 Ms. Chloe’ Hidalgo, Program Manager Ms. Kristin Novick, Clinical Coordinator

 Cypress Building, Office 216 Cypress Building Office 216

 225.216.8046 225- 216-8498

 hidalgoc@mybrcc.edu novickk@mybrcc.edu

Accreditation and Program Goal

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program at Baton Rouge Community College is fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). For more information about accreditation, visit [www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org).

Program Mission:
The goal of the BRCC Sonography Program is to prepare competent, entry-level general sonographers who demonstrate proficiency in the following domains:

* Cognitive (knowledge-based learning)
* Psychomotor (technical and clinical skills)
* Affective (professional behavior and attitude)

CAAHEP Contact Information:
Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
9355 - 113th Street North, #7709
Seminole, FL 33775-7709
Phone: 727-210-2350
Website: [www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)

Application Information

**When to Apply:**

**The Sonography Program accepts applications once per year during the fall semester.**

The specific timeline and instructions for submission will be posted on the BRCC Sonography webpage each September.

**When the Program Starts:**
Students accepted into the program begin in the **spring semester (January)** and attend full time for four consecutive semesters (18 months).

**Deadline for Coursework:**
All prerequisite courses must be completed **by the end of the fall semester** in which the application is submitted. Students with prerequisites in progress at the time of application may apply but will only be considered for admission if final fall grades meet requirements.

**Application Eligibility & Selection Process**

Completing all prerequisite courses does not guarantee admission to the Sonography Program. Admission is highly competitive and based on the following factors:

* GPA in the 30-hour prerequisite block
* ATI TEAS entrance exam score
* Numeric grade earned in SONO 1011

In addition, the number of students admitted each year is determined by the availability of clinical sites. The program includes a three-semester clinical practicum at local hospitals and imaging centers, which limits cohort size.

To be eligible for admission, **all prerequisite coursework must be completed by the end of the fall semester** in which you apply. **You may apply for the DMS program in the fall semester if you have, or will have, completed all the prerequisites by the end of the fall semester.** Students with in-progress fall coursework may apply but will not be admitted unless final grades meet all requirements.

Academic Advising

Students are encouraged to seek academic advising early to develop a plan for completing prerequisites.

To request advising:

* Email Ms. Chloe’ Hidalgo at hidalgoc@mybrcc.edu
* Include your:
	+ Full name
	+ BRCC student ID number
	+ Phone number
	+ Explanation of your request
* Attach an unofficial transcript (PDF or Word only) of courses taken at other institutions.
	+ Do not send screenshots or photos
	+ You may request your school to send an eScript to hidalgoc@mybrcc.edu

Note: This advising process is for planning purposes only. To receive transfer credit, you must still submit an official transcript to the BRCC Registrar’s Office.

Associate of Applied Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Name: Date:

Student ID Number:

Student Email: Place "T" in front of any grade that is transfer credit. Place "IP" for any course currently in progress.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **General Education Courses:**  | **Course Taken**  | **Semester/ Year Taken**  | **Grade Earned**  | **Grade Req.**  | **Hours**  |
| English Composition I: ENGL 1013 (101)  |   |   |   | >=C  |   |
| College Algebra: MATH 1113 (101) or 1213 (110)  |   |   |   | >=C  |   |
| Anatomy and Physiology, I: BIOL 2211(lab), 2213(lecture)  |   |   |   | >=C  |   |
| Introduction to Psychology: PSYC 2013 (201)  |   |   |   | >=C  |   |
| Humanities Elective\*  |   |   |   | >=C  |   |
| **Other required**  | **Course Taken**  | **Semester/ Year Taken**  | **Grade Earned**  | **Grade Req.**  | **Hours**  |
| Anatomy and Physiology II: BIOL 2221(lab), 2223(lecture)  |   |   |   | >=C  |   |
| Concepts in Physics: PHYS 1013 (200)  |   |   |   | >=C  |   |
| Medical Terminology: HLSC 1103 (110)  |   |   |   | >=C  |   |
| Foundations of Sonography: SONO 1011 (101)  |   |   |   | >=C  |   |
| Biomedical Ethics: PHIL 2253 (225)  |   |   |   | >=C  |   |
| **Required Courses**  | **Course Taken**  | **Semester/ Year Taken**  | **Grade Earned**  | **Grade Req.**  | **Hours**  |
| Physics and Instrumentation, I: SONO 1102 (110)  |   | Spring 2025  |   | >=C  | 2  |
| Abdominal Ultrasound I: SONO 1122 (112)  |   | Summer 2025  |   | >=C  | 2  |
| Ultrasound Learning Lab I: SONO 1143 (114)  |   | Spring 2025  |   | >=C  | 3  |
| Ultrasound Practicum I: SONO 1161 (116)  |   | Summer 2025  |   | >=C  | 1  |
| Ultrasound OB/GYN I: SONO 1182 (118)  |   | Summer 2025  |   | >=C  | 2  |
| Sonographic Sectional Anatomy: SONO 1203 (120)  |   | Spring 2025  |   | >=C  | 3  |
| Physics and Instrumentation II: SONO 2101 (210)  |   | Summer 2025  |   | >=C  | 1  |
| Abdominal Ultrasound II: SONO 2123 (212)  |   | Fall 2025  |   | >=C  | 3  |
| Ultrasound Practicum II: SONO 2161 (216)  |   | Fall 2025  |   | >=C  | 3  |
| Ultrasound OB/GYN II: SONO 2183 (218)  |   | Fall 2025  |   | >=C  | 3  |
| Physics and Instrumentation III: SONO 2201(220)  |   | Fall 2025  |   | >=C  | 1  |
| Abdominal Ultrasound III: SONO 2302 (230)  |   | Spring 2026  |   | >=C  | 2  |
| Ultrasound Practicum III: SONO 2403 (240)  |   | Spring 2026  |   | >=C  | 3  |
| Ultrasound OB/GYN III: SONO 2502 (250)  |   | Spring 2026  |   | >=C  | 2  |
| Comprehensive Seminar: SONO 2601 (260)  |   | Spring 2026  |   | >=C  | 1  |
|  |  |  |  |  | **32**  |

CURRICULUM PLAN

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Number**   | **Course Title**   | **Credit Hours**   | **Pre-requisite Courses**   |
| MATH 1213  | College Algebra  | 3  | See BRCC Catalog**2**  |
| ENGL 1013  | English Composition I  | 3  | See BRCC Catalog**2**  |
| PSYC 2013  | Introduction to Psychology  | 3  | See BRCC Catalog**2**  |
| BIOL 2214  | Anatomy and Physiology, I  | 4  | See BRCC Catalog**2**  |
| BIOL 2224  | Anatomy and Physiology II  | 4  | See BRCC Catalog**2**  |
| PHYS 1013  | Concepts in Physics  | 3  | See BRCC Catalog**2**  |
| HLSC 1103  | Medical Terminology  | 3  | See BRCC Catalog**2**  |
| PHIL 2253  | Biomedical Ethics  | 3  | See BRCC Catalog**2**  |
| HUMN **1**  | Humanities Elective  | 3  | See BRCC Catalog**2**  |
| SONO 1011  | Foundations of Sonography  | 1  | See BRCC Catalog**2**  |
|   | **Total Semester Hours**   |   **30**   |   |
| **First**  **Semester**   | **ALL SONOGRAPHY COURSES ARE TAKEN IN**   | **TAKEN IN SEQUENCE**   | **AS LISTED HERE – NO EXCEPTIONS**   |
| SONO 1102  | Physics and Instrumentation I  | 2  | Completion of prerequisite courses above and official admission to Sonography program.  |
| SONO 1143  | Ultrasound Learning Lab I  | 3  |
| SONO 1203  | Sonographic Sectional Anatomy  | 3  |
|   | **Total Semester Hours**   |   **8**   |
| **Second**  **Semester**   |   |   |   |
| SONO 1122  | Abdominal Ultrasound I  | 2  | Completion of first semester Sonography courses.   |
| SONO 1161  | Ultrasound Practicum I  | 1  |
| SONO 1182  | Ultrasound OB/GYN I  | 2  |
| SONO 2101  | Physics and Instrumentation II  | 1  |
|   | **Total Semester Hours**   |  **6**   |
| **Third**  **Semester**   |   |   |   |
|  |  |
| SONO 2123  | Abdominal Ultrasound II  | 3  | Completion of second semester Sonography courses.   |
| SONO 2163  | Ultrasound Practicum II  | 3  |
| SONO 2183  | Ultrasound OB/GYN II  | 3  |
| SONO 2201  | Physics and Instrumentation III  |  1  |
|   | **Total Semester Hours**   |  **10**   |
| **Fourth**  **Semester**   |   |   |   |
| SONO 2302  | Abdominal Ultrasound III  | 2  | Completion of third semester Sonography courses.    **Total Program Hours 62**  |
| SONO 2403  | Ultrasound Practicum III  | 3  |
| SONO 2502  | Ultrasound OB/GYN III  | 2  |
| SONO 2601  | Comprehensive Seminar  | 1  |
|   | **Total Semester Hours**   |  **8**   |
|   |   |   |   |
|   |   |  **62**   |   |

1 To be selected from the Humanities General Education requirements listed on page 6. 2 See current BRCC Catalog for a comprehensive list of pre-requisites for each course.

**ADMISSION CRITERIA**

**Associate of Applied Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography**
**Baton Rouge Community College**

Admission to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) Program is **competitive**. Meeting the minimum requirements does **not guarantee admission**.

1. **Minimum Academic Requirements**

To be eligible to apply, students must:

* Have a **minimum GPA of 2.75** in the 30 hours of prerequisite coursework (may differ from overall GPA).
* Earn a **grade of “C” or higher** in each required course listed below:

 **Course No. Course Title Credit Hours**

 MATH 1213 College Algebra 3

 ENGL 1013 English Composition I 3

 PSYC 2013 Introduction to Psychology 3

 BIOL 2213/2211 Human Anatomy & Physiology I 4

 BIOL 2223/2221 Human Anatomy & Physiology II 4

 PHYS 1013 Intro to Concepts in Physics 3

 HLSC 1103 Medical Terminology 3

 PHIL 2253 Biomedical Ethics 3

 HUMN Humanities Elective (Choose one, page 7) 3

 SONO 1011 Foundations of Sonography 1

 **General Education and Prerequisite Credit Hours 30**

**Note: BIOL 2213/2211 and 2223/2221 require either BIOL 1033 (Biology I for Science Majors) with a “C” or better, or an ACT composite or super-score of 22+ and eligibility for College Algebra.**

### **Entrance Exam Requirement**

* **A minimum score of 65% on the ATI TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) is required.**
* **The exam may be taken once during the application period, either at the BRCC Testing Center or remotely via proctor.**

**Prepare early—official TEAS prep materials and BRCC study sessions are strongly recommended. The TEAS score accounts for 30% of the applicant’s admission score.**

### **Admission Scoring Formula**

**Applicants are ranked based on a composite admission score calculated to three decimal places:**

| **Component** | **Weight** |
| --- | --- |
| **GPA in Prerequisites** | **60%** |
| **ATI TEAS Score** | **30%** |
| **SONO 1011 Course Grade** | **10%** |

**The highest-ranking applicants will be offered admission based on available seats.**

### **Post-Acceptance Requirements**

**If selected for admission, students must complete the following at their own expense through approved vendors:**

* **Criminal background check, healthcare exclusion list check, and fingerprinting**
* **10-panel drug screen**
* **Physical examination with immunization/titer verification**
* **American Heart Association CPR certification**
* **Student liability insurance**
* **Uniforms (black scrubs)**
* **Trajecsys clinical tracking subscription**
* **Required textbooks**

### **Financial Aid Considerations**

* **The Sonography program qualifies as full-time for TOPS and federal financial aid.**
* **To receive the maximum aid, students should be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours per semester. I will write exception letters for students who are below the minimum 12 hours.**

**ATI TEAS Exam**

**Assessment Technologies Institute – Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)**

**All applicants to the BRCC Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program are required to take the ATI TEAS entrance exam during the fall application period. The TEAS exam accounts for 30% of the total admission score.**

**Exam Details**

* **The TEAS exam may be taken once outside of the application period and/or once more during the application period.**
	+ **The most recent exam to date will be used for your application.**
* **Applicants may choose to test:**
	+ **In person at the BRCC Testing Center (Magnolia Building)**
	+ **Remotely via online proctor from home**
* **Testing dates and times will be published on the** [**Sonography Program Information Page**](https://mybrcc.edu/academics/nursing-and-allied-health/aassonography.php)**.**

**Study Resources**

**It is strongly recommended that all applicants thoroughly prepare for the TEAS exam.
BRCC encourages students to use the following resources:**

**1. Official ATI Prep Materials**

**Available at:** [**www.atitesting.com/teas**](https://www.atitesting.com/teas)

* **ATI TEAS Study Manual**
* **Online Practice Assessments**
* **Check the site for discounted pricing and bundle offers.**

**2. BRCC TEAS Study & Tutoring Sessions**

**The BRCC Nursing & Allied Health Division periodically offers free TEAS preparation sessions, including:**

* **Tutoring support**
* **Group study opportunities**
* **Test-taking strategies**

**Session dates will be posted on the** [**Sonography Program Information Page**](https://mybrcc.edu/academics/nursing-and-allied-health/aassonography.php)**. Students are encouraged to monitor this page regularly.**

**Why Preparation Matters**

**Applicants who use ATI’s official materials and attend BRCC study sessions consistently perform better on the TEAS. Early and structured preparation can significantly improve your competitiveness in the admissions process.**

 ***HUMANITIES* -** There are many classes which qualify as Humanities; however, for this  AAS degree you must choose **ONLY** from this list.

NOTE: THE ENGL AND HUMN COURSES REQUIRE COMPLETION OF ENGL 1023 (& ENGL 1013)

 THE HIST AND PHIL COURSES REQUIRE COMPLETION OF ENGL 1013 ONLY

ENGL 2133, Literature and Ethnicity (3) (ENGL 210)

ENGL 2303, Introduction to Fiction (3) (ENGL 211)

ENGL 2313, Introduction to Poetry and Drama (3) (ENGL 215)

ENGL 2123, Major British Writers (3) (ENGL 220)

ENGL 2173, Major American Writers (3) (ENGL 221)

ENGL 2223, Major World Writers (3) (ENGL 222)

ENGL 2403, Introduction to African-American Literature (3) (ENGL 223)

ENGL 2323, Introduction to Literature (3) (ENGL 230)

ENGL 2503, Introduction to Folklore (3) (ENGL 240)

ENGL 2483, Shakespeare: The More Popular Plays (3) (ENGL 248)

HIST 1113, History of World Civilizations I (3) (HIST 101)

HIST 1123, History of World Civilizations II (3) (HIST 102)

HIST 2003, History of Roman Republic and Empire (3) (HIST 200)

HIST 2013, U.S. History {3) (HIST 201)

HIST 2023, U.S. History 11 (3) (HIST 202)

HIST 2213, Modern Europe 1500 – 1848 (3) (HIST 221)

HIST 2223, Modern Europe 1848 to Present (3) (HIST 222)

HUMN 2103, World Mythology (3) (HUMN 210)

HUMN 2013, Africa and the Middle East (3) (HUMN 250)

HUMN 2553, Asia and the Americas (3) (HUMN 255)

HUMN 2753, The Heroic Journey: From Classical to Contemporary (3) (HUMN 275)

PHIL 1013, Introduction to Philosophy (3) (PHIL 201)

PHIL 2013, Introduction to Ethics (3) (PHIL 205)

PHIL 2283, Philosophy of Religion (3) (PHIL 228)

 **NOTE: PHIL 2253, BIOMEDICAL ETHICS, CANNOT BE USED AS THE HUMANITIES**   **REQUIREMENT SINCE IT IS AN INDIVIDUAL COURSE PREREQUISITE.**

**ESTIMATED COSTS**

Students should take into consideration travel expenses (auto mileage to internship site) while enrolled in health care programs. This estimate is for the Sonography program only. Expense of finishing prerequisites or other miscellaneous is not included. If you plan to use financial aid (grants, loans, scholarships) and you require clarification on application or restrictions, please contact the BRCC Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at (225) 216 – 8640.

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|  **SONOGRAPHY PROGRAM COSTS**  |
| **Pre-Admission**  | **COLLEGE ADMISSION APPLICATION DECLARE YOUR SONO MAJOR!!**   | **No Fee**   |
|   | **COST OF PREREQUISITE COURSES NOT INCLUDED**  |   |
| **Background Screening Service**   | **Nationwide Background Check, Drug Screen & Document Portal**   | $80.00  |
|    | **PHYSICAL EXAM, IMMUNIZATIONS & TITERS** –Some vaccinations may be required.  |  Prices dependent on your situation  |
|   | **LOUISIANA STATE POLICE BACKGROUND CHECK:**  Programs with a hospital-based internship program MUST require a LA State Police Background check in addition to the general one.  | $37.00  |
|   |  **PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE**  **Healthcare Providers Service Organization**  |  $50.00 / year  |
|  **CPR Certification**   | **American Heart Association CPR for Health Care Providers** – Spring course will be offered for a fee at BRCC  |  $50.00  |
|  **Textbooks**   | **Textbooks** (See list below)  | Variable online  |
|  **Uniforms**   | **Uniforms** – purchased in January  | $120.00  |
|  **SDMS Membership**   |  **Student Membership** - Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography  | $45.00  |
| **First Semester (Spring)**  |  **Tuition and Fees** 8 credit hours of Sonography courses (or 9@ $1583.09 )  |  $1,407.12 \*\*  |
| **Second Semester (Summer)**  |  **Tuition and Fees** - 6 credit hours of Sonography courses  | $1,055.34 \*\*  |
| **Third Semester (Fall)**  |  **Tuition and Fees** - 10 credit hours of Sonography courses  | $1,758.90 \*\*  |
|   | **ARDMS SPI** examination fee (at Christmas break) \*  |  $ 250.00  |
| **Fourth Semester (Spring)**  | **Tuition and Fees** - 8 credit hours of Sonography courses  | $1,407.12 \*\*  |
|   |  **ARDMS Clinical Exam** Registration Fees\* * OB/GYN specialty examination fee
* Abdomen specialty examination fee
 |  $ 275.00 $ 275.00  |

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|  **TEXTBOOK LIST**  These textbooks are available from the BRCC Bookstore. You may find lower pricies online  |
| ***Understanding Ultrasound Physics, 4th Edition****.* Sidney Edelman, PhD ISBN: 0- 9626444-5-5 ©2012 – We will lend you this book from our library or you may purchase your own if you wish. If you wish to purchase this text, you may find it on Amazon or other book vendor.  |  Free Use from  Sonography  Library  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **AUTHOR or EDITOR**   | **FULL TITLE**   | **PUBLISHER**   | **EDITION**   | **ISBN**    | **COMMENTS**    |
| **Sandra L.** **Hagen Ansert**   | **Textbook of Diagnostic Sonography (vol 1&2)**   | **Elsevier**   | **Ninth Ed**   | **978-0-****32382646-4**  | **MANDATORY**   |
| **Sandra L**  **Hagen Ansert**   | **Workbook for textbook of Diagnostic Sonography**   | **Elsevier**   | **Ninth Ed**   | **978-0-323-** **82650-1**   | **MANDATORY**   |

## **Additional Information & Considerations**

### **Have a Backup Plan**

**Admission to the Sonography Program is competitive, and not all applicants are selected. It's important to consider alternative academic pathways that align with your interests and career goals.**

**Recommended alternatives include:**

* **Surgical Technology**
* **Nursing**
* **Emergency Medical Services (EMS)**
* **Healthcare Information Technology**
* **Pharmacy Technology**

**You are welcome to reapply to the Sonography Program in a future cycle. Each application year is evaluated independently, and there is no limit to how many times you may apply.**

### **Interested in Surgical Technology?**

**If you're considering a career in the operating room, BRCC’s Surgical Technology Program may be a great fit.**

**To prepare, consider registering for the following introductory courses:**

* **SURT 1023 – Introduction to Surgical Technology (Lecture)**
* **SURT 1021 – Surgical Technology Lab**

**These courses are required for entry into the program and introduce essential surgical concepts and clinical protocols.**

### **Louisiana Transfer Associate Degree (LTAD)**

**BRCC participates in the Louisiana Transfer Degree initiative, which allows students to earn a two-year portable academic credential that guarantees junior standing at any Louisiana public university.**

**If you're pursuing general studies or planning for transfer, work closely with an academic advisor to ensure you’re selecting the appropriate courses. Approved curricula are available in the BRCC Catalog.**

### **Course Repetition Policy (Retake-and-Replace)**

**BRCC allows students to retake courses to improve their grades.**

* **The most recent grade—whether higher or lower—becomes the grade of record.**
* **Be aware that taking a course more than twice may affect your financial aid eligibility.**
* **Always consult with a financial aid advisor before repeating a class.**

### **Legal Considerations: ARDMS Criminal History Policy**

**If you have criminal charges or convictions on your record (felony or misdemeanor, excluding minor traffic violations), this may impact:**

* **Your ability to complete clinical rotations in hospitals or healthcare settings**
* **Your eligibility to sit for ARDMS certification exams**

**ARDMS Pre-Application Review
To clarify your eligibility before entering a sonography program, ARDMS offers a pre-application review for a $125 non-refundable fee. This process is highly recommended for individuals with a legal history who are considering a career in sonography.**

**Learn more:
ARDMS Pre-Application Criminal Review PDF**

<http://www.ardms.org/ARDMS%20Documents/Compliance%20Documents/P>[reapplication%20C riminal%20ARDMS.pdf#search=criminal%20history](http://www.ardms.org/ARDMS%20Documents/Compliance%20Documents/Pre-application%20Criminal%20ARDMS.pdf#search=criminal%20history)

 Ultrasound & Career Information Sources

 **Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (SDMS)**

* [**http://www.sdms.org/career/career.asp**](http://www.sdms.org/career/career.asp)
* **This is our Sonography profession website –** good **public information is available**

 **American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS)**

* [**http://www.ardms.org/**](http://www.ardms.org/)
* [**https://www.ardms.org/wpcontent/uploads/pdf/Preapplication-Criminal-ARDMS.pdf**](https://www.ardms.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/Pre-application-Criminal-ARDMS.pdf)
* **This is a Sonography registry website** – **good public information is available**

**American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT)**

* [**http://arrt.org**](http://arrt.org/)
* **This is a Sonography registry website –** good **public information is available**

**Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education**  **Programs**

**(CAAHEP)**

* [**http://caahep.org**](http://caahep.org/)
* **This is our Sonography Accreditation website –** good **public information is available**

**ATI TEAS Exam**

* **Study guide & electronic test is available for $90.00 and is strongly recommended to improve your test score**  [ **ATI TEAS Basic Package**](http://www.atitesting.com/ati_store/product.aspx?zpid=1493)  **or**  [**ATI SmartPrep Study Package**](http://www.atitesting.com/ati_store/product.aspx?zpid=1528)

**O\*NET Online**

* [**http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/29-2032.00**](http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/29-2032.00)



**WHAT IS DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY (ULTRASOUND)?**

**DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL ULTRASOUND** is a noninvasive imaging technology such as an OB scan, employed in a radiology department or imaging clinic and is used to examine soft tissue and blood flow.

Noninvasive means that nothing is inserted into the body through the skin (no puncture) and uses no medicines. Additionally, no radiation is employed, unlike X-ray and CT imaging. A water washable gel is applied to the body and a probe is placed on the skin and moved around to view the baby. A similar technique is used to image the other body parts.

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Soft tissue includes most of the soft organs of the head, neck, torso and extremities, excluding hard organs like bone and skull. OB imaging examines the developing baby and provides images and measurements your doctor will use to determine the health of your pregnancy, baby’s developmental age, weight and delivery date. Ultrasound is also used to examine the Uterus and Ovaries, Abdomen and Gallbladder, Heart and Blood Vessels and other organs.

Sonographers work in hospital Radiology Departments, outpatient Imaging Centers and physicians’ offices. Some sonographers with experience and expertise in multiple specialties operate independent scanning services.

BRCC’s Diagnostic Medical Sonography program requires 29 hours of prerequisites in General Education: Math, Biology, Physics, English, Psychology, Medical Terminology, Medical Ethics, and Humanities. The Sonography curriculum is 33 hours over 4 consecutive full-time semesters. After completion of the DMS program one must pass registry examinations in various specialized areas of ultrasound determined by one’s area of employment. BRCC graduates are prepared to challenge the ARDMS registries in: Abdomen and OB/Gyn. Other specialties include: Vascular, Adult Cardiac, Pediatric Cardiac, Pediatric Neurosonology, Musculoskeletal and Breast

Technical Standards for Sonographers: Sonography can be physically and emotionally demanding. Sonographers are expected to work with machines which may weigh a few hundred pounds, and wheel the instruments through a hospital to the patient’s bedside. You may also be required to assist with patient transfer from bed to wheelchair to exam table and back. Sonographers must be able to communicate effectively with distraught patients and family and with other health care givers. You must assess, with your primary health provider, if you can meet the physical and emotional demands of a sonography career. **If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant during the DMS program, you must meet these same requirements. If you cannot, your ability to complete the program in the allotted time may be affected.**

Samples of images:



Sonographers must be able to meet the following minimum standards. For a list of Core Standards, please view the Frequently Asked Questions document here>> [https://www.mybrcc.edu/academics/nursing-and-allied-health/frequentlyaskedquestions.pdf :](https://www.mybrcc.edu/academics/nursing-and-allied-health/frequentlyaskedquestions.pdf)

1. Communicate, read & write in English with proficiency to communicate with patients and other care givers and physicians
2. Assist patients in moving, turning, & transferring from transportation devices to exam tables
3. Be able to push, pull and lift 50 pounds and push ultrasound equipment on wheels
4. Maintain prolonged arm positions necessary for scanning
5. Be physically able to administer emergency patient care, including performing CPR
6. Be able to stand for long periods, and walk long distances (2 miles +/-) in a working day