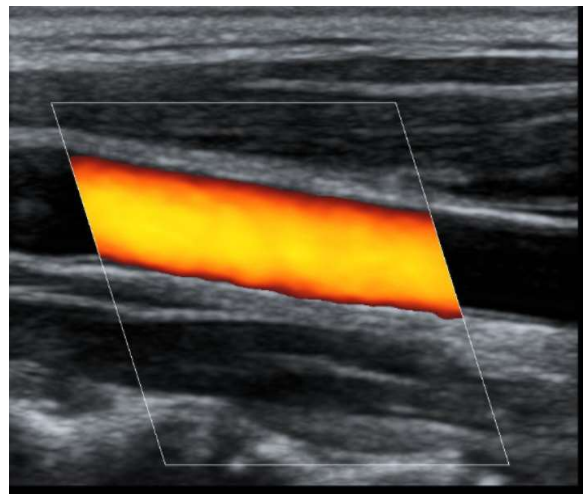
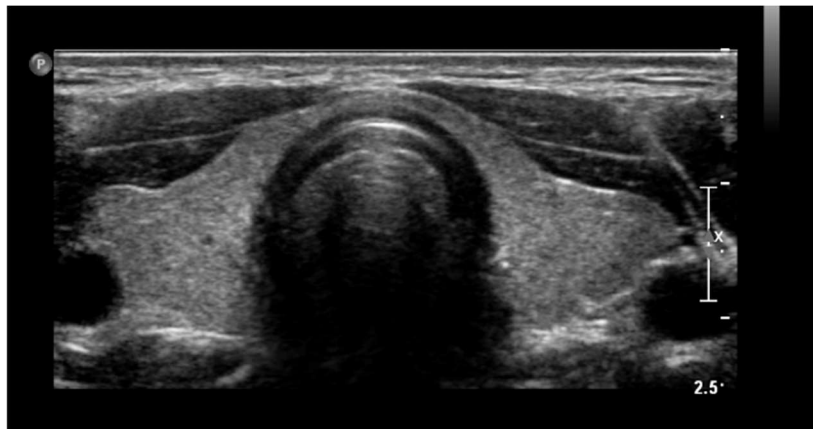
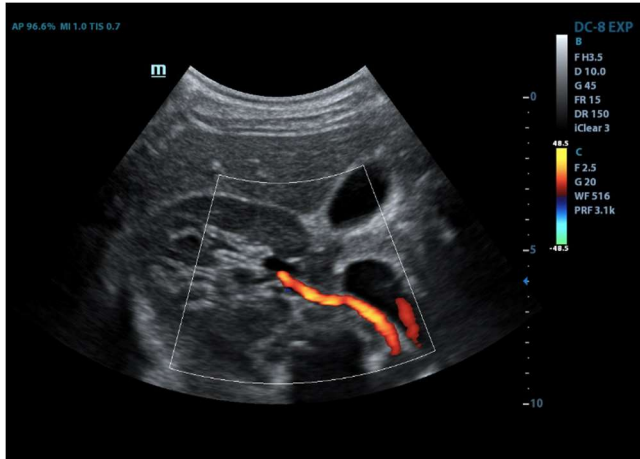


# Information Packet



Images from WC DMS Students

## General Information

The Weatherford College Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is a 22-month curriculum comprised of classroom, laboratory, and clinical learning experience. This is a full-time program. While the majority of coursework and clinical hours are performed during the week from 8:00am-4:30pm, the clinical learning experience may require that the student attend clinicals during the evening hours or on the weekend. The course of study is comprised of 65 semester-credit hours and is designed to prepare individuals for careers as entry-level diagnostic medical sonographers.

*Weatherford College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Applicants are considered on the basis of qualifications without regard to gender, age, race, color, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, veteran status, or the presence of a non-job-related disability or any other legally protected status.*

## Accreditation

The Weatherford College Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs ([www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)) upon the recommendation of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

### **Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)**

25400 US Highway, 19 N., Suite 158

Clearwater, FL 33763

P: (727) 210-2350

[www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)

### **Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS)**

6201 University Boulevard, Suite 500

Ellicott City, MD 21043

P: (443) 973-3251

<https://www.jrcdms.org/>

### **Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS)**

1866 Southern Lane

Decatur, GA 30033

P: (404) 679-4500

<https://sacscoc.org/>

## Program Goals

The goal of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is to prepare competent entry-level general sonographers in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains for the following concentrations:

1. Abdominal sonography- extended
2. Obstetrics and gynecology sonography
3. Vascular sonography

## Application Requirements

All prospective students are required to meet the admission criteria. In addition, all applicants should be free of illegal drug use, have no felony convictions, and be clear of any misdemeanor convictions other than minor traffic violations. For more information about the application procedures please call (817) 598-6217.

Applications for admission will be accepted beginning the **first business day in December through the last business day of February** each year for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program.

\*\*Students who are unable to complete all pre-requisite courses prior to the last business day in February can still apply as long as all of the courses above will be completed by the end of the spring semester, **but will only be considered for an alternate status**. The program will need spring semester grades no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>.

### Application requirements include the following:

1. Submit Weatherford College application via ApplyTexas (*select General Studies as major*), official transcripts, and evidence of Texas Success Initiative or completion to the Office of Student Affairs.
2. Complete Sonography Program prerequisites. Science courses (BIOL 2401 and 2402) must be current within the past 5 years at time of admission. *The Program Director may grant a waiver for the time limit on science courses, by accepting the AP test through the testing center, on a case by case basis. This excludes courses over 10 years old.*
3. Complete HESI A2 test (*must have a minimum score of 70% each on the reading comprehension and math sections*).
4. Complete at least the first Hepatitis B shot prior to submitting application. We do not recommend the fast track in order to ensure readiness for clinical.

## Application Process

Submit the Health & Human Sciences Application to the Health & Human Sciences Office [link to application here: <https://www.wc.edu/programs/all-programs/files/HealthHumanSci-app-0419.pdf> ]

- a. Include official transcripts
- b. HESI A2 scores
- c. Proof of Hepatitis B vaccine (three dose series), proof of positive titer, or Dept. of State Health Services waiver. *This is a 4 – 6 month process and **must** be completed prior to the Fall semester.*
- d. Consideration for credit for human medical work experience requires proof of experience. Please, include a letter from your employer stating your role in patient care that is signed and provides contact information. The program will verify employment. You can also include a training certificate if available.

**Failure to meet application requirements will result in denial of application.**

## Scoring Methods

*Selection into the program is based on the following scoring methods:*

### 1. Prerequisite Courses

*All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or better. GPA of 3.5 for prerequisites recommended. \*Points awarded for each course completed*

*A = 4 points, B = 3 points, C = 2 points*

#### ***Prerequisite Courses***

*BIOL 2401 Anatomy and Physiology I*

*BIOL 2402 Anatomy and Physiology II*

*MATH 1314 College Algebra*

*ENGL 1301 English Composition I*

*PSYC 2301 Introduction to Psychology*

*Elective Language/Philosophy/Culture/Creative Arts*

*PHYS 1401 General Physics I or PHYS 1415 Physical Science*

### 2. Points awarded for a previous degree

*Master’s = 8 points, Bachelor’s = 6 points, Associate’s = 4 points*

### 3. Points for prior medical work experience

*Proof of experience is required: 5 points per year of experience with a maximum of 15 points allowed*

#### 4. HESI A2 Assessment test scores

Points are awarded based on the average scores from the Reading, Math, A & P, Grammar, and Vocabulary sections. **Only applications that demonstrate a score of  $\geq 70$  in the Reading and Math sections will be considered.** This exam can be taken more than once.

100-90= 4 points

89-80= 3 points

79-70= 2 points

##### *HESI A2 Entrance Exam*

*The HESI A2 entrance exam is given in the Testing Center at Weatherford College, located in the Jack Knight Building. The cost of the exam can be verified by calling the Testing Center at 817-598-6383 and is paid in the Weatherford College Business Office. To schedule the HESI A2 Exam, please go to [www.wc.edu](http://www.wc.edu), click on the Admissions and Financial Aid tab. Then click on Testing Centers and the Weatherford location. There is a box that says schedule an exam. Click on this box and schedule the exam and it will tell you everything you need to know to take the exam.*

*You will need to present the receipt from the business office to the personnel in the Testing Center. The exam takes approximately four hours and is computerized. You are allowed to take the test once every 60 days. Once you have completed the test, please print two copies of the results in order to keep a copy for your records. The HESI A2 scores are good for two years.*

#### 5. Personal Interview

Only the top 35-40\* applicants who have the highest points will be selected for an interview. All applicants will be contacted via e-mail. Interviews will be scored.

*\*Number selected is subject to change.*

#### 6. Final Ranking process

- Number of points based on these sections:
  - Pre-req courses (maximum of 28 points can be obtained)
  - Average of HESI-A2 scores (maximum of 4 points can be obtained)
  - Highest degree earned (maximum of 8 points can be obtained)
  - Work experience (maximum of 15 points can be obtained for full-time work related directly to patient care)
- Personal interview score

The twenty applications with the highest cumulative points will be accepted each Fall semester. Alternates will be accepted on a stand-by basis. The number of selected applicants is subject to change.

## English Proficiency Procedure

Before being accepted into the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program an applicant whose native language is not English must submit an acceptable score on the Test of Spoken English (TSE) with application.

Additional information may be obtained from the Health & Human Sciences Department.

*\*A native language is a language that is acquired naturally during childhood & is usually spoken at home, as opposed to a language that is learned later in life, for example, as a part of a person's formal education.*

International applicants, any visa holders, permanent residents, and exchange students whose native language \* is not English must provide proof of English proficiency. Health and Human Sciences applicants must possess proficiency in oral English communication skills. Applicants must possess English language skills that allow for interaction in the classroom, skills laboratory, and clinical practice settings to successfully complete required course work and to provide a safe client care environment. The above applicants must demonstrate the use of acceptable grammar and pronunciation in formal verbal classroom presentations and verbal interactions with a variety of healthcare professionals, faculty, peers, and clients/patients in diverse clinical settings. **Note: Proof of English proficiency must be provided by the end of the application period for the desired Health and Human Sciences program.**

Applicants who desire to enroll in programs that include a clinical practice component must demonstrate oral English proficiency. Transfer applicants who cannot demonstrate exemption as outlined below are also required to demonstrate oral English proficiency as outlined in this procedure

Applicants from the following list of countries with majority English speaking populations are excluded from this procedure:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anguilla               | <input type="checkbox"/> Jamaica  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antigua & Barbuda      | <input type="checkbox"/> Liberia  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ascension              | <input type="checkbox"/> Montserrat   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australia              | <input type="checkbox"/> New Zealand  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bahamas                | <input type="checkbox"/> St Christopher (St Kitts) & Nevis  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barbados               | <input type="checkbox"/> St Lucia   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Belize                 | <input type="checkbox"/> St Helena  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bermuda                | <input type="checkbox"/> St Vincent & the Grenadines  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canada (except Quebec) | <input type="checkbox"/> South Africa   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Channel Islands        | <input type="checkbox"/> Trinidad & Tobago  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dominica               | <input type="checkbox"/> United Kingdom (England, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Falklands              | <input type="checkbox"/> Virgin Islands   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grenada                |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guyana                 |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ireland (Erie)         |   |

## Additional Requirements if Accepted

If selected, these are additional items that are needed for clinical placement:

1. Complete a criminal background check
2. Obtain a TB screen test
3. Complete a 10-panel urine drug screen, various titers and immunizations, and have completed the Hepatitis B series
4. Back/spine screen

5. Submit proof of major medical health insurance
6. Obtain current American Heart Association Health Care Provider CPR - valid through 2 years.

Information and specifics on obtaining the above criteria will be available to the student upon acceptance to the program.

**Start-up costs for immunizations, titers, urine drug screen, CPR, back/spine screen, and health insurance varies, but could run as much as \$400.**

## Technical Standards

The following must be able to be performed by each student who is accepted into the program in order to participate in patient care based on analysis of current literature, expert opinion, open forum commentary and formal consensus.

Listed below are some of the technical standards that sonographers and vascular technologists must be able to routinely perform. If an individual is unable to meet the technical standards, they will be referred to the ADA department.

- Lift more than 50 pounds routinely
- Push and pull routinely
- Bend and stoop routinely
- Have full use of both hands, wrists and shoulders
- Distinguish audible sounds
- Adequately view sonograms, including color distinctions
- Work standing on their feet 80% of the time
- Interact compassionately and effectively with the sick or injured
- Assist patients on and off examining tables
- Communicate effectively with patients and other health care professionals
- Organize and accurately perform the individual steps in a sonographic procedure in the proper sequence

Retrieved from: [www.sdms.org](http://www.sdms.org)

# Diagnostic Medical Sonography Curriculum

## Prerequisite Courses

BIOL 2401 Anatomy and Physiology I  
BIOL 2402 Anatomy and Physiology II  
MATH 1314 College Algebra  
ENGL 1301 English Composition I  
PSYC 2301 Introduction to Psychology  
Elective Language/Philosophy/Culture/Creative Arts  
PHYS 1401 General Physics I or PHYS 1415 Physical Science

## Fall: Semester I

DMSO 1110 Introduction to Sonography  
DMSO 1441 Abdominopelvic Sonography  
DMSO 1302 Basic Ultrasound Physics  
DMSO 1266 Practicum

## Spring: Semester II

DMSO 2305 Sonography of Obstetrics/Gynecology  
DMSO 2243 Advanced Ultrasound Physics  
DMSO 2253 Sonography of Superficial Structures  
DMSO 1366 Practicum

## Summer: Semester III

DSVT 1103 Introduction to Vascular Technology  
DMSO 2242 Sonography of High Risk Obstetrics  
DMSO 1267 Practicum

## Fall: Semester IV

DMSO 1355 Sonographic Pathophysiology  
DSVT 1300 Principles of Vascular Technology  
DMSO 1367 Practicum

## Spring: Semester V

DSVT 2335 Advanced Vascular Technology  
DMSO 2130 Advanced Ultrasound and Review (Capstone)  
DSVT 1364 Practicum (Capstone)



# Career Opportunities

\*The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics states that the job outlook for diagnostic medical sonographers is 19% from 2020-2030.

\*The median pay in 2021 in the Dallas, Fort Worth & Arlington area was \$78,420 per year; \$37.70 per hour

<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/diagnostic-medical-sonographers.htm>

## Special Services and Student Accommodations (ADA)

Students or prospective students with disabilities can contact the Office of Accommodations/Disabilities. The Office of A/D exists to assist students with documented disabilities as they pursue their goal of a college education. The office serves as a liaison between students and the college in matters of communication and action toward achievement of reasonable accommodations. Each student is encouraged to act as his or her own advocate, and take the major responsibility for securing accommodations. The Office of A/D provides students with the voluntary and confidential means to seek accommodations for academic and related needs. Early and regular contact will assure the timely identification of needed services and the location of resources and options available to the student. Eligibility for disability services at Weatherford College is dependent upon the nature of the disability and its impact on learning. A disability is defined as any mental or physical condition that substantially limits an individual's ability to perform one or more major life activities. These disabilities may be: physical, visual or auditory, neurological or psychological in nature, and also include chronic health problems and learning and communication disorders.

Any student with a documented disability (e.g. learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) may contact the Office of Disabilities located in the Coyote Den, room 121, in the Academic building on the Weatherford College Weatherford Campus to request reasonable accommodations. Phone: 817-598-6350 Office Location: Office Number 125 in the Academic Building Weatherford College 225 College Park Drive Weatherford, TX

## Further Information

To view our frequently asked questions and gather any additional information, including costs of the program, please visit <https://wc.edu/programs/all-programs/diagnostic-medical-sonography/>