

"Imagine Possibilities"



El Centro College

Specialized Imaging

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Echocardiography Technology

El Centro College offers Associate Degrees in Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Echocardiography Technology, referred to jointly as Specialized Imaging programs.

The **Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program** prepares individuals to perform diagnostic examinations using high frequency sound waves to visualize soft tissue structures including the gallbladder, kidneys, pregnant uterus, and other organs as requested by the physician. This program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) in cooperation with the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography. Graduates of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program are eligible to write designated RDMS registry exams.

The **Echocardiography Technology Program** prepares individuals to perform analysis of the heart for diagnosis of heart disease and evaluation of cardiac function through 2-D ultrasound images and Doppler flow analyses of the heart, measurement of blood flow velocities, calculation of data, and the use of up-to-date ultrasound imaging equipment. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). Graduates of the Echocardiography Technology Program are eligible to sit for either the RCS or RDCS board examinations once all other criteria required by each organization administering the examination are met.

The Specialized Imaging programs share the same **competitive application and acceptance procedure** via a weighted point system on a personal interview, HESI A² test scores, and cumulative grade point average on the Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum. **Prior to applying to one of the Specialized Imaging Programs, an individual must complete the entire 34-credit-hour Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum** comprised of general education courses and five healthcare-related courses which include 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 Specialized Imaging programs. An individual who holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in biology, physics, etc. with 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, anatomy/physiology, and pathophysiology. See page 4 for specific required coursework. **Potential certificate applicants should submit their official transcripts and health care credentials and work history to the Health Occupations Admissions Office for evaluation and verification of application track.**

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 IMAGING PROGRAMS

Application to one of the Specialized Imaging Programs requires the following steps:

- Application and current admission to a Dallas County Community College District college.
 - Attendance at a Specialized Imaging Program information session.
 - Completion of five designated courses from the Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum with a minimum grade point average of 3.00 or higher
- AND**
- Completion of the remaining Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum courses with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher.
 - Completion of the HESI A² test with a minimum score of 70 on each of the required sections (Reading Comprehension, Mathematics, Grammar, and Vocabulary/General Knowledge).
 - Submission of a complete application packet to the Health Occupations Admissions Office by the deadline of December 31, 2011 (for June 2012 application only).

A. General Admission Requirements to the College

Applicants to the Specialized Imaging 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 a Specialized Imaging Programs information session where the program, application procedures, and acceptance policies are discussed in detail. Information sessions are held monthly at the El Centro campus; no reservation is necessary to attend. The current schedule is available online at www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions and in the Health Occupations Admissions Office (Room P-101) at the El Centro Center for Allied Health and Nursing located at 301 North Market Street.

Potential applicants to the Specialized Imaging programs are strongly encouraged to seek out “shadow” experiences such as visiting the El Centro imaging program classrooms and labs to observe students and the program environment. Email the following for more information:

Sonography - Email: PCrawford@dcccd.edu

Echocardiography - Email: CCarolan@dcccd.edu

C. Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum

Application to the Associate Degree curriculum tracks for Specialized Imaging Programs requires:

- Completion of the entire 34 credit hour Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum with a minimum cumulative grade point average 3.00 or higher;
- AND**
- Completion of the *five designated courses* from the Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher.

The complete Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum *including the five designated courses* is listed below:

SPECIALIZED IMAGING CORE CURRICULUM

			<u>Lec</u>	<u>Lab</u>	<u>Ext</u>	<u>Cont</u>	<u>Cr</u>
			<u>Hrs</u>	<u>Hrs</u>	<u>Hrs</u>	<u>Hrs</u>	<u>Hrs</u>
<u>Five “Designated” Courses</u>							
<i>SCIT 1407*</i>	<i>Applied Human Anatomy/Physiology I</i>	<u>OR</u>	3	3	0	96	4
<i>BIOL 2401</i>	<i>Anatomy & Physiology I</i>						
<i>ENGL 1301</i>	<i>Composition I</i>		3	0	0	48	3
<i>SPCH 1311**</i>	<i>Intro to Speech Communications</i>		3	0	0	48	3
<i>HPRS 2201+</i>	<i>Pathophysiology</i>		2	0	0	32	2
<i>HPRS 2300+</i>	<i>Pharmacology for Health Professions</i>		3	0	0	48	3
<u>Remaining Core Courses</u>							
<i>SCIT 1408*</i>	<i>Applied Human Anatomy/Physiology II</i>	<u>OR</u>	3	3	0	96	4
<i>BIOL 2402</i>	<i>Anatomy & Physiology I</i>						
<i>MATH 1314++</i>	<i>College Algebra</i>		3	0	0	48	3
<i>PSYC 2301</i>	<i>Intro to Psychology</i>		3	0	0	48	3
<i>HPRS 1204+#</i>	<i>Basic Health Professions Skills I</i>		1	4	0	64	2
<i>HPRS 2210+</i>	<i>Basic Health Professions Skills II</i>		1	4	0	64	2
<i>HPRS 2231</i>	<i>General Health Professions Management</i>		1	2	0	48	2
	<i>Humanities Elective##</i>		<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>3</u>
TOTAL SPECIALIZED IMAGING CORE CURRICULUM:			29	16	0	688	34

* Science courses (SCIT 1407/SCIT 1408 or BIOL 2401/BIOL 2402) must be completed less than 5 years prior to 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.

HPRS 1204 must be completed no more than three (3) years prior to a student’s anticipated entry to an imaging 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 Nursing 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.

Required Prerequisite Coursework for Advanced Training Certificate Applicants

Individuals with a previous Associate or Bachelor's Degree in a health care area with direct patient care experience (such as nursing, radiography, respiratory care, medical degrees, etc.) may qualify to apply to the Specialized Imaging programs for an Advanced Training Certificate.

Prior to applying to the Advanced Training Certificate program, an individual must complete the three prerequisite courses (**ENGL 1301, SPCH 1311/1315, and MATH 1314/1414**) at a U.S. accredited college or university and have **documented college coursework in human anatomy, human physiology, pharmacology, and pathophysiology or have coursework which includes that content.**

Applicants to the Advanced Training Certificate directly compete with applicants who are pursuing the Associate Degree through the Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum. Although a certificate applicant is not required to complete the entire 34 credit hour Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum, their transcripts will be evaluated for equivalent Core coursework to determine a similar grade point average calculation to that of an Associate Degree applicant. Therefore, a potential certificate applicant should request an educational plan which will indicate the coursework which will be considered for the grade point average calculation. See section D below for more information on requesting an educational plan.

A certificate applicant may wish to complete selected courses from the Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum to increase their grade point average and competitiveness in the applicant pool.

Potential certificate applicants with qualifying degrees from colleges and universities outside the U.S. must have their degrees evaluated by a transcript evaluation agency. This must be a course by course evaluation and not merely a validation of the degree. For a list of evaluation agencies, see the link for Foreign Coursework under the Resources for Potential Applicants at the following webpage:

www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions

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:

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:

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:

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 Specialized Imaging programs 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.

E. HESI A² Test

The HESI A² test is a timed, computerized test which is usually completed in 3-4 hours. Applicants to the Specialized Imaging programs must earn **a minimum score of 70 or higher on each of the four required sections** (Reading Comprehension, Mathematics, Grammar, and Vocabulary/General Knowledge) in order to submit an application packet. Students must also complete the Learning Styles and Personality Profile sections of the HESI A² and include those results with their application materials.

Please note the following important information regarding the HESI A²:

- Test scores are valid for **two years** from the date of testing.
- Applicants may take the HESI A² at any approved testing site including the assessment centers at El Centro and Northlake College campuses. The approximate cost of the HESI test at DCCCD campuses 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 program application materials.**
- HESI A² testing appointments at the El Centro campus fill quickly. Applicants are encouraged to schedule their HESI A² several weeks prior to an application filing deadline.
- The **HESI A² Study Guide** is available at various bookstores including the Follett Bookstores at the El Centro and Northlake campuses.
- A **HESI A² 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.
- **An applicant to the Specialized Imaging programs may take each section of the HESI A² test a maximum of two times within the calendar year.** 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 A² prep course to prepare for the retest opportunity. HESI score sheets from all testing attempts must be submitted with the Specialized Imaging program application packet. **The highest score earned (above the required minimum score of 70) on each section of the HESI A² will be used to generate points in the ranking process.**

More information on the HESI A² and the process for scheduling a testing appointment to take the HESI A² at the El Centro campus is available at:

www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions

F. Application Packet Submission for Specialized Imaging Programs – June 2012 selection process

Application Instruction packets for application to the June 2012 selection process for the Specialized Imaging programs will be available from the Health Occupations Admissions Office in Fall 2011. These application instruction packets contain the appropriate forms and detailed application guidelines for each of the Specialized Imaging programs. **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 Specialized Imaging 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 **Specialized Imaging program application form and the signed Statement of Student's Responsibility form.** (Individuals applying to two or more of the Specialized Imaging programs will designate those programs in a prioritized order on the application 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 Specialized Imaging 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 Specialized Imaging 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. The **HESI A² score sheet(s)** indicating achievement of a **minimum score of 70 or higher on each of the four required sections and the Learning Styles/Personality Profile results.**

5. A one-page, hand-written **essay** on the specific Specialized Imaging program to which the applicant is applying. Guidelines on the subject matter of the essay will be provided in the application packet. NOTE: The essay is not “graded” in the selection process. It is used as the student’s introduction to the interview panel. **If a student is applying to more than one of the Specialized Imaging Programs, a separate essay is required for each imaging program to which they are applying.**
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.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions. IMPORTANT NOTE: See item number 7 under the General Information section on page 14 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 8 under the General Information section on page 14 of this information packet.
8. Documentation of the applicant’s personal healthcare insurance coverage such as a photocopied insurance card. See also item number 9 under the General Information section on page 15.

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 recent or current college instructor of the applicant. If the applicant is not currently employed, both reference forms must be completed by current or recent 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.** Only two reference forms are required although the applicant may be applying to more than one imaging program.

G. Application Filing Period

The official filing period for June 2012 selection to the Specialized Imaging programs 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 Saturday, December 31, 2011.** Students may submit their application packets to the Health Occupations Admissions Office ***in person*** **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 23, 2011.**

H. 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 each of the Specialized Imaging program. **The top 30* ranked applicants for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Echocardiography programs 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. It is possible for an applicant who is applying to both Specialized Imaging programs to be granted an interview for both programs, dependent upon their preliminary rankings. If granted an interview for both the Echocardiography and Diagnostic Medical Sonography programs, the interview is conducted with a dual interview panel.

The ranking process is outlined below:

1. Applicants are listed by grade point average (GPA) on the five designated courses from the Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum courses from highest (4.00) 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 (4.00) to lowest (2.00) 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 A² 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 one of the Specialized Imaging Programs:

EXAMPLE OF RANKING PROCESS FOR INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITY

	GPA on 5 Designated Core Courses	GPA on Remaining Core Courses	HESI A ² Reading Comprehension Score
Applicant #1	4.00	4.00	81.23
Applicant #2	4.00	3.60	90.18
Applicant #3	4.00	3.60	88.49
Applicant #4	3.80	3.20	77.57
Applicant #5	3.74	4.00	86.76
Applicant #6	3.63	3.75	92.32

If only five interviews were being granted for this Specialized Imaging 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 Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum is a guarantee that an individual will be granted an interview opportunity for the Specialized Imaging Programs.

Individuals who apply to more than one Specialized Imaging Program may not be interviewed for both imaging programs. If granted an interview, an individual is not guaranteed acceptance into a Specialized Imaging 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. 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.

I. Final Acceptance Process

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

<i>Ranking Criteria</i>	<i>Sonography</i>	<i>Echocardiography</i>
Personal Interview	50%	50%
Cumulative GPA on Specialized Imaging Core	20%	20%
HESI A ² *	30%	30%

* Scores on the four required sections of the HESI are awarded the following points before the total points 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 each program is generated.

I. 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 1st.**

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 a Specialized Imaging program or students who decline their acceptance must retrieve and resubmit their application packet during the next year’s filing period to be considered for a future admission opportunity.

ESTIMATED EXPENSES FOR THE SPECIALIZED IMAGING CORE CURRICULUM *

	<u>Dallas County Resident</u>	<u>Out of County Texas Resident</u>	<u>Out of State/ Country Resident</u>
Tuition (34 credit hours)	\$ 1,530.00	\$ 2,822.00	\$ 4,488.00
Textbooks, Lab Manuals	1,270.00	1,270.00	1,270.00
Professional Liability Insurance	18.13	18.13	18.13
HESI A ² 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	\$ 3,143.13	\$ 4,435.13	\$ 6,101.13

* Tuition and other fees are subject to change. Please refer to current course schedule for tuition table. See Accounting Office for Tuition Payment Plan option.

** Physical Exam/Immunizations and CPR certification is required prior to application to a Specialized Imaging Program.

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

See Accounting Office for Tuition Payment Plan option.

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

Transportation and Parking Fees to El Centro and hospital clinical sites.

The additional cost of tuition, textbooks, and fees for each of the Specialized Imaging Programs is estimated below:

Diagnostic Medical Sonography	Dallas Resident	\$ 3,455.26
	Out of County Texas Resident	\$4,899.26
	Out of State/Country Resident	\$ 7,011.26
Echocardiography Technology	Dallas Resident	\$ 2,322.13
	Out of County Texas Resident	\$ 3,614.13
	Out of State/Country Resident	\$ 5,283.13

NOTE: Students who are accepted to a Specialized Imaging Program who reside in Collin or Tarrant Counties may qualify for the “Dallas Resident” tuition rate.

This cost does not reflect the cost of parking at El Centro College or area hospital clinical sites

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW – DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY

	Lec Hrs	Lab Hrs	Ext Hrs	Cont Hrs	Cr Hrs
<u>Coursework Required Prior to Program Admission</u>					
Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum	29	16	0	688	34
<u>Semester I – Summer (9 weeks)</u>					
DMSO 2343 Adv. Ultrasound Principles/Instrumentation	2	2	0	64	3
<u>Semester II - Fall</u>					
DMSO 1351 Sonographic Sectional Anatomy/	3	0	0	48	3
DMSO 1366 Practicum-Diagnostic Medical Sonography	0	0	24	384	3
DMSO 1405 Sonography of Abdominopelvic Cavity	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>4</u>
	6	2	24	512	10
<u>Semester III – Spring</u>					
DMSO 2370 Advanced Ultrasound and Review	3	1	0	64	3
DMSO 2405 Sonography of Obstetrics/Gynecology	3	2	0	80	4
DMSO 2366 Practicum-Diagnostic Medical Sonography	0	0	24	384	3
DMSO 1355 Sonographic Pathophysiology	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>3</u>
	9	3	24	576	13
<u>Semester IV – Summer (5 weeks)</u>					
DMSO 2253 Sonography of Superficial Structures	2	0	0	32	2
DMSO 2262 Clinical-Diagnostic Medical Sonography	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>2</u>
	2	0	11	208	4
<u>Semester V – Summer (5 weeks)</u>					
DMSO 2263 Clinical-Diagnostic Medical Sonography	0	0	11	176	2
<u>Semester VI – Fall</u>					
DMSO 2345 Advanced Sonography Practices*	3	0	0	48	3
DMSO 2367 Practicum-Diagnostic Medical Sonography	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>480</u>	<u>3</u>
	3	0	30	528	6
TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS =	52	22	100	2752	72

* DMSO 2345 – Advanced Sonography Practices is the Capstone experience in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Associate Degree program.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW – ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY TECHNOLOGY

	Lec Hrs	Lab Hrs	Ext Hrs	Cont Hrs	Cr Hrs
<u>Coursework Required Prior to Program Admission</u>					
Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum	29	16	0	688	34
<u>Semester I – Summer (9 weeks)</u>					
DMSO 2343 Adv. Ultrasound Principles/Instrumentation	3	0	0	48	3
DSAE 2303 Cardiovascular Concepts	3	0	0	48	3
DSAE 1208 Principles of Echocardiography	2	0	0	32	2
DSAE 1260 Clinical – Diagnostic. Medical Sonography/ Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician	<u>0</u> 7	<u>0</u> 2	<u>9</u> 9	<u>144</u> 288	<u>2</u> 10
<u>Semester II - Fall</u>					
DSAE 2404 Echocardiographic Evaluation of Pathology I	3	3	0	96	4
DSAE 2335 Advanced Echocardiography	3	0	0	48	3
DSAE 2660 Clinical – Diagnostic Medical Sonography/ Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician	<u>0</u> 6	<u>0</u> 3	<u>32</u> 32	<u>512</u> 656	<u>6</u> 13
<u>Semester III – Spring</u>					
DSAE 2437 Echocardiographic Evaluation of Pathology II	3	3	0	96	4
DMSO 2355 Echocardiography Professionalism and Registry Review	3	1	0	64	3
DSAE 2661 Clinical – Diagnostic Medical Sonography/ Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician	<u>0</u> 6	<u>0</u> 4	<u>32</u> 32	<u>512</u> 672	<u>6</u> 13
TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS =	48	23	74	2320	70

* DSAE 2437 – Echocardiographic Evaluation of Pathology II contains the Capstone experience in the Echocardiography Technology Associate Degree program.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Echocardiography Technology programs each accept 10* students annually for their June class. Classes in the Specialized Imaging programs are offered mainly during daytime hours. The Echocardiography Technology program courses are conducted in an online format; however, the program coordinator has the prerogative to require on-campus classroom activities. Therefore, both Specialized Imaging programs should be considered full-time, day-time programs.

* The El Centro College Health and Legal Studies Division reserve the right to make changes in program enrollment capacity.

2. A Distance Learning opportunity is available for the Echocardiography program to accommodate a limited number of students in addition to the “on-campus” students. An applicant to this Distance Learning classes must reside a minimum of 100 miles from the El Centro campus and meet the same application requirements as the traditional “on-campus” applicants. For more information, please contact Cathy Carolan, Echocardiography Technology Program Coordinator.
3. The clinical experiences of Specialized Imaging programs require that a student be physically able to care for sick patients. This involves lifting, moving, and transferring patients. Students will be exposed to patients with infectious diseases. Protective and precautionary procedures are employed. The student must be able to stand on his/her feet for two to three hour periods of time and be able to reach across patients while scanning. Students are required to have good spatial perception from a two-dimensional TV monitor including color differences and the ability to hear subtle Doppler signals.
4. Students who must be absent from clinical experience due to a physical or mental illness, surgery, or pregnancy will be required to obtain a *written physician release* before returning to the clinical setting. A maximum of two days of clinical experience can be missed in a semester. The student will be dropped from the course if absences exceed the two clinical day limit. Students anticipating surgery or delivery of a baby and who will require a longer recuperation period before a physician release can be obtained are urged to wait to apply to the program.
5. Many of the Specialized Imaging 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**.
6. 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.
7. 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 is instructed to 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
8. All applicants must be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) at the “Healthcare Provider” level as designated by the American Heart Association. **A copy of a current CPR card must be submitted with the application materials.** CPR classes are available through the El Centro College Continuing Education Division, the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, various hospitals, etc. **Online CPR certification classes are not valid for application to health occupations programs.**

9. All applicants to the program will be required to provide documentation of personal healthcare insurance. The insurance policy must cover the student at any hospital facility. Prospective students must secure their own coverage. Information on college student policies and rates can be found at: <https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0608/ss/sd/insurance.cfm>.

10. 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.

11. *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

12. 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.

13. 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

14. Clinical assignments for the Specialized Imaging Programs vary from semester to semester from the list below:

Arlington Memorial Hospital	Methodist Charlton Medical Center
Baylor All Saints Medical Center	Methodist Dallas Medical Center
Baylor Medical Center at Carrollton	North Tex. Veterans' Affairs Healthcare System
Baylor Medical Center at Garland	Northlake OB-GYN
Baylor Medical Center at Grapevine	North Irving Imaging Center
Baylor Medical Center at Irving	OB-GYN Associates of North Dallas
Baylor University Medical Center	Parkland Memorial Hospital
Children's Medical Center	Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas
Cook Children's Hospital	Presbyterian Hospital of Plano
Doctors Hospital	Richardson Regional Medical Center
Heart Place (Richardson)	Southwest Vascular
John Peter Smith Hospital – Antepartum Testing	UTSW University Hospital – St. Paul
Medical Center of Arlington	UTSW University Hospital – Endovascular Surgery
Medical City Dallas Hospital	

15. 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.dccd.edu/ThirdCourseAttempt>

16. 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.)

17. Financial Aid

Students should apply for Financial Aid Office well in advance of program application. More information on filing procedures and deadlines is found at 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.

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

Jan Bryant Blend, Program Coordinator
Diagnostic Medical Sonography
El Centro College/Paramount
301 North Market Street
Dallas, TX 75202
Telephone: 972-860-5053
E-Mail: JBlend@dcccd.edu

Pam Crawford, Clinical Coordinator
Diagnostic Medical Sonography
El Centro College/Paramount
301 North Market Street
Dallas, TX 75202
Telephone: 972-860-5055
Email: PCrawford@dcccd.edu

Cathy Carolan, Program Coordinator
Echocardiography Technology
El Centro College/Paramount
301 North Market
Dallas, TX 75202
Telephone: 972-860-5052
E-Mail: CCarolan@dcccd.edu

Gary Peschka, Faculty Advisor
Health/Legal Studies Division
El Centro College/Paramount
301 North Market Street
Dallas, TX 75202
Telephone: 972-860-5037
Email: GPeschka@dcccd.edu

Patsy Strawther, Imaging Admissions
Health Occupations Admissions Office
El Centro College/Paramount
301 North Market Street
Dallas, TX 75202
Telephone: 972-860-5003
Email: PJonesStrawther@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

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

Patsy Strawther
Health Occupations – Imaging
El Centro College/Paramount
801 Main St.
Dallas TX 75202-3604

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

www.elcentrocollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions

Application instruction packets for June 2012 application will be available via email to students in September 2011. Request the application instruction packet by contacting:

HealthOccAdmissionsECC@dcccd.edu

Visit the web pages below for the Specialized Imaging Programs at:

www.ElCentroCollege.edu/Program/Health/DMS

www.ElCentroCollege.edu/Program/Health/ECHO

Health Occupations webpage

www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthCareers

Health Occupations Admissions Office webpage:

www.ElCentroCollege.edu/HealthOccAdmissions

SPECIALIZED IMAGING PROGRAMS 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 which is submitted with transcripts, etc.

1. ___ Obtain Specialized Imaging Program information packet.
2. ___ Attend a Specialized Imaging 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 Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum with the Health Occupations Admissions Office.
5. ___ Enroll and complete the following courses which comprise the Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum (*five designated courses are in bold italics*):

___ ENGL 1301	___ HPRS 2300
___ SCIT 1407 or BIOL 2401	___ HPRS 2201
___ SPCH 1311 or SPCH 1315	
___ SCIT 1408 or BIOL 2402	___ HPRS 2210 (formerly HPRS 1271)
___ PSYC 2301	___ HPRS 2231
___ MATH 1314 or 1414	___ Humanities elective _____
___ HPRS 1204	

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 Specialized Imaging Core Curriculum above.

6. ___ Complete the HESI A², scoring a minimum of 70% on all four required sections of the test **and** completing the Learning Styles and Personality Profile sections of the test.
7. ___ Obtain a Specialized Imaging Programs Application Instruction packet which will be available in the Health Occupations Admissions Office each Fall semester for the next June class.
8. ___ Compile application materials according to the guidelines found in the Specialized Imaging Programs Application Instruction packet and submit the completed application materials to the Health Occupations Admissions Office by designated application filing deadline (December 31, 2011 for June 2012 application).
9. Application packets are evaluated and a list of qualified applicants is generated.
10. The top ranked applicants are scheduled for a program interview during the months of February and March each year.
11. Final ranking is completed and notification letters are mailed by April 1.

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

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