

# SONOGRAPHY PROGRAM PACKET CONTENTS

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## **Special Services and Student Accommodations (ADA)**

Students or prospective students with disabilities can contact the Office of Accommodations/Disabilities. The Office of A/D exists to assist students with documented disabilities as they pursue their goal of a college education. The office serves as a liaison between students and the college in matters of communication and action toward achievement of reasonable accommodations. Each student is encouraged to act as his or her own advocate, and take the major responsibility for securing accommodations. The Office of A/D provides students with the voluntary and confidential means to seek accommodations for academic and related needs. Early and regular contact will assure the timely identification of needed services and the location of resources and options available to the student. Eligibility for disability services at Weatherford College is dependent upon the nature of the disability and its impact on learning. A disability is defined as any mental or physical condition that substantially limits an individual's ability to perform one or more major life activities. These disabilities may be: physical, visual or auditory, neurological or psychological in nature, and also include chronic health problems and learning and communication disorders.

The Office of A/D is located in Student Services-lower level. Due to the high volume of students who receive services through this office it is highly recommended that students make appointments with the counselor in the Office of Accommodations and Disabilities located in Students Services or call 817-598-6350.

Rev. Sept 2020



## DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY PROGRAM

The Weatherford College Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is a 22 month curriculum comprised of classroom, laboratory, and clinical learning experiences. The course of study is comprised of 65 semester-credit hours and is designed to prepare individuals for careers as entry-level diagnostic medical sonographers.

The Weatherford College Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs ([www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)) upon the recommendation of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs  
25400 US Highway, 19 N., Suite 158 Clearwater, FL 33763 727-  
210-2350 [www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)

### Program Goals

The goal of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is to prepare competent entry-level general and vascular sonographers in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains.

### Application Requirements

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program begins every year in August and is a 22 month continuous program which requires full-day attendance Monday through Friday. All prospective students are required to meet the admission criteria. In addition, all applicants should be free of illegal drug use, have no felony convictions, and be clear of any misdemeanor convictions other than minor traffic violations. For more information about the application procedures please call (817) 598-6217. Applications for admission will be accepted beginning the **first business day in December through the last business day of February** each year for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program. Applications may be downloaded from our program web page.

Application requirements include the following:

- Submit Weatherford College application via ApplyTexas (*select General Studies as major*), official transcripts, and evidence of Texas Success Initiative or completion to the Office of Student Affairs.
- Complete Sonography Program prerequisites. Science courses (BIOL 2401 and 2402) must be current within the past 5 years at time of admission. *Program Director may grant a waiver for the time limit on science courses, by accepting the AP test through the testing center, on a case by case basis. This excludes courses over 10 years old.*
- Complete HESI A2 test (*must have a minimum score of 70% each on the reading comprehension and math sections*).
- Completed first Hepatitis B shot. We do not recommend the fast track in order to ensure readiness for clinical.
- Submit Health & Human Sciences Application to Health & Human Sciences Office, with the following: Official transcripts, HESI A2 scores and:
  - Proof of Hepatitis B vaccine (three dose series), proof of positive titer, or Dept. of State Health Services waiver. This is a 4 – 6 month process and **must** be completed prior to the Fall semester.
  - Consideration for credit for human medical work experience requires submission of training certificate, transcripts, and a resume with references.
- **Failure to meet application requirements will result in denial of application.**

Weatherford College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Applicants are considered on the basis of qualifications without regard to gender, age, race, color, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, veteran status, or the presence of a non-job-related disability or any other legally protected status.

### HESI A2 Entrance Exam

The HESI A2 entrance exam is given in the Testing Center at Weatherford College, located in the Jack Knight Building. The cost of the exam can be verified by calling the Testing Center at 817-598-6383 and is paid in the Weatherford College Business Office. To schedule the HESI A2 Exam, please go to [www.wc.edu](http://www.wc.edu), click on the Admissions and Financial Aid tab. Then click on Testing Centers and the Weatherford location. There is a box that says schedule an exam. Click on this box and schedule the exam and it will tell you everything you need to know to take the exam.

You will need to present the receipt from the business office to the personnel in the Testing Center. The exam takes approximately four hours and is computerized. You are allowed to take the test once every 60 days. Once you have completed the test, please print two copies of the results in order to keep a copy for your records. The HESI A2 scores are good for two years.

### ONCE SELECTED FOR ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM, THE STUDENT MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING PRIOR TO THE CLINICAL PORTION OF THE PROGRAM, but only after instructed when to do so:

- Complete a criminal background check

- Obtain a TB screen test, a 10 panel urine drug screen, various titers and immunizations, completion of Hepatitis B series, and a back/spine screen
- Submit proof of major medical health insurance
- Obtain current American Heart Association Health Care Provider CPR - valid through 2 years.

Information and specifics on obtaining the above criteria will be available to the student upon acceptance to the program.

**Start-up costs for immunizations, titers, urine drug screen, CPR, back/spine screen, and health insurance varies but could run as much as \$400.**

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, “employment of diagnostic medical sonographers is expected to increase by about 39% through 2022”.

#### English Proficiency Requirements

**Before being accepted into the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program an applicant who's native language\* is not English must submit an acceptable score on the Test of Spoken English (TSE) with application. Additional information may be obtained from the Health & Human Sciences Department. \*A native language is a language that is acquired naturally during childhood & is usually spoken at home, as opposed to a language that is learned later in life, for example, as a part of a person's formal education.**

#### Selection into the program is base on the following scoring methods:

##### 1. Prerequisite Courses

See below. *All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or better. GPA of 3.5 for prerequisites recommended.*

(Points awarded for each course completed)

A = 4 points, B = 3 points, C = 2 points

##### 2. Points awarded for a previous degree

Master’s = 8 points, Bachelor’s = 6 points, Associate’s = 4 points

##### 3. Points awarded for prior applications

2 points per prior application: maximum of 6 points allowed

##### 4. Points for prior medical work experience

Certificate and resume required for proof/5 points per year of experience: maximum of 15 points allowed 5.

##### HESI A2 Assessment test scores

Reading, Math, A & P, Grammar, and Vocabulary (points awarded based on scores in each section).

90-100 = 4 points, 80-89 = 3 points, 70-79 = 2 points

##### 6. Personal Interview

Only the top 30\* applicants will be selected for an interview. Interviews will be scored. \*Number selected is subject to change.

##### 7. Final Ranking process

Interviewed students will be re-ranked as follows: personal interview score, 40%, total of items 1-4 from above, 40%, HESI A2 scores 20%. The twenty applications with the highest cumulative points will be accepted each Fall semester. Alternates will be accepted on a stand-by basis. The number of selected applicants is subject to change.

### DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY CURRICULUM

#### **Prerequisite Courses**

BIOL 2401 Anatomy and Physiology I  
 BIOL 2402 Anatomy and Physiology II  
 MATH 1314 College Algebra  
 ENGL 1301 English Composition I  
 PSYC 2301 Introduction to Psychology  
 Elective Language/Philosophy/Culture/Creative Arts  
 PHYS 1401 General Physics I or PHYS 1415 Physical Science

#### **Fall Semester I**

DMSO 1110 Introduction to Sonography  
 DMSO 1441 Abdominopelvic Sonography  
 DMSO 1302 Basic Ultrasound Physics  
 DMSO 1266 Practicum

#### **Fall Semester IV**

DMSO 1355 Sonographic Pathophysiology  
 DSVT 1300 Principles of Vascular Technology  
 DMSO 1367 Practicum

#### **Spring Semester II**

DMSO 2305 Sonography of Obstetrics/Gynecology  
 DMSO 2243 Advanced Ultrasound Physics  
 DSVT 1103 Introduction to Vascular Technology  
 DMSO 1366 Practicum

#### **Spring Semester V**

DSVT 2335 Advanced Vascular Technology  
 DMSO 2130 Advanced Ultrasound and Review (Capstone)  
 DSVT 1364 Practicum (Capstone)

#### **Summer Semester III**

DMSO 2253 Sonography of Superficial Structures  
 DMSO 2242 Sonography of High Risk Obstetrics  
 DMSO 1267 Practicum

Health Sciences Division  
**REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS & DRUG SCREEN**

**Applicant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Program:** A.D. Nursing-[ ]; Phlebotomy-[ ]; PTA Program-[ ]; Radiologic Technology-[ ];  
Respiratory Care-[ ]; Sonography-[ ] Vocational Nursing-[ ]

**Directions:** It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the following required immunizations and laboratory work is completed and documentation provided to Castlebranch. **ADMISSION TO ALL HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES PROGRAMS IS CONDITIONAL UNTIL THIS INFORMATION IS RECEIVED.** All costs associated with these requirements are the responsibility of the applicant.

**REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS**

Once accepted into the program, you must submit documentation to Castlebranch that shows proof of current immunizations. Check with your healthcare provider to determine if booster injections are necessary.

**Tdap (Combined Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis) –** Must be current within 10 years.

**Influenza Vaccine –** annual flu shot

**Mumps/Measles/Rubella -**

Measles	Must have two (2) doses since 12 months of age. The two (2) doses must be at least 30 days apart or proof of a positive titer
Mumps	Must have at least one (1) dose since 12 months of age or proof of a positive titer
Rubella	At least one (1) dose since 12 months of age is required or proof of a positive titer

**Hepatitis B Vaccine Series** (or started the series of 3)

Hepatitis B	THREE DOSE SERIES MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE CONTACT WITH CLIENTS/PATIENTS in CLINICALS/PRACTICUMS or a positive Hep B titer.
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**Varicella (chickenpox) -**

Varicella (chickenpox)	All students must document evidence of immunity to varicella (chickenpox). This requirement may be met by any of the following: 1. documentation of varicella immunization. Immunization for adolescents and adults is a series of two doses 4 to 8 weeks apart. 2. or a positive varicella titer.
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**REQUIRED LABORATORY STUDIES**

- Urine Drug Screen –** Must be completed with Castlebranch (please refer to Admission Checklist for timeline of test to be done).
- TB Skin Test (Tine) -** Test date MUST be less than one year from date of submission of test copy. (If unable to obtain T.B. skin test due to allergy or persistent positive reading, a Chest X-Ray is required.)

Weatherford College (main campus)  
Health & Human Sciences Division  
225 College Park Drive  
Weatherford, TX 76086  
(817) 594-5471 or (800) 287-5471  
Fax: (817) 598-6455

Weatherford College Mineral Wells Education Center  
Health & Human Sciences Division  
704 Hood Road  
Mineral Wells, TX 76067  
(940) 325-2591 or (800) 300-2591  
Fax: (940) 328-1800

Weatherford College Wise County  
Health & Human Sciences Division  
502 Big Sandy Court  
Bridgeport, TX 76426  
(940) 627-2690  
Fax: (940) 627-0623

**Weatherford College  
Health & Human Sciences  
225 College Park Drive  
Weatherford, TX 76086  
(817) 594-5471, Ext 6217/6259  
Fax: (817) 598-6455**

Adoption Date: May 10, 2000  
Revised Date: 2/18

**ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PROCEDURE**

International applicants, any visa holders, permanent residents, and exchange students whose native language \* is not English must provide proof of English proficiency. Health and Human Sciences applicants must possess proficiency in oral English communication skills. Applicants must possess English language skills that allow for interaction in the classroom, skills laboratory, and clinical practice settings to successfully complete required course work and to provide a safe client care environment. The above applicants must demonstrate the use of acceptable grammar and pronunciation in formal verbal classroom presentations and verbal interactions with a variety of healthcare professionals, faculty, peers, and clients/patients in diverse clinical settings. **Note: Proof of English proficiency must be provided by the end of the application period for the desired Health and Human Sciences program.**

Applicants from the following list of countries with **majority English speaking populations** are excluded from this procedure:

- **Anguilla**
- **Antigua & Barbuda**
- **Ascension**
- **Australia**
- **Bahamas**
- **Barbados**
- **Belize**
- **Bermuda**
- **Canada** (except Quebec)
- **Channel Islands**
- **Dominica**
- **Falklands**
- **Grenada**
- **Guyana**
- **Ireland (Erie)**
- **Jamaica**
- **Liberia**
- **Montserrat**
- **New Zealand**
- **St Christopher (St Kitts) & Nevis**
- **St Lucia**
- **St Helena**
- **St Vincent & the Grenadines**
- **South Africa**
- **Trinidad & Tobago**
- **United Kingdom (England, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales)**
- **Virgin Islands**

Applicants who desire to enroll in programs that include a clinical practice component must demonstrate oral English proficiency.

Transfer applicants who cannot demonstrate exemption as outlined below are also required to demonstrate oral English proficiency as outlined in this procedure.

One of the following constitutes proof:

1. **TOEFL iBT – A score of 20 or greater is required on the speaking skills component. A composite score of 83 or greater is required. Four scaled section scores in Reading, Listening, Speaking, & Writing are required. An official copy of test scores must be received from Educational Testing Services (ETS) before the last day of the specific application period for the appropriate Health and Human Sciences program.**  
**Web site: <http://www.ets.org/toefl/index.html>. When registering for the exam, please have official scores sent to Weatherford College (School Code – 6931)**
2. **An associate degree or baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited U.S. college or university.**
3. **4 years of study at and a diploma from a U.S. high school.**

Applicants whose native language\* (as defined below) is not English must provide proof of English proficiency prior to application deadline in any Health and Human Sciences program that includes clinical/practicum-type course work. Proof will constitute the college receiving official TOEFL iBT or official transcripts as listed above.

**Applicants should access the ETS (Toefl iBT) website to locate testing dates, current fee schedules, and testing sites.** Weatherford College DOES NOT offer this test. Website address is:

**Web site: <http://www.ets.org/toefl/index.html>.** (Test of Spoken English) Click on "Test Locations".

English as an official language (language that is used on official documents, spoken on radio & television, included in a nation's constitution) does **not exempt** the applicant from the language proficiency requirement.

Copies of GED scores and/or TOEFL scores without the speaking skills score will not be accepted as proof of spoken English proficiency.

National Council on the Evaluation of Foreign Educational Credentials U.S. equivalence awards will not be accepted as proof of spoken English proficiency.

U.S. citizenship by naturalization process will not be accepted as proof of spoken English proficiency.

**\*-A native language is a language that is acquired naturally during childhood and is usually spoken at home, as opposed to a language that is learned later in life, for example, as part of a person's formal education.**

Sources: Oakland University, Rochester Hills,  
MI University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington,  
TX

The English-Speaking Union (<http://www.esu.org/faqs.html>)

The Origin & History of the English Language (<http://www.krysstal.com/english.html>)

National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) NCSBN Fact Sheet ([www.ncsbn.org](http://www.ncsbn.org))

Information & Registration Bulletin for Internet-based Testing (iBT) TOEFL iBT 2008-2009

Adoption date: 02/04-**Revision E**

Updated 02/18

## So you want to be a sonographer...

### Would you enjoy...

- Providing one-on-one care to a variety of people ranging from healthy to critically ill?
- Using high-tech instrumentation to create and interpret images from inside the human body that are used by physicians to make a medical diagnosis?
- Working as a key member of a health care team?
- Committing to life-long learning in order to maintain knowledge and expertise in a rapidly growing health care profession?



## If so...we'd like to tell you about a career in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

### What is sonography?

Ultrasonography, commonly called sonography, is a diagnostic medical procedure that uses high frequency sound waves (ultrasound) to produce dynamic visual images of organs, tissues, or blood flow inside the body. This type of procedure is often referred to as a sonogram or ultrasound scan. Sonography can be used to examine many parts of the body, such as the abdomen, breasts, female reproductive system, prostate, heart, and blood vessels. Sonography is increasingly being used in the detection and treatment of heart disease, heart attack, and vascular disease that can lead to stroke. It is also used to guide fine needle, tissue biopsy to assist in taking a sample of cells from an organ for lab testing (for example, a test for cancer in breast tissue). Unlike Xrays, sonography is a radiation-free imaging modality.

The non-physician professionals who perform these procedures are known as sonographers and vascular technologists (who are sonographers specializing in imaging and tests of blood vessels).

There are several areas of specialization in the field of sonography. These specialty areas are:

**Abdomen** - evaluation of all the soft tissues, blood vessels and organs of the abdominal cavities (for example, liver, spleen, urinary tract, pancreas)

**Breast** - frequently used to evaluate breast abnormalities that are found with screening or diagnostic mammography

**Obstetrics/Gynecology** - evaluation of the female reproductive system

**Echocardiography** - evaluation of the anatomy and hemodynamics (blood flow) of the heart, its valves and related blood vessels

**Vascular Technology** - evaluation and analysis of the hemodynamics (blood flow) of peripheral and abdominal blood vessels

**Neurosonology** - evaluation of the brain and spinal cord

**Ophthalmology** - evaluation of the eye, including orbital structures and muscles **What**

### **does a diagnostic medical sonographer do?**

A diagnostic medical sonographer is a highly-skilled professional who uses specialized equipment to create images of structures inside the human body that are used by physicians to make a medical diagnosis. The process involves placing a small device called a transducer against the patient's skin near the body area to be imaged. The transducer works like a loudspeaker and microphone because it can transmit sound and receive sound. The transducer sends a stream of high frequency sound waves into the body that bounce off the structures inside. The transducer detects sound waves as they bounce off the internal structures. Different structures in the body reflect these sound waves differently. These sounds are analyzed by a computer to make an image of the structure(s) on a television screen or that can be recorded on videotape.

Sonographers have extensive, direct patient contact that may include performing some invasive procedures. They must be able to interact compassionately and effectively with people who range from healthy to critically ill.

The professional responsibilities include, but are not limited, to:

- obtaining and recording an accurate patient history
- performing diagnostic procedures and obtaining diagnostic images
- analyzing technical information
- using independent judgement in recognizing the need to extend the scope of the procedure according to the diagnostic findings
- providing an oral or written summary of the technical findings to the physician for medical diagnosis
- providing quality patient care
- collaborating with physicians and other members of the health care team.

Sonographers must also be knowledgeable about and limit the risk from possible exposure to blood and body fluids. Many sonographers also assist in electronic and clerical scheduling, record keeping, and computerized image archiving. Sonographers may also have managerial or supervisory responsibilities.

### **What are some of the technical standards?**

Sonographers and Vascular Technologists must be able to:



- Lift more than 50 pounds routinely
- Push and pull routinely
- Bend and stoop routinely
- Have full use of both hands, wrists and shoulders
- Distinguish audible sounds
- Adequately view sonograms, including color distinctions
- Work standing on their feet 80% of the time
- Interact compassionately and effectively with the sick or injured
- Assist patients on and off examining tables
- Communicate effectively with patients and other health care professionals
- Organize and accurately perform the individual steps in a sonographic procedure in the proper sequence

### **What are the career opportunities?**

Sonography is a dynamic profession that has grown significantly over the past 20 years. With rapidly developing new technologies and increased use of diagnostic ultrasound procedures, growth is projected to continue in the future with employment opportunities for qualified sonographers in both urban and rural areas nationwide. Sonographers and vascular technologists can choose to work in clinics, hospitals, private practice physician offices, public health facilities, laboratories, and other medical settings performing examinations in their areas of specialization. Career advancement opportunities exist in education, administration, research, and in commercial companies as education/application specialists, sales representatives, technical advisors, etc.

### **What are the salaries for sonographers?**

In addition to excellent career opportunities, salaries for sonographers are competitive with or higher than other professionals with similar levels of education. According to the *SDMS Salary and Benefits Survey* report (released March, 2005), the median salary for sonographers is \$61,984. This income includes: 1) hourly salary, 2) overtime and, 3) on-call pay. The typical hourly pay rate is \$29, and the number of overtime hours worked per week by sonographers is 3. The typical on-call pay rate is \$3.00 per hour, and the call-in rate of pay is \$42 per hour. Note: The *SDMS Salary and Benefits Survey* report is available for free to all SDMS members.

Salaries vary depending on years of experience, number of specialties practiced, as well geographic location. There are opportunities for full-time and part-time employment.

### **How long does it take to become a diagnostic medical sonographer?**

Comprehensive Diagnostic Medical Sonography programs vary in length from one to four years depending on the degree or certificate awarded. Prerequisites also vary among programs from high school diploma or GED to specific qualifications in a related Health & Human Sciences profession.

The SDMS recommends that prospective students select a reputable program that

follows minimum curriculum and clinical education standards recognized by the [American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers](#) (ARDMS.) The SDMS does not recommend training programs that provide limited opportunity for students to apply classroom instruction and technical skills in patient care settings (clinical rotations). When seeking a reputable program, candidates might wish to consult the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) which accredits diagnostic medical sonography programs in the United States. A list of accredited programs is available on CAAHEP's web site, [www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org).

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[Terms of Use/Privacy Policy](#).

Useful links:

[www.sdms.org](http://www.sdms.org)

[www.ardms.org](http://www.ardms.org)

# Financial Aid Overview

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Weatherford College is dedicated to the idea that no student wishing to pursue a college education should be denied that opportunity. In determining the need for financial assistance, the Financial Aid Office is guided by its estimate of each student.

You can check your financial aid status on [myWC](https://mywc.wc.edu/ics). (<https://mywc.wc.edu/ics>)

Please note, [myWC](https://mywc.wc.edu/ics) is now the primary way the financial aid office notifies you of your current financial aid status. You can view your awards or any missing information that we need for you will be available here. Every student who has applied for admission to the college has a student ID.

## Student Refunds

For information, please refer to the following link:

<https://www.wc.edu/financial-aid>

## Buying Books with Financial Aid

Students may be eligible to purchase books from our bookstore by charging to their student account. If you have already been awarded federal student aid and you have enough funds to pay for tuition and fees plus books, then you may use these funds to purchase books at the Texas Bookstore located in the Main campus in Weatherford.

## Financial Aid Deadlines

All required documents including FAFSA, tax documents (if required), and other documents requested by the financial aid office must be received by the following dates.

For information, please refer to the following link:

<https://www.wc.edu/financial-aid>

- Failure to provide the required documents by the deadline could and will result in your aid not being ready to pay your bill on the deadline for bill payments. This means, you will need to make other financial arrangements such as a payment plan, cash, etc. with the business office or use the online payment system located in [myWC](https://mywc.wc.edu/ics).
- Simply completing the FAFSA by the deadline is NOT considered a complete file because there is more information required beyond the FAFSA application.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Questions about Sonography as a profession

**How much is the annual salary for graduates in this area?** See the following link from the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos273.htm#earnings>

**What is the career outlook for Sonographers?**

See the following link from the Bureau of Labor Statistics: <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos273.htm#outlook>

**As a Sonographer, will I be exposed to needles and/or bodily fluids?**

Yes. A Sonographer is involved in direct patient care which sometimes involves dealing with patient IV's, catheters, drainage tubes, colostomy bags, etc. There are certain sonography procedures that require fluid aspirations, contrast injections, biopsies, and tube placements. Some patients may experience nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, voiding, fainting, and cardiac arrest during a procedure. The Sonographer must be skilled in dealing with these conditions professionally when the patient is in the Sonographer's care.

### Questions about the Weatherford College Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program

**How do I apply for the Sonography Program?**

Application requirements include the following:

- Submit Weatherford College application via ApplyTexas (*select General Studies as major*), official transcripts, and evidence of Texas Success Initiative or completion to the Office of Student Affairs.
- Complete Sonography Program prerequisites. Science courses (BIOL 2401 and 2402) must be current within the past 5 years at time of admission. *Program Director may grant a waiver for the time limit on science courses, by accepting the AP test through the testing center, on a case by case basis. This excludes courses over 10 years old.*
- Complete HESI A2 test (*must have a minimum score of 70% each on the reading comprehension and math sections*).
- Completed first Hepatitis B shot. We do not recommend the fast track in order to ensure readiness for clinical.
- Submit Health & Human Sciences Application to Health & Human Sciences Office, Office C with the following: Official transcripts, HESI A2 scores and
  - Proof of Hepatitis B vaccine (three dose series), proof of positive titer, or Dept. of State Health Services waiver. This is a 4 – 6 month process and **must** be completed prior to the Fall semester.
  - Consideration for credit for human medical work experience requires submission of training certificate, transcripts, and a resume with references.
- **Failure to meet application requirements will result in denial of application.**

**When can I apply?**

Applications for admission will be accepted beginning the first business day in December through the last business day of February each year.

**What college physics class is required for the prerequisite?**

PHYS 1401 or PHYS 1415

**How long is the Sonography Program?**

The Sonography Program lasts five semesters, or 22 months. It is a full-time program, Monday-Friday. Between classes and clinical, you will attend 5 days per week.

**Can I work while I am a student in the program?** Working during the program is highly discouraged. The program is academically intense and the amount of time a Sonography student must spend in the program and studying is significant. You should plan ahead for your financial situation. The amount of absences allowed are very low. It is also very important to have reliable and dependable transportation to and from clinicals.

**What kind of schedule/hours can I expect to attend while in the program?**

The Sonography Program lasts five semesters, or 22 months. It is a full-time program, Monday-Friday. Between classes and clinical, you will attend 5 days per week.

**Can I complete the program on a part-time basis?**

No. The Sonography Program is a full-time program offered during weekday, daytime hours.

**Can I take classes in the evening?**

No. The Sonography Program is a full-time program offered during weekday, daytime hours.

**Is the program accredited?**

The Weatherford College Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs ([www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)) upon the recommendation of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs  
1361 Park Street  
Clearwater, FL 33756 727-210-2350  
[www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)

**How many students are accepted in the program?** The goal for the program is to accept 20 students per year. This number may change depending on the availability of clinical sites for the program.

**If I am an x-ray technologist or have an advanced degree, is there an accelerated plan for me to enter the program?** Currently, there is not an accelerated degree plan offered. You must meet all of the application criteria to be selected for the program, and attend the entire program as offered. We may, however, accept you the physics courses for your program in lieu of our physics prerequisite. Please consult with the Program Director.

**Is there a waiting list for the program if I do not get accepted?** No, applicants are ranked within the pool for the year of application. If they do not get accepted and still wish to attend, they must reapply and meet all criteria the following year. They will however, receive points (with a cap) for reapplying. For further information, please contact the Program Director or Administrative Assistant.

**Can I submit letters of recommendation?** No. Letters of recommendation are not accepted.

**Can I apply if I have not completed my prerequisites?** Currently, you may still apply if you have completed all prerequisites or can provide proof that you are enrolled in the final prerequisite courses at the time of application; however, **you may only be considered for alternate status**. If you are accepted, it will be contingent on your completing the courses with a grade of “C” or higher. You will be assigned a grade of “C” for applicant ranking purposes. Please be aware that this policy may change in the future.

**What is the minimum number of points I need to get admitted into the program?** There is no way to predict this number because the applicant pool is different each year.

### **Questions about the Echocardiography Certificate Program**

**What is the Echocardiography Certificate?** The Echocardiography Certificate is a two-semester, 24 credit hour program offered to provide graduates an opportunity to learn echocardiography. Admission is by selection only. Application to the program does not guarantee admission to the Echocardiography Certificate Program. The number of students admitted to this program is limited. Students admitted to the Echocardiography Certificate Program are selected on the basis of admission to the college, reading, writing, and math level, prior educational achievement, and health status. For specific application information and deadlines, contact the Sonography Program Director or the academic counselor.

**Can I apply for the Echocardiography Certificate Program?**

This course is offered every other year to graduates of a Diagnostic Medical Sonography program or credentialed licensed sonographer.