



COMMUNITY
REGIONAL
DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL
SONOGRAPHY PROGRAM

PROGRAM DETAILS

Rev. 8/23/2018

INTRODUCTION

Community Regional Medical Center's **Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program (DMSP)** is a hospital-based sonography training program, licensed by California's Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education. The curriculum consists of classroom, laboratory, library research, and clinical practical experience. Laboratory sections are held on campus. The clinical education classes occur in two or more of the affiliate hospitals.

We currently offer four education tracts to choose from, General, Adult Cardiac, Pediatric Cardiac, and Vascular. All of the tracks are fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). In addition, Community Regional Medical Center is accredited by The Joint Commission.

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TRACK DESCRIPTIONS

GENERAL Track Description

This is an eighteen-month program with a combination of didactic and 1764 clinical hours to prepare the student for entry level as a diagnostic medical sonographer. In addition, the students will be prepared to sit for the national registry examination offered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) in physics, Abdominal, and Obstetrical/Gynecology. Each course consists of homework assignments, quizzes, midterm, and a final exam. Additionally, a research paper, and case study project is included in the Abdominal, and Ob/Gyn courses.

Course specifics for this track, including the time/days, lecture hours, and lab hours can be found in our current **School Catalog**. It can be accessed through a link on our website.

ADULT CARDIAC Track Description

This is an eighteen-month program with a combination of didactic and 1764 clinical hours to prepare the student for entry level as a diagnostic cardiac sonographer for adults. In addition, the students will be prepared to sit for the national registry examination offered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) in physics, and adult echocardiography. Each course consists of homework assignments, quizzes, midterm, and a final exam. Additionally, a research paper, and case study project may be included.

Course specifics for this track, including the time/days, lecture hours, and lab hours can be found in our current **School Catalog**. It can be accessed through a link on our website.

PEDIATRIC CARDIAC Track Description

This track is primarily an extension of the Adult Cardiac Track and is not designed as a stand-alone program.* The track is eighteen-weeks in length with a combination of didactic and clinical hours to prepare the student for entry level as a diagnostic cardiac sonographer for pediatric echocardiography. In addition, the students will be prepared to sit for the national registry examination offered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) in pediatric echocardiography.

Students for Pediatric Cardiac Track, which is held during the eighteen weeks immediately following the completion of the Adult Cardiac Track, are chosen by instructors (via a panel interview) for participation during the second course level of their Adult Cardiac Program. Students from the General Track are not eligible for the Pediatric Cardiac Track. Each course consists of homework assignments, quizzes, midterm, and a final exam. Additionally, a research paper, and case study project may be included.

Course specifics for this track, including the time/days, lecture hours, and lab hours can be found in our current **School Catalog**. It can be accessed through a link on our website.

** A limited number of preceptorships in Pediatric Echocardiography is available for credentialed adult echocardiographers who have not graduated from our program. The cost of the program is \$3,000.00 and acceptance is granted on a case-by-case basis. For more information, contact us via phone or email.*

VASCULAR Track Description

This track is an extension of either the General or Adult Cardiac Track and is not a stand-alone program. The track is eighteen-weeks in length with a combination of didactic and clinical hours to prepare the student for entry level as a vascular technologist. In addition, the students will be prepared to sit for the national registry examination offered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) in vascular technology.

Students for Vascular Track, which is held during the eighteen weeks immediately following the completion of the General and Adult Cardiac Tracks, are chosen by instructors (via a panel interview) for participation during the second course level of their General or Adult Cardiac Program. Students from both the General Track and Adult Cardiac Track are eligible for the Vascular Track. Each course consists of homework assignments, quizzes, midterm, and a final exam. Additionally, a research paper, and case study project may be included.

Course specifics for this track, including the time/days, lecture hours, and lab hours can be found in our current **School Catalog**. It can be accessed through a link on our website.

PREREQUISITES

PRIOR to becoming eligible for the program, the following prerequisites **MUST** be met with a cumulative college grade point average of **2.75** or higher:

- **A Bachelor's Degree** (*In any field of study*)
--OR--
- **A two-year Allied Health Degree (with a license) in one of these four fields:**
 - Registered Nurse
 - Licensed Vocational Nurse
 - Radiologic Technologist / Radiographer
 - Respiratory Therapist

In **ADDITION**, the following courses **MUST** have been passed with a cumulative grade of **2.5** or higher, with no individual grade lower than **2.0**:

- **Anatomy** (*This course must include a lab.*)
- **Physiology** (*This course must include a lab.*)
- **Medical Terminology**
- **General Physics** (*This course does NOT need to include a lab.*)
- **Math** (*Algebra or higher. Statistics will also suffice.*)
- **English** (*This prerequisite may be met by a variety of courses including, but not limited to Grammar, Composition, etc.*)
- **Communication Skills** (*This prerequisite may be met by a variety of courses including, but not limited to Public Speaking, Group Discussion, etc.*)

For further clarification, please consult the "Frequently Asked Questions" link on our website.

COHORT, COST & APPLICATION INFORMATION

The next cohort will begin in January, 2021, and conclude in July, 2022. The GENERAL TRACK will cost \$25,576.00* and the ADULT CARDIAC TRACK will cost \$25,317.00*. Those figures include tuition, fees, and additional expenses. Applications will be available in January, 2020, and they can be submitted from late July through early August, 2020.

After applications are submitted, they will be thoroughly reviewed and every eligible applicant will be contacted for a formal panel interview. The panel will include no less than seven members including the **DMSP** Director, Medical Director, Clinical Coordinator, and

sonographers from both the Cardiology and Sonography Departments. Members of the panel will score the interview using a grading rubric, and those candidates who score the highest on the interview will be selected and contacted. Note: Applicants chosen for the program must pass both a background check and a 10-panel drug screening before being formally admitted into the program.

**Subject to Change*

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To access more information regarding the **Community Regional Medical Center DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY PROGRAM** please visit our website:

<https://www.communitymedical.org/careers/Sonography-Programs>

Give special attention to our **Frequently Asked Questions** link.

For answers to your specific questions:

- **Call the DMSP office:** (559) 459-2731
- **Send an email message to:** FresnoDMSP@communitymedical.org