

# DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHER

A Diagnostic Medical Sonographer specializes in using imaging equipment and soundwaves to form images of many parts of the body, known as ultrasounds. Ultrasound is a non-invasive way to visualize internal organs, it is often the first imaging test performed when disease is detected. Sonographers can specialize in a variety of areas.

## CAREER DESCRIPTION\*

- » National median salary: \$80,850
- » National projected career growth: 11%
- » Most work in hospitals, physician offices, diagnostic laboratories.

## TYPICAL EDUCATION\*\* (Includes prerequisites)

- » Years of School: 2-5 years
- » Two Tracks (see next page for more information)
- » Minimum entering GPA: 2.75
- » Grades of C- or better required for prerequisite courses

## NEARBY SCHOOLS

- » University of Nebraska Medical Center
- » Nebraska Methodist College
- » Students can also earn a medical imaging degree at:
  - » Clarkson College
  - » CHI Health School of Radiologic Technology

## COMPETITIVE STUDENTS ALWAYS...

- » Maintain a competitive GPA
- » Obtain direct patient experience in healthcare
- » Shadow professionals in the field

## WHAT PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL SAY



UNMC has a good reputation. The 12-month program is appealing and fully prepares us to enter the workforce because we see wide ranges of studies with ability for hands on learning.”  
-UNMC Sonography Graduate



Being a DMS is such a reward. As a DMS tech, I am essentially extra eyes for doctors in that we use diagnostic imaging technology to help give us detailed images of what’s going on inside our patients. It’s different every day and definitely keeps me interested on a day to day basis.”  
-Andrea Gullin, DMS, Florida

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\*Data and information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics

\*\*Data and information from UNMC

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The University of Nebraska does not discriminate based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and/or political affiliation in its education programs or activities, including admissions and employment.

Click here for requirements from the schools listed below:

[University of Nebraska Medical Center](#)

[Nebraska Methodist College](#)

\*Prerequisites vary by program. Students are responsible for ensuring all entrance requirements are met.

\*Most schools prefer science classes to be taken in-person versus online.

#### Admission Requirements for UNMC:

1. Successful completion prior to the start of the program
  - a. A minimum of 79 transferable semester credit hours (for the bachelor's track) or
  - b. A bachelor's degree (for the post-baccalaureate certificate track)

#### UNMC's Prerequisites

S = Spring, F = Fall, M = Summer

##### Written or Oral Communications (minimum credits: 3)

ENGL 1150 English Composition I	3	F, S, M	AP Score 3, ACT 14-26, HS GPA 2.3+
ENGL 1160 English Composition II	3	F, S, M	AP Score 4, ENGL 1140 or 1150, or ACT 27+ or Reading or English ACT score of 29+
CMST 1110 Public Speaking	3	F, S, M	

##### Biological Sciences (minimum credits: 4)

Course	Credits	Semester	Prerequisites
BIOL 2740 Human Anatomy & Physiology I & Lab	4	F, S, M	High school Biology and Chemistry
BIOL 2840 Human Anatomy & Physiology II & Lab	4	F, S, M	BIOL 2740

##### Physics (minimum credits: 5)

PHYS 1050 & 1054 Introduction to Physics & Lab	5	F, S	High School Algebra
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##### Mathematics (minimum credits: 3)

MATH 1300 College Algebra with Support	4	F, S, M	
OR			
MATH 1320 Pre-Calculus Algebra	3	F, S, M	ACT 22 or ALEKS 4

##### Medical Terminology (minimum credits: 1)

BIOL 1160 Terminology of Human Health & Disease	2	F, S	
OR			
HEKI 2000 Medical Terminology	1	F, S, M	

##### Direct Patient Care Hours (minimum: 500 hours)

Must be a student enrolled in a health care professions program or a current health care professional. Must be a student currently enrolled in a health care professions program or a current health care professional. Direct patient care is defined as interactions that involve face-to-face contact with patients such as physical examinations, administering treatments, and performing medical procedures. Examples meeting this criterion include, but are not limited to, imaging professionals, nurses and certified nursing assistants, physical therapy assistants, paramedics, or phlebotomists.

\*Required courses must be taken for letter grades of "C-" or better.

\*Required course work graded Pass/ Fail or credit obtained by CLEP Examination or Advanced Placement (AP) will not be accepted for any of the listed prerequisites.