

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY (AAS)

Health Science

Program website (<https://www.harpercollege.edu/academics/health/diagnostic-medical-sonography/dms-degree.php>)

Program Overview

This 70.5 credit-hour program prepares the graduate to be a diagnostic medical sonographer. A diagnostic medical sonographer is a highly skilled professional who uses specialized ultrasound equipment to record visual images of internal structures of the abdomen, pelvis and neck. They work in hospitals and outpatient settings producing these ultrasounds to assist the physician in diagnosing disease. This degree program prepares the graduate to secure their American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography credentials and entry-level work in the abdomen and obstetrics/gynecology specialty areas. The graduate also receives instruction in vascular sonography. A clinical hospital experience in abdominal, small parts, vascular, obstetrical and gynecological ultrasound is provided.

Because of the nature of clinical experiences and individualized instruction required in this program and specialized technology and the equipment necessary to offer this program, a higher tuition rate is assessed for career-specific courses, including courses with the DMS prefix. Students pay 1.5 the regular rate of tuition.

Admission Requirements

Diagnostic Medical Sonography is a limited enrollment program. For admission requirements, please contact the Admissions Outreach Office at 847.925.6700 or visit [harpercollege.edu](https://www.harpercollege.edu/) (<https://www.harpercollege.edu/>).

Students who apply for this limited enrollment program are obligated to meet current admission requirements and follow program curriculum as defined at the time of acceptance to the program.

Program Requirements

A grade of C or better in all coursework is required for all students.

Prerequisites		Hours
BIO 260	Human Anatomy ¹	4
BIO 261	Human Physiology ¹	4
ENG 101	Composition I	3
Mathematics ²		3
PHY 100	Basic Concepts in Physics ³	3
Hours		17
First Semester		
DMS 105	Ultrasound Physics and Instrumentation I	2
DMS 107	Sonography Theory I	2
DMS 109	Sonography Lab I ⁴	1
HSC 112	Medical Terminology	2
HSC 165	Basic Pharmacology	1
Humanities or Social and Behavioral Science ⁺		3
Hours		11

Second Semester

DMS 106	Ultrasound Physics and Instrumentation II	2
DMS 108	Sonography Theory II	2
DMS 110	Sonography Lab II ⁴	1
HSC 104	Health Care Technology and Informatics	2
HSC 213	Legal and Ethical Issues in Health Care	2
SPE 101	Fundamentals of Speech Communication	3
Hours		12

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Summer Session I

Optional

DMS 112	Sonography Lab III ⁵	0-1
Hours		0-1

Third Semester

DMS 201	Introduction to the Medical Sonography Clinical	2.5
DMS 204	Abdominal and Small Parts Sonography Theory I	4
DMS 205	Obstetrical and Gynecological Sonography Theory I	3
DMS 206	Medical Sonography Lab I	2
Hours		11.5

Fourth Semester

DMS 207	Medical Sonography Clinical I ⁶	5
DMS 208	Abdominal and Small Parts Sonography Theory II	4
DMS 209	Medical Sonography Lab II ⁴	2
DMS 210	Obstetrical and Gynecological Sonography Theory II	3
Hours		14

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Summer Session II

DMS 211	Medical Sonography Clinical II ⁶	5
DMS 260	Advanced Sonography Seminar ⁵	0-1
Hours		5-6

Total Hours 70.5-72.5

- ¹ Must be completed no earlier than five years prior to beginning the DCS program; time requirement may be waived for direct patient care providers with a minimum of a two-year allied health care degree.
- ² MTH 165 is recommended. MTH 101, MTH 103 or higher with a grade of C or better may be substituted.
- ³ PHY 110 or PHY 121 or higher with a grade of C or better may be substituted.
- ⁴ Every credit hour of sonography lab requires a minimum of 2 hours per week sonography lab practice.
- ⁵ Students need to choose a course to meet this requirement that also fulfills the World Cultures and Diversity graduation requirement. See full list of AAS General Education Electives (<https://catalog.harpercollege.edu/catalog/programs/aas-general-education-electives/>).
- ⁶ This course is optional and not required for graduation.
- ⁶ Assignments will be based on site availability.

Program Learning Outcomes

To prepare competent entry-level general sonographers in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains.

Graduates of this program will:

- recognize abnormal sonographic findings
- recognize significant clinical information that impacts the sonographic examination
- maintain a safe environment for him or herself and the patient
- apply concepts of ultrasound physics when imaging
- possess the general medical knowledge to perform effectively in a health care setting
- perform competently a broad range of examinations within their specialty area
- produce sonography images in a time efficient manner
- optimize and acquire quality sonographic images
- perform comprehensive diagnostic ultrasound examinations
- demonstrate sound clinical judgment within the health care environment
- meet the ethical and professional expectations of the clinical environment
- communicate effectively with patients and members of the health care team
- become an effective member of the profession and health care organization