Program Overview
The Cardiac Sonography program prepares individuals to perform cardiac sonography of the cardiovascular system at the request of physicians to aid in diagnosis, therapeutic treatments and cardiovascular disease management. The program includes instruction in reviewing and recording patient histories and clinical data, patient care, investigative and examination procedures, diagnostic procedures, data analysis and documentation, physician consultation, equipment operation and monitoring, and professional standards and ethics. The above is delivered in a curriculum consisting of 15 courses (42 credits) with 1198 clinical laboratory and practicum hours.

Program Description
The Rutgers Cardiac Sonography Program is located on the Scotch Plains campus. It is a fifteen month program starting in September and covers both clinical and didactic instruction in cardiac ultrasound and non-invasive cardiovascular diagnostic testing. The course of study includes Applied Anatomy and Physiology, Pathophysiology, Ultrasound Physics, Instrumentation and Applied Cardiac Sonography. Clinical training is provided in active Cardiology departments equipped with the most advanced ultrasound equipment. The Rutgers Cardiac Sonography program is offered as a university certificate.

Description Of The Profession
The profession of diagnostic medical sonography includes general sonography, cardiac sonography, vascular technology, and various subspecialties. The profession requires judgment and the ability to provide appropriate health care services. General sonographers, cardiac sonographers, and vascular technologists are highly skilled professionals qualified by education to provide patient services using diagnostic techniques under the supervision of a licensed doctor of medicine or osteopathy. The general sonographer, cardiac sonographer, and vascular technologist may provide this service in a variety of medical settings where the physician is responsible for the use and interpretation of appropriate procedures. General sonographers, cardiac sonographers, and vascular technologists assist physicians in gathering data necessary to reach
diagnostic decisions. The general sonographer, cardiac sonographer, and vascular technologist are able to perform the following:

- Obtain, review, and integrate pertinent patient history and supporting clinical data to facilitate optimum diagnostic results;
- Perform appropriate procedures and record anatomic, pathologic, and/or physiologic data for interpretation by a physician;
- Record, analyze, and process diagnostic data and other pertinent observations made during the procedure for presentation to the interpreting physician;
- Exercise discretion and judgment in the performance of sonographic and/or other diagnostic services;
- Demonstrate appropriate communication skills with patients and colleagues;
- Act in a professional and ethical manner;
- Provide patient education related to medical ultrasound and/or other diagnostic vascular techniques, and promote principles of good health.

*(Taken from the Essentials and Guidelines for Diagnostic Medical Sonography Programs accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs)*

**Student Expectations**

Expectation of Student while in program:
Didactic expectations of the student while in the program are the maintenance of a minimum of 80% average grade as passing, satisfactory attendance, satisfactory completion of assignments within allotted time frames, compliance with all Rutgers rules and regulations as set forth in the Student Handbook, and adherence to Rutgers academic integrity guidelines.

Clinical expectations of the student while in the program include the following: Completion of the course clinical objectives as noted in the syllabus. It is the students' responsibility to familiarize themselves with the total department operation and all personnel they will be interacting with for the rotation period.

During the course of each semester students are responsible for the completion of Clinical Projects administered to them.

The student is expected to report to the clinical affiliate as scheduled for their designated rotation and training. Consistent attendance is a requirement for course completion. Two or more unexcused absences is considered excessive and unless the time is made up to the satisfaction of the affiliate and program
faculty the student will receive and F for the course. Tardiness is considered a form of unexcused absence.

It is the students’ responsibility to notify both the department supervisor or clinical instructor and the program office if they will be unable to attend clinic on a specific day.

**Full-time and Part-time Status**
The Cardiac Sonography is offered as a full-time only program. Mode of teaching is traditional with some web enhanced courses.

**Department Faculty**
Please see the department faculty under [Medical Imaging](#) Department/view all campus.

**Primary Campus Location**
The program is based in the Scotch Plains campus.

**Curriculum**
See database for [program requirements](#) and course descriptions and select your program at:

**Major Clinical Affiliates**
- Jersey Shore University Medical Center – Neptune, NJ
- Ocean Medical Center – Brick, NJ
- Riverview Medical Center – Red Bank, NJ
- Southern Ocean County Hospital – Manahawkin, NJ
- Robert Wood Johnson UH - New Brunswick, NJ
- Saint Clare’s Hospital - Denville, NJ
- Saint Clare’s Hospital - Dover, NJ
- Saint Peter’s University Hospital - New Brunswick, NJ
- University Hospital - Newark, NJ
- Monmouth Medical Center - Long Branch, NJ
- Community Medical Center - Toms River, NJ
- Somerset Medical Center - Somerville, NJ

**Accreditation Status**
(Application in process).
Commission for the Accreditation of Allied Health Education Program (CAAHEP)
Admissions Requirements

OPTION 1: Certificate in Cardiac Sonography: Applicants must have previously completed a two-year allied health education program (i.e. radiography, nursing, etc.) or equivalent college course work (60 college credits in any discipline). Applicants must also have completed the specific prerequisite courses listed below.

OPTION 2: Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging Sciences: Applicants must have completed the required liberal study courses at the partner institution with a minimum G.P.A. of 2.75. For more information please refer to the section on Bachelor of Science in Allied Health Technologies.

OPTION 3: Second Bachelor of Science Degree: This option is for applicants that possess a BS or BA degree. Applicants must also have completed the specific prerequisite courses listed below.

Specific Prerequisite Courses:
Option 1 and 3 applicants must have completed the following college course prerequisites or their equivalent: *Human Anatomy & Physiology (6-8 credits), College Math, Algebra or Statistics (3 credits), General Physics (2-4 credits) or Physics for the Diagnostic Imaging Professional offered through the Department of Medical Imaging Sciences, English (3 credits) and *Medical Terminology (online certificate courses are accepted). *It is recommended that these courses be completed within 5 years of application to program.

Suggested coursework: Introduction to Computers, knowledge of MS PowerPoint.

Students accepted into the program are required to complete a CPR course for Allied Health Professionals prior to starting the program.

G.P.A. minimum requirement/credentialing requirement:
All students with a GPA of 2.75 and above are encouraged to apply. However, final consideration of GPA scores will depend on the pool of applicants.
Foreign educated students applying for the certificate option must submit an evaluation of their foreign transcripts by World Education Services, official foreign transcripts, and official test scores from TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) or 6 credits of college English courses at a U.S. college.

**For More Information**

*For additional information about the application process contact:*
Office of Enrollment Services at (973) 972-5336 or via e-mail.

*For additional information about the program contact:*

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
RBHS - School of Health Related Professions
Cardiac Sonography Program
**Stanley Ort**, Program Director
1776 Raritan Rd.
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

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