

# Diagnostic Medical Sonography Associate in Health Sciences

**Entrance Requirements:**

Acceptable ASSET or COMPASS score

**Type of Program:**

Phase I: Day, night, or weekend

Phase II: Day

**Type of Degree:**

Associate degree

**Professional Credentials:**

Diagnostic Medical Sonographer (subject to passing national certification exam)

**Program Accreditation:**

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)

**Employment Opportunities:**

Hospitals, clinics, physician offices, and outpatient imaging centers.

- Diagnostic Medical Sonography is a technical science that deals with the use of ultrasound for diagnostic purposes in medicine. Sonographers, also known as ultrasound technologists, use high frequency sound waves to image structures within the body.
- The sonographer is responsible for the production of diagnostic images and is a technical assistant to the physician/radiologist. Additional information on the profession can be found at: [www.ultrasoundcareers.org](http://www.ultrasoundcareers.org).
- This program is designed as a One-Plus-One program. Phase I includes all of the general education and related course work. Upon successful completion of all Phase I courses, qualified students may apply to Phase II, which includes all Diagnostic Medical Sonography course work.
- Didactic courses are taught on the Barton campus with clinical training at various clinical affiliates located throughout the Upstate of South Carolina and Western North Carolina.
- Clinical assignments are required in Phase II. Students will be responsible for transportation to their clinical sites.
- Upon successful completion of the program, students will be eligible to take the national certification examination through the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) in the areas of Physics & Instrumentation, OB/GYN, and Abdomen. To obtain the RDMS credential, an individual must pass the Ultrasound Physics and Instrumentation examination in addition to at least one other exam component.

- This program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).
- **Phase I admission requirements:**
  - All individuals seeking to enter the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program must meet the requirements outlined in the Health Science/ Nursing admission requirements as stated in the college catalog (excluding physical exam).
  - High school level biology, physics, and chemistry are strongly encouraged. Keyboarding skills are also recommended.
  - Attend a Career Talk session for this major within two years prior to being accepted into Phase II.
  - Acceptable ASSET or COMPASS scores. Test scores must meet the criteria to be placed into ENG 101 and MAT 109/110.
  - BIO 210 and BIO 211 must be completed no more than three (3) years prior to beginning Phase II. Students who exceed the three year limit must take BIO 211 as a refresher.
  - Must obtain a minimum grade of “C” or higher with a minimum technical GPA of 2.50. Technical GPA is computed using the ten (10) general education courses listed on the Phase II Applicant Worksheet.

**APPLICATION PROCESS FOR PHASE II:**

- Students who anticipate completing all Phase I courses with the appropriate grades and technical GPA are eligible to submit an Intent Form for entry into Phase II.
- Intent Forms must be submitted beginning in January and will be accepted no later than May 1.
- Students are selected based upon a weighted admissions process. If students are equal in points, selection is based upon the student’s technical GPA.
- Students who complete all general education courses with the appropriate grade by the end of the spring term will be considered first. Students who complete the general education courses during the summer will be seated if space is available.
- A maximum of 15 students will be accepted.
- A negative 10-panel drug screen and an acceptable criminal background check are required for all students accepted into Phase II.
- Students must be able to attend all clinical experiences.
- Documentation of CPR certification through the American Heart Association (must be maintained throughout Phase II).
- Submit physical exam form completed by licensed practicing physician or certified nurse practitioner

indicating good physical and mental health with current immunizations.

### **Recommended Program Schedule**

#### ***First Semester – Summer***

ENG 101	English Composition I*	3.0
AHS 102	Medical Terminology*	3.0

#### ***Second Semester – Fall***

BIO 210	Anatomy & Physiology I*	4.0
MAT 109**	College Algebra with Modeling*	3.0
PSY 201	General Psychology*	3.0
SPC 200/205/209	Speech Course	3.0

\*\*MAT 120 will NOT be accepted  
in lieu of MAT 109

#### ***Third Semester – Spring***

BIO 211	Anatomy & Physiology II	4.0
RAD 107	Physics for Medical Imaging	3.0
CPT 101	Introduction to Computers	3.0
	College transferable humanities*	3.0

#### ***Fourth Semester – Fall***

DMS 101	Ultrasound Physics & Instrumentation	2.0
DMS 105	Sonographic Anatomy of the Abdomen	4.0
DMS 117	Gynecology	2.0
DMS 164	Introduction to Clinical Education	2.0
DMS 100	Patient Care for Sonography	2.0

#### ***Fifth Semester - Spring***

DMS 102	Ultrasound Physics & Instrumentation II	3.0
DMS 116	Abdominal Ultrasound	4.0
DMS 119	Embryology and First Trimester Ultrasound	2.0
DMS 165	Clinical Education II	8.0

#### ***Sixth Semester – Summer***

DMS 166	Advanced Clinical Education	7.0
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#### ***Seventh Semester – Fall***

DMS 124	OB/GYN Sonography II	2.0
DMS 130	Selected Topics in Sonography	2.0
DMS 167	Imaging Practicum	8.0

**Total credit hours** **80.0/81.0**

\* General Education course—complete these courses (or equivalent) as prerequisite requirements with a grade of “C” or higher.