COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY

Technology and Health Division
Certificate E0397

The Computed Tomography (CT) program at Mt. SAC is a two semester certificate program open to Technologists who possess a valid California Certified Radiologic Technologist (CRT) license and are certified and registered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) in one of the following supporting disciplines: Radiologic Technology, Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (or NMTCB), or Radiation Therapy. The program provides a complete educational experience for registered Radiologic Technologists (RT's) who wish to expand their skills into the study in the theory and practice of CT. Students will have the opportunity to learn and develop competence in patient care, communication skills, critical thinking, and technical skills that will prepare the student to become a competent entry level CT Technologist.

The program curriculum is designed to meet the CT educational and clinical training requirements set forth by the ARRT. The educational standards established by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) are also incorporated into the curriculum. Educational activities include lecture, discussions, group activities, and hands-on clinical training at a clinical site.

The program includes:

- ARRT clinical experience requirements and content specifications
- ARRT 16 hour structured education requirement
- Course work in cross sectional anatomy, pathology, patient care and safety, CT procedures, equipment, image evaluation, instrumentation, technique, physics, quality assurance, and quality control.

Clinical training will be conducted at affiliated healthcare institutions and there is no guarantee the student will be placed close to home. Hours for clinical training are arranged with the clinical site (days and times will vary depending on the site). No arrangements for part time status are available.

Applicants will be required to complete a background check, physical, and provide proof of immunizations during the admissions process.

Upon successful completion of the program, the student will receive a Certificate of Completion from Mt. San Antonio College. Technologist certified and registered by ARRT in the appropriate disciplines will be eligible to sit for the ARRT Computed Tomography certification examination.

Review Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) (http://www.mtsac.edu/instruction/outcomes/sloinfo.html) for this program.

Required Courses

Course Prefix	Course Name	Units
RAD 7A	Computed Tomography Clinical Experience 7A	2
RAD 7B	Computed Tomography Clinical Experience 7B	7
RAD 70	Computed Tomography Sectional Anatomy and Pathology	2
RAD 71	Computed Tomography Procedures and Patient Care	3
RAD 72	Computed Tomography Physics and Instrumentation	3
Total Units		17

Admission Process

In addition to meeting Mt. San Antonio College's academic standards for admission, applicants must be in good standing and satisfy the following requirements:

1. Apply to Mt. San Antonio College and be accepted as a student.
    - Students transferring from other colleges must have their official transcript sent to Mt. SAC's Admissions and Records Office.

2. Complete and submit a Mt. SAC Computed Tomography Program Application to the Technology and Health Division Office Bldg. 28/101E, (909) 274-4750. All applications are dated upon receipt.
    - Applicants must be Certified and Registered by the ARRT in Radiologic Technology, Nuclear Medicine, or Radiation Therapy. Provide a copy of current ARRT certification with application.
    - Applicants must have a current California Radiologic Technology (CRT) Certificate. Provide a copy of current CRT certification with application.
    - ARRT and CRT certification must be maintained throughout program
    - Applicants must possess a valid Social Security Card. This is a licensed profession, and a valid Social Security Number is required to obtain national licensure.

3. Be certified in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). CPR certification must be maintained throughout the program. Provide a copy of current CPR certification with application.
    - CPR level required for the program: American Heart Association: BLS Healthcare Provider, valid 2 years

4. Complete health physical, required tests, and immunizations prior to program admission. Provide documentation of completion.
    - Physical examination forms are provided with provisional admission letter and are also available in the Technology and Health Division in Building 28A, Room 101E.
    - Applicants must have a drug test prior to program admission
    - Applicants will be given instruction on drug testing procedures upon provisional admission to the program and are responsible for the cost of the drug test.
    - Drug testing is offered at the Student Health Center at Mt. SAC.
    - If an applicant is denied access by a clinical site due to drug screening results, and as such, cannot meet program requirements, the applicant will not be admitted into the program

5. Acceptable background check: All applicants will be required to complete a background check prior to program admission (a valid Social Security number is required to complete this process). The clinical

affiliate determines whether an applicant can participate in the clinical rotation based upon the results of the background check.

- Applicants will be given information on how to complete the background check process upon provisional admission to the program.
- Background check is to be completed at www.castlebranch.com (https://www.castlebranch.com)
- Background checks will be reviewed by the applicant's clinical affiliate. Upon review, if the applicant is deemed unacceptable for clinical placement, the program will not pursue an alternate clinical placement. If an applicant is denied access by a clinical site because of the background check, and as a result, cannot meet program requirements, the applicant will not be admitted into the program. The clinical rotation site decision is final.

6. Complete all other clinical site requirements if applicable and submit documentation
7. California Venipuncture Certification is highly recommended. Submit copy of certification if applicable.

8. Attend a mandatory orientation meeting with the Radiologic Technology Department. You will be contacted with date and time of orientation once you have been provisionally admitted.

Selection

Selection of applicants is lottery based. Applications are put into a pool and selected through a computerized, random process. Those who are not admitted each term are not placed on a waitlist. Applicants can reapply the following year.

Program Completion Requirements

All students in the Computed Tomography Program MUST complete all the course requirements before a certificate documenting completion will be awarded. This certificate documents completion of the education and clinical requirements to apply for the CT registry exam through the ARRT.

Working Environment

- May be exposed to infectious and contagious disease, without prior notification
- Regularly exposed to the risk of blood borne diseases
- Exposed to hazardous agent, body fluids and wastes
- Exposed to odorous chemicals and specimens
- Subject to hazards of flammable, explosive gases
- Subject to burns and cuts
- Contact with patients having different religious, culture, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, psychological and physical disabilities, and under a wide variety of circumstances
- Handle emergency or crisis situations
- Subject to many interruptions
- Requires decisions/actions critical to patient safety
- Exposed to products containing latex

Required Skills and Physical Abilities

1. Transport, move, lift, or transfer patients from a wheelchair or gurney to an x-ray table or to a patient bed.
2. Lift arms above the head to move the x-ray tube assembly.
3. Move, adjust, and manipulate portable and fluoroscopic equipment according to established procedures and standards of speed and accuracy while conducting radiographic examinations.
4. Maneuver well enough to physically protect himself or herself from injury caused by patients exhibiting aggressive behaviors.
5. Physically place patients in the proper positions for the examination according to established procedures and standards of speed and accuracy.
6. Rapidly respond to situations involving the health and safety of patients, providing physical and emotional support to the patient during radiographic procedures, providing basic first aid and emergency care in the absence of or until a physician arrives.
7. Function adequately under stressful situations related to technical and procedural standards of patient care situations.
8. Hear well enough (average 30 decibels for both ears) to respond to directions or calls for help from individuals remote from the location of the student.
9. Speak English clearly enough to explain and direct procedural information to patients, and to communicate with physicians, technical staff, and faculty.
10. Calculate and select proper technical exposure factors according to the individual needs of the patient's condition and requirements of the procedure with speed and accuracy.
11. View and evaluate the recorded images of a radiograph for the purpose of identifying proper patient positioning, accurate procedural sequencing, proper exposure (and/or "s" number), and other established technical qualities.

English Language Skills

Although proficiency in English is not a criterion for admission into the Radiologic Technology Program, students must be able to speak, write and read English to ensure patient safety and to complete classes successfully.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, a student will:

- develop workforce readiness skills
- apply accurate positioning skills and provide appropriate patient care
- select optimal technical factors
- utilize appropriate radiation protection and ALARA principles
- demonstrate academic and technical competence as an entry-level CT Technologists
- communicate effectively with patients, clinical staff, and peers
- demonstrate effective written and verbal communication skills in didactic and clinical settings
- use critical thinking skills in both routine and non-routine clinical situations
- adapt standard procedures for non-routine patients
- analyze images to determine diagnostic quality and make modifications as needed
- exhibit professional work ethic, behavior, and attitude
- abide by the ASRT Code of Ethics

- use professional judgment when working with patients and others
- identify the advantage of belonging to professional organizations
- understand the need for continued professional development and growth
- participate in professional development activities
- pass the ARRT certification exam in CT
- secure employment as a CT Technologist within one year of program completion

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