Merritt College
Radiologic Science Program
updated 5-12-21

For complete information about the program, please visit our website:
http://www.merritt.edu/wp/radsc/

General Information: The purpose of the Merritt College Radiologic Science Program is to prepare qualified practitioners for competency in the art and science of medical imaging. Radiologic Technologists manipulate sophisticated technical equipment and computers to obtain detailed images of the human body. These images assist physicians in the diagnosis of injury and disease in the clinical environment. Radiologic Technologists work in hospitals, clinics, imaging centers, and physician's offices. A successful and competent Radiologic Technologist is one who works well as a team member, thinks critically, solves problems creatively, possesses strong technical skills, and cares for patients with sensitivity and compassion. The technologist must be flexible and able to work with patients from diverse cultural backgrounds with various needs, abilities, injuries, and disease processes. The program's student learning outcomes focus on developing these important qualities and skills in program graduates.

Upon completion of the program graduates will be able to:
1. Produce diagnostic quality medical images in a competent, safe, and compassionate manner for all basic radiography examinations in a hospital work environment.
2. Communicate effectively with patients by taking appropriate histories, giving clear instructions, and providing information as needed.
3. Communicate in a professional manner with hospital staff, instructors, and peers.
4. Exercise critical thinking and problem solving skills by adapting radiologic procedures to individual patient needs and conditions
5. Establish and maintain satisfactory professional relationships with other members of the health care team.
6. Function as an effective health care team member by providing services in a manner that complements those performed by other team members.
7. Demonstrate a commitment to professional development.

The **AS degree and the Certificate in Radiologic Science** will be awarded upon satisfactory completion of the Prerequisite requirements, the General Education requirements, and the Major course requirements. **The certificate-only option is available only to those who have already earned an Associate degree or higher**. **All students must submit a petition for either a certificate or the Associate Degree** (or both) to Admissions and Records by the deadline for Summer graduation in order to officially complete the program and qualify for the licensing exam and for employment.

The curriculum includes clinical internships at various East Bay hospitals. This is a continuous program of 24 months duration. Students applying to the program must be prepared to make a full-time commitment (approximately 36 hours per week during daytime hours) for two full years, including summers. Upon successful completion of the required courses in Radiologic Science and the Merritt

College Associate Degree requirements (or equivalent), the student is eligible to apply to take the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists examination required for licensure and practice in the state of California. Upon successful completion of the program and obtaining the California certificate, graduates will qualify for employment as Radiologic Technologists performing a wide variety of patient radiographic procedures in hospitals, clinics, and medical offices and imaging centers.

The program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology, 20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 2850, Chicago, IL 60606-3182 (www.jrcert.org), and the California Department of Public Health, Radiologic Health Branch, MS 7610, PO Box 997414, Sacramento, CA 95899-7414 (http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/Pages/RadiologicHealthBranch.aspx).

Enrollment

Enrollment in the program is every year in the Fall semester, by special application directly to the Radiologic Science program. The application period is **EVERY OTHER YEAR (in odd numbered years)** between January 15 and April 15. All courses used for consideration for enrollment must be **completed** before the application deadline date. **All supporting documents must be received no later than April 15 of the application year. Please be advised that due to the number of applications received by the program, qualified students generally remain on a wait list for 1-3 years before entry into the program.   The next class will begin the program on August 23rd, 2021, and will complete the program August 12th, 2023.**

    A. Eligibility Requirements:

        1. Completion of high school or GED test or equivalent (must provide proof).

        2. Completion of all prerequisite courses prior to application with a "C" grade or better for each course and an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher (for prerequisite courses only).

        3. Completion of all general education requirements for the Associate Degree. Students with prior Associate Degree or higher degree meet this requirement. Due to the high volume of program applicants, students who have not met this requirement will not be enrolled in the program nor placed on the wait list.

        4. Students must obtain medical clearance (at their own expense) and show proof of immunity to hepatitis, diphtheria, tetanus, polio, rubeola, rubella, mumps, and chicken pox before enrolling in the program. The Covid-19 vaccine is highly recommended and is required by many of our clinical sites for placement into clinical education. A negative Tuberculosis screen (PPD skin test or Chest X-ray) is also required prior to enrolling in the program. Instructions for this process are given to accepted students and must be completed prior to program start.

        5. Students must obtain a drug screen and background check (at their own expense) prior to enrolling in the program. Students with a history of illegal substance abuse and/or felony convictions including abuse or fraud may be excluded from participating in clinical education and from taking the ARRT licensing examination. Other types of offenses may also result in exclusion from clinical education (at the discretion of the clinical affiliate) and/or the licensing examination. Students with such histories are required to complete a pre-application review with the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists

(www.arrt.org, 651-687-0048 ext. 580). Students who are unable to obtain a provisional clearance with the ARRT will not be permitted to enter the program.

B. Application Procedures: (Between January 15 and April 15 every other year-odd numbered years)
After completion of the prerequisite courses and General Education courses applicants shall:

1. Schedule an appointment during the application period (between January 15th and April 15th) with the Radiologic Science application evaluator, by contacting the Allied Health program assistant in the Science Building room S343 or by email to wkarim@peralta.edu

2. Bring the following documents to your appointment with the application evaluator:
- **Two official** (unopened) transcripts from all colleges attended <u>outside</u> of the Peralta Community College District.
- **One unofficial** transcript for college within the Peralta Community College District.
- A copy of high school transcripts or provide proof of high school completion (a copy of the diploma or GED certificate or equivalent).

3. Upon verification of eligibility the application evaluator will complete a "Permit to Apply" form and give you an application.

4. Applicants are responsible for submitting the application, proof of high school completion or GED, and required transcripts from all colleges attended to the application evaluator or the Allied Health Office in the Science Building room S343 on the Merritt Campus, 12500 Campus Drive, Oakland, CA 94619 *by the Arpil 15th deadline*. **Application materials will not be considered for students who have unfinished prerequisite courses and/or have not completed ALL General Education requirements by the deadline date**.

5. The evaluator will submit your completed application packet directly to the Radiologic Science Program, which includes:

    -"Permit to Apply" and verification of Pre-requisite and General Education courses
    - Completed Application: Radiologic Science Program
    -Two official transcripts from all colleges attended outside of the Peralta Community Colleges
    -One unofficial transcript from colleges within the Peralta Community College District
    -Proof of high school completion or GED

6. **Incomplete application packets will be not be considered.**

C. **Post-Admission Requirement:**

Prior to program start, students must pass a drug screen, background check, medical exam, CPR class and must provide proof of immunity to communicable diseases (at their own expense). Students will be given further instructions for completing this requirement upon acceptance into the program.

Prerequisite Requirements

Students must have completed the four prerequisite courses, with a grade of "C" or better on each course, before applying to the program. Additionally, the average GPA for the four prerequisites courses must be at least 2.5.
The prerequisites include:

A. Survey of Radiologic Science, RADSC 1A (this course may not be waived for any reason. It must be taken at Merritt College to qualify).

B. Intermediate Algebra, Math 203 or higher (equivalent may be taken at other colleges). This course is required effective Fall 2009 unless student has catalog rights to an earlier requirement. See section on "catalog rights" in the college catalog or a counselor for more information).

C. Anatomy and Physiology (must be a **two-semester course** with a minimum of 8 total units and include a lab. Equivalent may be taken at other colleges). At Merritt there are two options that qualify:
        Bio 20A **AND** 20B (5 units each, 10 units total) OR
        Bio 2 **AND** Bio 4 (5 units each, 10 units total)

Additional Eligibility Requirement:

Completion of all general education requirements for the Associate Degree. Students with prior Associate Degree or higher meet this requirement.

Highly Recommended Preparation

Computer Proficiency Expectations: Students entering the program are expected to demonstrate proficiency using Microsoft Word, e-mail, PowerPoint presentation software, and navigating the internet. Students who are not proficient should see #1 below.

Additional Recommendations

The following specific coursework and experiences are **recommended** as preparation for the program. While not required for enrollment, completing these courses prior to entering may increase the likelihood of successful program completion.

Coursework
1. Introduction to Computer Information Systems (CIS 1 at Merritt) or an equivalent course(s). Course or a combination of courses should result in proficiency in the use of Microsoft Word, Powerpoint presentation software, navigating the Internet, and e-mail.
2. Higher Mathematics (such as College Algebra, Pre-Calculus, or Calculus)
3. Physics such as Introduction to Physics, General Physics or Physics of Radiation and/or Electromagnetism.
4. Medical Terminology
5. Professional or Business Communications
6. For students who are not highly proficient in spoken and written English, ESL courses are strongly recommended.

Recommended coursework may satisfy some of the General Education requirements. Students should meet with a Merritt College counselor to plan accordingly.

Experiences
1. Work experience (as an employee or volunteer) in a health care environment, preferably involving direct patient care.
2. Customer service experience (as an employee or volunteer) involving face-to-face contact and communication with the public.

Student Selection Process

In the likely event that the number of qualified applicants exceeds the available program slots, a lottery will be used as a means of student selection. Qualified applicants on the wait list from the previous application period are given priority for the current year's selection process. Detailed information regarding the status of the student selection process for a particular application period may be obtained by following the weblink to "Program Status Statement," from the Radiologic Science website: www.merritt.edu/radsc Depending on the number of clinical placements available at affiliate sites, the program accepts approximately 22 - 26 students per year. All applicants will be notified of acceptance status.

Degree Major/Certificate Requirements

First Semester (Fall)	RADSC 1B	Introduction to Radiologic Science (Lecture)	2
	RADSC 1C	Introduction to Rad. Science (Clinical Education)	2.5
	RADSC 2A	Radiographic Physics I	2
	RADSC 3A	Positioning I	4
	RADSC 5A	Patient Care I	3
Second Semester (Spring)	RADSC 2B	Radiographic Physics II	4
	RADSC 3B	Positioning II	4
	RADSC 9A	Clinical Experience I (16 hours per week)	4
Third Semester (Summer)	RADSC 4A	Radiation Protection	2
	RADSC 4B	Radiobiology	2
	RADSC 10A	Seminars in Radiologic Science I	1.5
	RADSC 9B	Clinical Experience II (24 hours per week)	4

SECOND YEAR

Fourth Semester (Fall)	RADSC 2C	Computer/Digital Applications for Medical Imaging	4
	RADSC 5B	Patient Care II	3
	RADSC 9C	Clinical Experience III (24 hours per week)	6
Fifth Semester (Spring)	RADSC 6	Quality Management/Fluoroscopy	2.5
	RADSC 7	Advanced Imaging Procedures	3
	RADSC 8	Sectional Anatomy & Radiographic Pathology	4
	RADSC 9D	Clinical Experience IV (24 hours per week)	6
Sixth Semester (Summer)	RADSC 10B	Seminars in Radiologic Science II	1.5
	RADSC 9E	Clinical Experience V (36 hours per week)	6
		TOTAL UNITS	**71**

For more information, contact the program office at 510-436-2427

Merritt College Radiologic Science Program
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