

Ultrasonography

Nature of the Profession

Sonographers use special equipment to direct sound waves into areas of a patient's body to generate images for diagnostic purposes. As the sound waves bounce off the area being examined (the liver, for example) they create an echo that is captured by a computer and converted into images on a screen. The sonographer records these images for interpretation and diagnosis by a physician.

Sonographers must take a thorough patient history, explain the procedure to the patient and put the patient at ease. They must operate equipment to produce quality images and review all of the findings with the radiologist.

APTITUDES

- Ability to work with a variety of people
- Detail oriented
- Good manual dexterity, space and form perception, and ability to see differences in objects
- Ability to learn scientific as well as mechanical information

EDUCATION

The minimum educational requirement for a sonographer is usually completion of a CAAHEP accredited program that may be two or four years in duration.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS IN NEBRASKA

- BryanLGH College of Health Sciences – Lincoln (A)
- Nebraska Methodist College – Omaha (A, B)
- University of Nebraska Medical Center – Omaha (B)

LICENSURE / CERTIFICATION

Licensing is not required, but to demonstrate proficiency, a person must take the national certifying exams from the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers

Web Address: www.ardms.org

Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Web Address: www.jrcdms.org

Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Web Address: www.sdms.org