



# El Centro College

## Invasive Cardiovascular Technology

---

The Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program is a two-year, 70-credit-hour curriculum leading to the Associate Degree in Applied Sciences. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) in cooperation with the Joint Review Committee on Education in Cardiovascular Technology. Graduates from the program are eligible to write the exam for the Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (RCIS) credential offered by the Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI). After passing the exam, the graduate is eligible for limited medical radiologic (LMRT) licensure by the Texas Department of State Health Services. **A Social Security number is required to take the LMRT exam.**

Admission to the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program utilizes a **competitive application and acceptance procedure** via a weighted point system of scores on a personal interview, the HESI A<sup>2</sup> test, reference forms, and the applicant's cumulative grade point average on the Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum. **Prior to applying to the program, an individual must complete the entire 36-credit-hour Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum** comprised of selected general education support courses and six healthcare-related courses providing the student with an introductory knowledge of the theory and application of health care concepts.

Individuals who hold a minimum Associate Degree or Bachelor's Degree in a health-related field (i.e. Radiography, Nursing, Respiratory Care, M.D., etc.) may qualify to apply to the Advanced Training Certificate option of the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program. An individual who holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in biology, physics, etc. and who has experience in direct patient care may also potentially qualify as a Certificate applicant but will be evaluated on an individual basis to determine knowledge of pharmacology, human anatomy/physiology, and pathophysiology. **Potential certificate applicants should contact the Health Occupations Admissions Office for more information.**

**This information packet contains specific application guidelines and requirements. By submitting an application packet, an individual verifies that they have 1) read the packet thoroughly, 2) obtained all necessary documents from designated website addresses, and 3) understood the policies and procedures for application and acceptance to the program.**

---

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Educational opportunities are offered by the Dallas County Community College District without regard to race, color, age, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or sexual orientation.

---

### ***APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS TO THE INVASIVE CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM***

Application to the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program requires the following steps:

- Application and current admission to a Dallas County Community College District college.
- Attendance at an Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program information session.
- Completion of five designated courses from the Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum with a minimum grade point average of 3.00 or higher

**AND**

- Completion of the remaining Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher on the entire 36 credit hour Core.

- Completion of the HESI A<sup>2</sup> test with a minimum score of 70 on each of the required sections (Reading Comprehension, Mathematics, Grammar, Anatomy/Physiology, and Vocabulary/General Knowledge).
- Completion of a “shadow experience” at one of the program’s clinical affiliate sites.
- Submission of a complete application packet to the Health Occupations Admissions Office by the deadline of December 31, 2010 (for June 2011 application).

**A. *General Admission Requirements to the College***

Applicants to the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program must meet college admission requirements in the Dallas County Community College District as outlined in the official college catalog at <http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu>. Applicants must have earned either a high school diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) certificate in addition to complying with Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements. Students should consult the college counseling office to determine their TSI status prior to application to a Health Occupations program.

***Initial Advisement***

Students who are beginning college for the first time or who need assistance with placement testing, TSI issues, and/or registration for prerequisite courses must visit with an academic advisor in the College Counseling Center as their first step toward future application to a health occupations program. The student who has not completed college coursework should request a general Associate Degree plan from the Counseling Center as a starting point toward application to a health occupations program. ***NOTE: Additional assessment testing in computer literacy and learning frameworks courses may be required for certain students. See an Academic Advisor for more information.***

**B. *Program Information Sessions***

Potential applicants are required to attend an Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program information session where the program, application procedures, and acceptance policies are discussed in detail. Information sessions are held monthly and no reservation is necessary to attend. The current schedule is available online at [www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions](http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions), and in the Health Occupations Admissions Office (Room P-101) at the El Centro College Health Occupations Admissions Office located in the Paramount Building at 301 North Market Street.

**C. *Health Occupations Core Curriculum***

In order to apply to the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program, an applicant must:

- Complete the entire 36 credit hour Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum with a minimum cumulative grade point average 3.0 or higher;

**AND**

- Complete the ***five designated courses*** from the Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

The complete Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum *including the five designated courses* is listed below:

### INVASIVE CARDIOVASCULAR CORE CURRICULUM

	Lec Hrs	Lab Hrs	Ext Hrs	Cont Hrs	Cr Hrs
<b><u>Five “designated” courses</u></b>					
<b>SCIT 1407*</b> <i>Applied Human AnatomyPhysiology I <u>OR</u></i>	3	3	0	96	4
<b>BIOL 2401</b> <i>Anatomy &amp; Physiology I</i>					
<b>ENGL 1301</b> <i>Composition I</i>	3	0	0	48	3
<b>SPCH 1311**</b> <i>Intro to Speech Communications</i>	3	0	0	48	3
<b>HPRS 2201+</b> <i>Pathophysiology</i>	2	0	0	32	2
<b>HPRS 2300+</b> <i>Pharmacology for Health Professions</i>	3	0	0	48	3
<b><u>Remaining Core courses</u></b>					
SCIT 1408* <i>Applied Human Anatomy/Physiology II <u>OR</u></i>	3	3	0	96	4
BIOL 2402 <i>Anatomy &amp; Physiology II</i>					
MATH 1314++ <i>College Algebra</i>	3	0	0	48	3
PSYC 2301 <i>Intro to Psychology</i>	3	0	0	48	3
HPRS 1202 <i>Wellness and Health Promotion</i>	2	0	0	32	2
HPRS 1204+# <i>Basic Health Professions Skills I</i>	1	3	0	64	2
HPRS 2210+ <i>Basic Health Professions Skills II</i>	1	3	0	64	2
HPRS 2231 <i>General Health Professions Management</i>	1	2	0	48	2
Humanities Elective##	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>3</u>
<b>TOTAL HEALTH OCCUPATIONS CORE CURRICULUM:</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>36</b>

\* Science courses (SCIT 1407/SCIT 1408 or BIOL 2401/BIOL 2402) must be completed less than 5 years prior to the anticipated program entrance. BIOL 1406 is required prerequisite course for BIOL 2401. NOTE: SCIT 1407/1408 may not transfer to four-year universities.

\*\* Although SPCH 1311 is the preferred course, SPCH 135 – Fundamentals of Public Speaking is also accepted.

+ SCIT 1407 or BIOL 2401 is the prerequisite for HPRS 2201 and HPRS 2300; HPRS 1204 is the prerequisite for HPRS 2210. **NOTE: HPRS 2210 is the new course number for HPRS 1271.**

++ MATH 1414 – College Algebra will also be recognized as the math prerequisite course; however, it will be calculated as a three credit hour course for ranking purposes only. Higher level math courses such as Calculus may be evaluated for possible substitution if a student did not complete a college algebra course.

# 1204 must be completed no more than three (3) years prior to a student’s anticipated entry to the program. For example, if completed in Summer 2011, the course would be valid for application up to and including Summer 2014. HPRS 1204 is offered in the DCCCD at the El Centro and Northlake College campuses only.

## Humanities elective must be chosen from the approved list on the official Associate Degree plan. **Suggested courses include: ARTS 1301, DANC 2303, DRAM 1310, HUMA 1315, MUSI 1306, PHIL 1301, PHIL 1304, selected ENGL literature courses at the 2000 level or higher, sophomore level foreign languages such as SPAN 2311.**

A minimum grade of “C” is required in each Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum course. The above HPRS courses are offered at the El Centro and Northlake campuses of the DCCCD.

**D. *Evaluation of Previous Coursework***

To insure the transferability of previous coursework completed at colleges and universities other than Dallas County Community College District campuses, potential applicants to health occupations programs should have their coursework evaluated by the Health Occupations Admissions Office at least one semester prior to the application deadline for their program of choice if possible. **This procedure is especially important for students with coursework from colleges and universities outside the state of Texas.**

Transcripts and accompanying course descriptions will first be evaluated by the Health Occupations Admissions Office and, if necessary, be reviewed by respective college faculty for that course discipline. When all courses have been reviewed, an Educational Plan will be prepared for the student. The Educational Plan is accepted as a preliminary “degree plan” for student advisement purposes.

These evaluations are usually completed within 10-14 working days. The evaluation process is not completed during individual appointments or on an “as you wait” basis. **During peak times such as registration or after the close of the semester when faculty are unavailable, an evaluation may take as long as 30 days for review. Therefore, it is to the applicant’s advantage to request the Educational Plan at their earliest convenience prior to application to the program.**

*The El Centro College Health Occupations Admissions Office and the Health/Legal and Continuing/Workforce Education Division reserves the right to accept or reject any coursework completed outside the DCCCD presented for transfer evaluation toward Health Occupations programs.*

For more information on requesting evaluation of your previous coursework and the Educational Plan, download the guidelines and Request for Educational Plan form at the following link: <http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions>.

*Five-Year Time Limit on Science coursework*

All science coursework (anatomy/physiology) must have been completed less than five years prior to application to a Health Occupations program. If an individual has **current** experience utilizing their related science knowledge or has completed **advanced courses** in a related science area, the student may petition for a waiver of the time limit through the Health Occupations Admissions Office as a separate review or in conjunction with an educational plan request.

**NOTE:** In order for a science course taken outside the DCCCD to be considered for a five-year time limit waiver, the course must first be approved for transferability. Information on the five-year time limit waiver is included with the **Request for Educational Plan** guidelines at the following link:

<http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions>.

*Coursework from Foreign Universities*

**Only courses such as college algebra and anatomy/physiology may be considered for transfer to Health Occupations programs from colleges or universities outside the United States. No other courses will be considered.** Science courses must be within the five-year time limit.

For more information regarding the evaluation of foreign coursework for transfer credit, see the following link:

<http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions>.

Credit by Examination, CLEP, and Advanced Placement Credit

Credit through CLEP, High School Advanced Placement Exams and Credit by Examination may be awarded for a limited number of courses toward Health Occupations programs.

Advanced Placement (“AP”) credit for ENGL 1301 and MATH 1314 is acceptable if the credit appears on a college transcript as ENGL 1301 and MATH 1314 equivalency. A letter grade is not awarded for “AP” credit.

**NOTE: An applicant to the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program may present credit by exam, CLEP, or “AP” credit for only one of the five designated courses and one course from the remaining Core Curriculum courses. Credit will be acknowledged but not calculated with the grade point average.**

Detailed information regarding Advanced Placement, CLEP, and Credit by Examination can be found at [www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions](http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions).

**E. HESI A<sup>2</sup> Test**

The HESI A<sup>2</sup> test is a timed, computerized test which is usually completed in 3-4 hours. In addition to completing the 36 credit hour Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Core Curriculum, applicants must also earn *a minimum score of 70 or higher* on the following sections of the HESI A<sup>2</sup> test: **Reading Comprehension, Grammar, Vocabulary/General Knowledge, Math, and Anatomy/Physiology**. Students must also complete the Learning Styles and Personality Profile sections and submit those results with their application materials. The Learning Styles and Personality Profile sections are not graded.

Please note the following important information regarding the HESI A<sup>2</sup>:

- Test scores are valid for **two years** from the date of testing.
- Applicants may take the HESI A<sup>2</sup> at any approved testing site including the assessment centers at El Centro and Northlake College campuses. The approximate cost of the HESI test at the El Centro College campus (Paramount Building) campus is \$35.00.
- **Applicants are responsible for securing their own testing appointment at the location of their choice.** The procedure for making testing appointments and payment varies among testing sites. **Applicants are responsible for submitting all of their score sheet(s) with their application materials.**
- HESI A<sup>2</sup> testing appointments at the El Centro campus fill quickly. Applicants are encouraged to schedule their HESI A<sup>2</sup> several weeks prior to an application filing deadline.
- The **HESI A<sup>2</sup> Study Guide** is available at various bookstores including the Follett Bookstores at the El Centro and Northlake campuses. A **HESI A<sup>2</sup> Prep** course is periodically offered by the El Centro College Continuing Education Division. Contact that office at 214-860-2147 for dates and times of the prep course.
- **There is no limit on the number of times an applicant may take the HESI A<sup>2</sup> test for application to the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Program.** An applicant may retest on any section or sections of the test on which they did not achieve the minimum score. Before the retest, the applicant is encouraged to review the study guide and/or enroll in the HESI A<sup>2</sup> prep course to prepare for the retest opportunity. HESI score sheets from all testing attempts must be submitted with the application packet. **The highest score earned (above the required minimum score of 70) on each section of the HESI A<sup>2</sup> will be used to generate points in the ranking process.**

More information on the HESI A<sup>2</sup> and the process for scheduling a testing appointment to take the HESI A<sup>2</sup> at the El Centro campus is available at:

<http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions>

**F. Shadow Experience**

Potential applicants to the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program are required to complete an observation or “shadow” experience at one of the program’s clinical sites to ensure that the applicant has first-hand knowledge of the function and responsibilities of a cardiovascular invasive specialist. The applicant should contact program coordinator George Nelson to arrange the shadow experience. See page 15 in this information packet for Mr. Nelson’s contact information.

**G. Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Program Application Packet Submission**

**Application Instruction packets** for selection of the June 2012 class for the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program will be available from the Health Occupations Admissions Office in September 2011. The application instruction packet contains the appropriate forms and detailed application guidelines for the program. **The application instruction packet is not to be confused with the information packet that you are currently reading.**

**Application packets with incomplete materials including physical exams, immunization records, and CPR certification will be disqualified and will be returned to the applicant.**

After completing the entire Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum and obtaining the Application Instruction packet, the student submits the following materials to the Health Occupations Admissions Office as their application packet:

1. A completed **Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program application form** and the signed **Statement of Student’s Responsibility** form.
2. **One official transcript from every college previously attended** other than DCCCD colleges. (Dallas County Community College District transcripts, continuing education transcripts, and transcripts from outside the U.S. are not required.) **NOTE: The print date of a transcript must be less than three years old at the time of program application.**
  - **Separate official transcripts are required from each college attended** although that coursework may be printed on another transcript as transferred coursework.
  - *Students must submit a complete set of official transcripts to the Health Occupations Admissions Office with their Invasive Cardiovascular Technology application packet materials even though the transcripts may have been previously submitted to a DCCCD Registrar’s Office.*

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Another complete set of official transcripts should also be submitted to the El Centro College Registrar’s Office if not submitted previously to another DCCCD campus.**

- **Transcript photocopies issued to the student or issued by a registrar’s office are not acceptable as official transcripts.** Grade printouts such as WebAdvisor, advising reports, e-mails from instructors, and other such documents **are not accepted** as official transcripts.

- If a college or university only releases transcripts directly to another college, the applicant is solely responsible for ensuring that the transcripts are mailed to the Health Occupations Admissions Office and they must be received before an application filing deadline. Documentation such as a copy of the transcript order form indicating the date the transcript was requested must be included with the application packet materials.

The applicant is wholly responsible for ensuring that transcripts which are to be sent directly to the Health Occupations Admissions Office are received before an application filing deadline.

3. A **catalog course description** for each course taken outside the Dallas County Community College District which applies to the Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum and for which the student seeks transfer credit.

Course descriptions may be photocopies or printouts from online catalogs. The course numbers on catalog course descriptions must match those on the transcript. Course descriptions should be marked on the photocopy. **Do not mark or highlight courses on official transcripts.** Course descriptions are not required for courses completed at a DCCCD campus.

4. **HESI A<sup>2</sup> score sheet(s)** indicating achievement of a **minimum score of 70 or higher on each of the five required sections and the Learning Styles/Personality Profile results.**
5. A one-page, hand-written **essay** on their “shadow” experience with a cardiac “cath” technician and the specific reason the applicant is pursuing a degree in Invasive Cardiovascular Technology. NOTE: The essay is not graded in the selection process. It is used as the student’s introduction to the interview panel.
6. The completed **Physical Examination and Immunizations Record form.** Applicants are responsible for obtaining the physical form and immunization guidelines from the following link: [www.EICentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions](http://www.EICentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions). See also item number 5 under the General Information section on page 13 of this packet.
7. **A photocopy of the applicant’s current “Healthcare Provider” level CPR card.** The expiration date of the card must not occur before the end of the first semester of potential entry to a Health Occupations program. See also item 6 under the General Information section on page 13 of this information packet.
8. Documentation of the applicant’s personal healthcare insurance coverage such as a photocopied insurance card. See also item number 7 under the General Information section on page 13.

**NOTE: Submitting incomplete application materials (including physical exam, immunizations, etc.) will disqualify the application and the student will not be considered further in the application process. Students are advised to retain a photocopy of all materials submitted as their application packet.**

### ***Reference Forms***

The Application Instruction packet also includes two waiver forms to authorize release of information and two reference forms. The applicant chooses two individuals to serve as references and provides each with a waiver/release form and a reference form to complete on their behalf. One reference form should be completed by the applicant’s current employer, and one reference form should be completed by a previous or current college instructor of the applicant. If the applicant is not currently employed, both reference forms must be completed by current or previous college instructors. Reference forms completed by family members or personal acquaintances are not acceptable. Each reference form is then sent directly to the Health Occupations Admissions Office. **The applicant is not allowed to gather the completed reference forms to personally submit with the rest of their application materials.**

**H. Application Filing Period**

The official filing period for June 2011 selection to the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program is:

**September 1 – December 31, 2011**

Application materials including reference forms **must be received in the Health Occupations Admissions Office or postmarked no later than Friday, December 31, 2011.** Students may submit their application packets to the Health Occupations Admissions Office in person **no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, December 23, 2011.**

**I. Selection for Interview**

After December 31, 2011, application packets will be evaluated and a ranking process will determine which individuals will be granted an interview for the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program. ***The top 30\* ranked applicants to the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program will be granted an interview as the next step in the selection process.*** (\*The number of interviews granted for the program is subject to change at the discretion of the Health and Legal Studies Division.) Interview appointments are tentatively scheduled on selected Fridays and Saturdays during February and March 2012.

The ranking process is outlined below:

1. Applicants are listed by grade point average (GPA) on the five designated courses from the Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum courses from highest (4.0) to lowest (3.00) to initially rank applicants. (A minimum 3.00 GPA is required on the five designated Core Curriculum courses for application.)
2. When two or more applicants have the same GPA on the five designated courses, the cumulative GPA on the remaining Core Curriculum courses is listed from highest (4.0) to lowest (2.0) to break the tie.
3. When two or more applicants have the same GPA on the five designated courses and the same cumulative GPA on those remaining Core Curriculum courses, the HESI A<sup>2</sup> score on the Reading Comprehension section will be used to break the tie.

The table below illustrates the ranking process for a sample group of applicants for Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program.

EXAMPLE OF RANKING PROCESS FOR INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITY

	GPA on 5 Designated Core Courses	GPA on Remaining Core Courses	HESI A <sup>2</sup> Reading Comprehension Score
Applicant #1	4.00	3.60	81.25
Applicant #2	3.77	3.75	79.03
Applicant #3	3.77	3.55	88.89
Applicant #4	3.54	4.00	95.46
Applicant #5	3.54	4.00	86.52
Applicant #6	3.54	4.00	77.67

If only five interviews were being granted for this Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program, applicants #1 through #5 would be interviewed.

**Selection for an interview is a competitive process. Neither submission of a complete application packet nor successful completion of the Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum is a guarantee that an individual will be granted an interview opportunity for the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Program. If granted an interview, an individual is not guaranteed acceptance into the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Program.**

Applicants who are not granted an interview may improve their ranking for the next filing period by 1) repeating one or more of the five designated Core Curriculum courses to earn a higher GPA (the last grade earned will be the grade of record) or 2) repeating one or more remaining Core Curriculum courses to earn a higher grade point average. **NOTE:** The decision to repeat a course successfully completed with a grade of “C” or higher in order to improve an applicant’s competitiveness in the ranking process rests solely with the applicant.

**J. Final Acceptance Process**

Once personal interviews are completed, applicants undergo a final ranking via the weighted point system outlined below (100 maximum points possible):

1. Personal interview – 30% of total point score
2. Cumulative grade point average (GPA) on the 36-credit hour Health Occupations Core – 25% of total point score
3. Reference forms – 15% of total point score
4. HESI A<sup>2</sup> test – 30% of total score

Scores on the five required sections of the HESI are awarded the following points before the total points for the test are weighted (minimum 4 points, maximum 12 points):

90 – 100	3 points
80 – 89	2 points
70 – 79	1 point

Total points for the above items are calculated for each student and a final ranked list of applicants for the program is generated.

**K. Notification of Acceptance**

Individuals who receive an acceptance letter are required to return a confirmation form within a specified timeframe to verify their space in the class. Failure to return the confirmation form by the specified date or failure to attend the scheduled preregistration/orientation seminar for the accepted class will result in forfeiture of their space in that class. **Notification letters are mailed by April 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**NOTE:** Applications submitted during an official filing period are not “held over” to the next year’s official filing period. Students who are not selected for admission to the program or students who decline their acceptance must retrieve and resubmit their application packet during the next filing period to be considered for a future admission opportunity.

**L. *Late Application Filing***

In the rare event that all individuals on the final ranked list are accepted and space still remains in the Invasive Cardiovascular class, complete application materials may be considered during the timeline below:

**Late application filing period for June 2012 (if necessary): May 1 – May 9, 2012**

Applicants would be notified of an interview opportunity via email by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 9, 2012. If late applications are considered, personal interviews would be scheduled on Friday, May 11, 2012.

**NOTE: It should not be assumed that late applications will be necessary for every Invasive Cardiovascular Technology class.**

**Program information packets are revised September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year and program guidelines are subject to change. Students are responsible for insuring they have the latest program information packet from the website below:**

**[www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions](http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions)**

**Visit the web page below for the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Program at:**

**[www.ElCentroCollege.edu/Program/Health/ICVT](http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu/Program/Health/ICVT)**

**Health Occupations webpage:**

**[www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthCareers](http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthCareers)**

**Health Occupations Admissions Office webpage:**

**[www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions](http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions)**

## **CURRICULUM OVERVIEW –INVASIVE CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGY**

The Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Program is an intensive didactic and clinical training program which prepares the graduate for employment in cardiac catheterization laboratories. Invasive Cardiovascular technologists assist the cardiologist in all phases of cardiac catheterization including catheter insertion, operation of the electronic instruments, and calculation of the cardiac data used to confirm diagnosis and to design treatment for the cardiac patient.

The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) in cooperation with the Joint Review Committee on Education in Cardiovascular Technology.

Lec Hrs	Lab Hrs	Ext Hrs	Cont Hrs	Cr Hrs
------------	------------	------------	-------------	-----------

### **Coursework Required Prior to Program Admission**

Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum	31	14	0	720	36
---	----	----	---	-----	----

### **Semester I – Summer (9 weeks)**

CVTT 1313 Catheterization Lab Fundamentals I	2	2	0	64	3
CVTT 1304 Cardiovascular Anatomy & Physiology	3	0	0	48	3
CVTT 1360 Clinical – Cardiovascular Technology	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>240</u>	<u>15</u>
	5	2	15	352	9

### **Semester II - Fall**

CVTT 1340 Cardiovascular Pathophysiology	3	0	0	48	3
CVTT 1110 Cardiac Catheterization I	1	0	0	16	1
CVTT 1350 Cardiac Catheterization II	3	0	0	48	3
CVTT 1153 Catheterization Lab Fundamentals II	1	0	0	16	1
CVTT 2560 Clinical – Cardiovascular Technology	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>5</u>
	8	0	25	528	12

### **Semester III – Spring**

CVTT 2350 Cardiac Professional Transition	3	0	0	48	3
CVTT 1471 Special Topics - Cardiovascular Technology	3	3	0	96	4
CVTT 2563 Clinical – Cardiovascular Technology	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>5</u>
	6	3	25	544	12

TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS =	50	19	65	2144	70
-----------------------	----	----	----	------	----

\* CVTT 2350 – Cardiac Professional Transition contains the Capstone experience in the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Associate Degree program.

**ESTIMATED EXPENSES FOR THE INVASIVE CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM \***

	Dallas County <u>Resident</u>	Out of County <u>Texas Resident #</u>	Out of State/ Country <u>Resident</u>
<b>INVASIVE CARDIOVASCULAR CORE CURRICULUM</b>			
Tuition (36 credit hours)	\$ 1,620.00	\$ 2,988.00	\$ 4,752.00
Textbooks, Lab Manuals	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00
Professional Liability Insurance **	18.13	18.13	18.13
HESI A <sup>2</sup> test	35.00	35.00	35.00
Physical Exam and Immunizations +	225.00	225.00	225.00
CPR Certification	<u>65.00</u>	<u>65.00</u>	<u>65.00</u>
Total	\$ 3,363.13	\$ 4,731.13	\$ 6,495.13
<b>Invasive Cardiovascular Technology</b>			
<b>Semester I (Summer)</b>			
Tuition (9 credit hours)	\$ 405.00	\$ 747.00	\$ 1,188.00
Textbooks, Lab Manuals	300.00	220.00	220.00
Background Check/Drug Screen	86.00	86.00	86.00
Uniform/Lab Coat	50.00	50.00	50.00
Film Badge	<u>33.00</u>	<u>33.00</u>	<u>33.00</u>
Total	\$ 874.00	\$ 1,216.00	\$ 1,657.00
<b>Semester II (Fall)</b>			
Tuition (12 credit hours)	\$ 540.00	\$ 996.00	\$ 1,584.00
Professional Liability Insurance **	18.13	18.13	18.13
Film Badge	<u>33.00</u>	<u>33.00</u>	<u>33.00</u>
Total	\$ 591.13	\$ 1,047.13	\$ 1,635.13
<b>Semester III (Spring)</b>			
Tuition (12 credit hours)	\$ 540.00	\$ 996.00	\$ 1,584.00
Film Badge	<u>33.00</u>	<u>33.00</u>	<u>33.00</u>
Total	\$ 573.00	\$ 1,029.00	\$ 1,617.00
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED PROGRAM EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 5,401.26</b>	<b>\$ 8,023.26</b>	<b>\$ 11,404.26</b>

\* Tuition and other fees are subject to change. See official catalog for tuition table.

\*\* Liability insurance is assessed each fall at \$18.13 to cover fall, spring and summer semesters. Fee is prorated as \$5.00 for a summer entry to program.

+ Estimated cost of physical exam and immunizations.

# Students who are accepted to the Associate Degree Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program who reside in Collin or Tarrant Counties may qualify for the "Dallas Resident" tuition rate.

Other costs to consider: Personal health care insurance coverage, transportation and Parking Fees to El Centro and hospital clinical sites.

See the El Centro College Accounting Office for Tuition Payment Plan option.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

---

1. The Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Program accepts 10\* students annually for their June class. Program classes are offered during daytime hours.  
  
\* The El Centro College Health and Legal Studies Division reserves the right to make changes in program enrollment capacity.
2. The clinical experience of the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Program usually requires that a student be physically able to care for sick patients that may involve lifting, moving, and transferring patients. Students will be exposed to patients with infectious diseases. Protective and precautionary procedures are employed. The program requires the use of x-ray devices for visualization. The program will require students to stand for up to four hours at a time and wear a 15-20 pound lead apron while doing so.
3. Many of the Health Occupations Core Curriculum courses, including selected HPRS courses, are offered online. Students without prior experience with Internet courses should take the Smarter Measure – Learning Readiness Indicator (READI) test to see if they are a good candidate for online learning. Go to <http://dtc.smartermeasure.com/> and log in as a New User. The current User Name is **choose el centro** and the Password is **student**.
4. Students are responsible for obtaining their own living accommodations. It is also necessary for students to consider transportation costs to the college, as well as hospitals throughout the Metroplex. Clinical rotations vary among select hospitals. Any parking fees at El Centro College and/or the hospital clinical site is the responsibility of the student.
5. All applicants must comply with physical examination and immunization requirements and **submit the documentation with application materials. Physical examination forms and immunization records become the property of the Health Occupations Admissions Office and will not be returned or photocopied for the student; therefore, the student must retain a copy of these documents for their personal records.** The Physical Examination Form and immunization requirements guidelines are available at:  
  
[www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions](http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions)
6. All applicants must be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) at the “Healthcare Provider” level as designated by the American Heart Association. **A copy of the CPR card is submitted with Invasive Cardiovascular Technology application materials.** CPR classes are available through the El Centro College Continuing Education Division, the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, various hospitals, independent instructors, etc. **Online CPR certification classes are not valid for application to health occupations programs.**
7. All applicants to the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology program must submit documentation of personal healthcare insurance with application materials. Prospective students must secure their own coverage. The insurance policy must cover the student at any hospital facility. Information on college student policies and rates can be found at the following link: <https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0608/ss/sd/insurance.cfm>.
8. Clinical opportunities may be limited for students without Social Security numbers. If accepted to the program, a student must contact the El Centro College International Center Office (Room CM-60, telephone 214-860-2090) concerning their eligibility to obtain a Social Security number before graduation from the program for future employment opportunities. **A Social Security number is required to take the LMRT exam.**

9. Criminal Background Check / Drug Screening

All students enrolled in Health Occupations programs are required by the Dallas/Fort Worth Hospital Council member facilities to undergo a criminal background check and drug testing prior to beginning their clinical experience. Students are responsible for all charges incurred (approximately \$86.00) for these screenings. **This procedure is conducted after a student has been accepted to their respective program.**

Results of these screenings are forwarded to the El Centro College Health/Legal Studies for review and verification that a student is eligible to attend clinical rotation. All background check and drug screening results become the property of the Health and Legal Studies Division and will not be released to the student or any other third party.

A clinical agency reserves the right to remove a student from the facility for suspicion of substance use or abuse including alcohol. The clinical agency reserves the right to request that a student submit to a repeat drug screening at the student's expense on the same day that the student is removed from the clinical facility. Failure to comply will result in the student's immediate expulsion from the clinical facility. Furthermore, regardless of testing or testing results, a clinical agency reserves the right to expel a student from their facility.

***NOTE: Should a student who has been accepted to a Health Occupations program be prohibited from attending a clinical rotation experience due to findings of a criminal background check and/or drug screening, the student may be dismissed from the Health Occupations program.***

More information regarding the Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening procedure is found at:

[www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions](http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions)

10. Clinical assignments for the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Program vary from semester to semester from the list below:

Baylor All Saints Hospital – Ft. Worth	Methodist Dallas Medical Center
Baylor Heart and Vascular LLP	North Texas Veterans' Affairs Healthcare System
Baylor Medical Center – Garland	Parkland Memorial Hospital
Denton Regional Medical Center	Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas
Medical Center of Plano	UTSW University Hospital – St. Paul
Medical City Dallas Hospital	

11. El Centro College students who are enrolled in 6 credit hours or more during a fall or spring semester and 3 credit hours or more during a summer semester are entitled to a free DART train/bus pass for that semester. DART passes are available two weeks after the semester begins. See the Accounting Office for details.

12. Individuals who were first-time college freshman students in Fall 2007 or after are subject to the guidelines of section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code which prohibits a student from dropping more than six (6) college level credit courses during their entire undergraduate career. For more information on the 6 Drop rule, see the official college catalog online at:

[https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/ss/oep/dw.cfm?use\\_nav=acad\\_info&loc=ECC](https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/ss/oep/dw.cfm?use_nav=acad_info&loc=ECC)

13. The Dallas County Community College District charges a higher tuition rate for courses in which a student registers for the third or more times. The "Third Attempt" policy includes courses taken at any of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 semester. Developmental courses are not considered in this policy. For more information regarding the DCCC "Third Attempt" policy, please visit the following website:

<http://www.dcccd.edu/ThirdCourseAttempt>

14. A student may apply to more than one El Centro College Health Occupations program during a given filing period. However, if the student receives an acceptance letter to a specific program, confirms their intent to enter that program, and registers for program courses, their application to any other Health Occupations program that may share that filing period will be null and void.

Further, an individual accepted for admission and currently enrolled in an El Centro College Health Occupations program may not apply or be considered for admission selection for another El Centro College Health Occupations program unless their current program of study will complete before the second program curriculum begins. (Exception: An individual may apply to the Medical Laboratory Technology and Biotechnology programs in tandem to complete that dual degree.)

15. Financial Aid

Students should apply for Financial Aid Office well in advance of program application. Information on filing procedures and deadlines is found at [http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/Student\\_Services/FinancialAid](http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/Student_Services/FinancialAid). The Health/Legal Studies Office located in Room P-712 at 301 North Market Street also has information regarding scholarships and other financial assistance for health occupations students. Contact the Health and Legal Studies Division at 972-860-5095 for more information.

16. Please visit the websites below for links to professional organizations and other information regarding Invasive Cardiovascular Technology professions.

<http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/Program/Health/ICVT>

<http://www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthCareers>

17. Please contact the individuals below for assistance (physical addresses):

George Nelson, Program Coordinator  
Invasive Cardiovascular Technology  
El Centro College/Paramount  
301 North Market Street  
Dallas TX 75202  
Telephone: 972-860-5046  
E-Mail: [GNelson@dcccd.edu](mailto:GNelson@dcccd.edu)

Al Tolentino, Liaison Counselor  
Health/Legal Studies Division  
El Centro College/Paramount  
301 North Market Street  
Dallas TX 75202  
Telephone: 972-860-5045  
E-mail: [ATolentino@dcccd.edu](mailto:ATolentino@dcccd.edu)

Patsy Strawther, CVTT Admissions  
Health Occupations Admissions – Rm P-101  
El Centro College/Paramount  
301 North Market Street  
Dallas TX 75202  
Telephone: 972-860-5003  
E-mail: [PJonesStrawther@dcccd.edu](mailto:PJonesStrawther@dcccd.edu)

Gary Peschka, Faculty Advisor  
Health/Legal Studies Division  
El Centro/Paramount  
301 North Market Street  
Dallas TX 75202  
Telephone: 972-860-5037  
E-mail: [GPeschka@dcccd.edu](mailto:GPeschka@dcccd.edu)

**The official mailing address for all application materials, transcripts, and correspondence is:**

Patsy Strawther, CVTT Admissions  
Health Occupations Admissions Office  
El Centro College/Paramount  
801 Main St.  
Dallas TX 75202-3604

INVASIVE CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGY PRELIMINARY CHECKLIST

---

This checklist is provided to assist you in following the steps to prepare for program application. It is not part of the application packet that is submitted with transcripts, etc.

1.     \_\_\_ Obtain an Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Program information packet.
2.     \_\_\_ Attend an Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Program information session.
3.     \_\_\_ Complete a DCCCD application for college admission and consult an academic counselor as needed for TSI counseling, placement testing, etc. and complete any developmental courses as may be prescribed from test scores.
4.     \_\_\_ If needed, request Educational Plan/transfer evaluation of course work taken outside the DCCCD that applies to the Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum with the Health Occupations Admissions Office.
5.     \_\_\_ Enroll and complete the following courses which comprise the Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum (*five designated courses are in bold italics*):

- |                                   |                                    |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ___ <b>ENGL 1301</b>              | ___ <b>HPRS 2300</b>               |
| ___ <b>SCIT 1407 or BIOL 2401</b> | ___ <b>HPRS 2201</b>               |
| ___ <b>SPCH 1311 or SPCH 1315</b> |                                    |
| ___ SCIT 1408 or BIOL 2402        | ___ HPRS 1204                      |
| ___ PSYC 2301                     | ___ HPRS 2210 (formerly HPRS 1217) |
| ___ MATH 1314 or 1414             | ___ HPRS 2231                      |
| ___ HPRS 1202                     | ___ Humanities elective _____      |

A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 is required on the *five designated courses above*.  
 A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 is required on the entire Invasive Cardiovascular Core Curriculum.

6.     \_\_\_ Complete the HESI A<sup>2</sup>, scoring a minimum of 70% on all required sections of the test.
7.     \_\_\_ Obtain an Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Application Instruction packet which will be available in the Health Occupations Admissions Office in Fall 2011.
8.     \_\_\_ Compile application materials according to the guidelines found in the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Application Instruction packet and submit the completed application materials to the Health Occupations Admissions Office either in person by 12:00 noon on Friday, December 23, 2011 or postmarked by December 31, 2011.
9.     Application packets are evaluated and a list of qualified applicants is generated.
10.    The top 30 ranked applicants are scheduled for a program interview during the months of February and March 2012.
11.    Final ranking is completed and notification letters are mailed by April 1, 2012.

**MAILING ADDRESS:**  
 Patsy Strawther, CVTT Admissions  
 Health Occupations Admissions  
 El Centro College/Paramount  
 801 Main Street  
 Dallas, TX 75202-3604

**PHYSICAL ADDRESS:**  
 Patsy Strawther, CVTT Admissions  
 Health Occupations Admissions – Rm P-101  
 El Centro College/Paramount  
 301 North Market Street  
 Dallas TX 75202