

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **How difficult is it to be admitted into the program?**

The increased interest in radiography over the past few years has indeed resulted in an increased number of applicants applying for a limited number of positions (15) in the program and has therefore made the application process more competitive. Given this fact, for any applicant to be considered for admittance, they will need to demonstrate a history of successful academic performance as well as scoring well on the required entrance exam. Our selection process evaluates many objective factors when selecting candidates for the program and has found that there is no “model” for the ideal student. There is no lone factor or attribute that can guarantee admittance into the program.

2. **What is considered when applications are evaluated?**

Applications are evaluated for strong academic background. This background comes from ONLY the pre-requisite courses taken at Mohave Community College or similar courses taken at other colleges/universities, which have been accepted for transfer credits at Mohave Community College. Work and volunteer experience with health-related and/or service-oriented emphasis may only be considered and are not required. Additionally, students are required to take an entrance examination (HESI RAD Admission Exam) and recommended to participate in a job shadowing experience.

3. **How can I enhance my chances of being admitted?**

Each candidate is expected to introspectively evaluate their own strengths and weaknesses and to establish a plan that reveals relevant strengths. A strong candidate will possess a healthy balance of characteristics and skills deemed desirable by the faculty and include:

- A proven record of academic success.
- Knowledge of the field of radiography, including the less than desirable aspects.
- A strong work ethic, positive attitude, and caring demeanor desirable of a health caregiver.
- The ability to think critically and develop solutions to problems.
- A sense of independence, as well as an ability to act as a member of a health care team.

4. **Why do you limit the number of students in the program?**

We have a limited number of clinical sites affiliated with the program. Therefore, we must limit the number of students assigned to each facility. That way, each student receives the opportunity for hands-on experiences to master the skills required of a radiographic technologist.

5. Do all program participants have to travel to clinical facilities outside of Bullhead City?

The program faculty is sensitive to the inconveniences of traveling for clinical and makes every reasonable effort to minimize the travel expectations. However, traveling is necessary and a reasonable expectation given the learning opportunities that result. At least once during the program, students will be required to travel to an affiliated site outside of the Bullhead City area. That area may include, but may not be limited to: Kingman, Parker, and Lake Havasu City. Traveling affords students the opportunity to a comprehensive education in diverse settings, with access to various forms of radiologic technology. Please remember to weigh the costs of travel (i.e., gasoline, possible overnight lodging and extended childcare) with tuition, textbooks and program fees and other college expenses when planning for tuition.

6. Do you have to have a degree to become a Radiologic Technologist?

Per the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists ([ARRT](#)), effective January 1, 2015, all candidates must have earned an Associate Degree (or higher) from an accredited institution recognized by the ARRT.

7. What are starting salaries for Radiologic Technologists?

Employment of radiologic technologists is projected to grow 9 percent from 2018 to 2028, faster than the average for all occupations (May 2019). In Arizona, the median wage for radiologic technologists is \$65,810 per year (\$ 31.64 per hour). Nationally, the median wage for radiologic technologists is \$60,510 per year. (Ref. BLS.gov or <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/radiologic-technologists.htm>)

8. Can I work full-time while participating in the program?

Although we cannot dictate what a student does outside of the program, it must be emphasized that it is extremely difficult to successfully meet the requirements of the program while working a full-time job. Some factors to consider beyond personal stamina and abilities are:

- The physical and mental demands of a job.
- Flexibility of scheduling-ability to reduce/switch hours to accommodate the program and clinical schedules.
- Personal/family responsibilities.
- Study time requirements outside of program hours.
- Your learning style – are you a quick learner, or an individual who needs to spend more time on a task in order to master the material?
- Clinical assignments may and can be scheduled from 24-40 hours per week.

Many students do work part-time while in the program. The program faculty, while sympathetic and understanding of financial situations, cannot lower performance expectations based on a need to work outside of the program. Ultimately, it is for each individual to honestly evaluate their abilities, both physical and academic, and determine if, after committing to the hours in the program and the hours spent at a job, that there will still be enough time left to eat, sleep, study, travel, and fulfill family responsibilities, while meeting the requirements of the Radiologic Technology Program for its entire duration.

9. Do you allow students to attend the program part-time, or only on evenings or weekends?

The program is full-time and six (6) semesters in length. Clinical rotations will be scheduled so that each student can have access to the required clinical experience. Currently, the program is Full-Time. No part-time access to the program exists. It is possible to be scheduled during the evening or weekend hours, but only as part of the Full-Time program.