

Radiography

Nature of the Profession

Radiologic technologists (radiographers) are allied health professionals who perform diagnostic imaging examinations. As part of the radiology team, the technologist uses x-ray units and other modalities to produce images of the tissues, organs, bones and vessels of the human body. Radiographers are educated in anatomy, patient positioning, examination techniques, equipment protocols, radiation safety, radiation protection, and basic patient care.

Radiologic technologists are responsible for accurately positioning patients and ensuring that a quality diagnostic image is produced with minimal exposure to the patient. They work closely with radiologists, physicians specially trained in radiology, to interpret the images. Radiologic technologists often specialize in second certification modalities such as mammography, computerized tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, and cardiovascular interventional technology, sonography and bone densitometry.

APTITUDES

- Ability to learn the principles and techniques of radiologic technology
- Good verbal communication skills and math abilities
- Good eye-hand coordination, manual dexterity, space and form perception, and ability to see differences in objects
- Ability to handle a variety of activities, keep accurate records, make judgments based on data, and work within precise standards of measurement
- Ability to work with a variety of people

EDUCATION

Completion of an accredited radiography program offered by a hospital or college is required.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS IN NEBRASKA

- Alegent Health/Immanuel Medical Center – Omaha (C)
- Chadron State College – Chadron (B)
- Clarkson College – Omaha (A, B, C)
- Hastings College – Hastings (B)
- Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital – Hastings (C)
- Nebraska Methodist College – Omaha (A,B)
- Regional West Medical Center – Scottsbluff (C)
- Southeast Community College – Lincoln (A)
- University of Nebraska – Kearney (B)
- University of Nebraska Medical Center – Omaha (B)
- Western Nebraska Community College – Scottsbluff (A)

LICENSURE / CERTIFICATION

An individual seeking certification must complete a program approved by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology and pass an exam to be certified by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. Registered technologists may become certified in radiation therapy or nuclear medicine by completing an additional year of study.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Society of Radiologic Technologists

Web Address: www.asrt.org

American Registry of Radiologic Technologists

Web Address: www.arrt.org