



## Health and Sciences Division

# Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Sonography is the use of high-frequency sound waves to generate dynamic visual images of organs, tissues, or blood flow inside the body.

Sonography is useful in assessing and diagnosing various medical conditions. It is commonly associated with obstetrics and used during pregnancy. This technology has many other applications in the diagnosis and treatment of medical conditions. Sonography can be used to examine the abdomen, breasts, female reproductive system, prostate, and blood vessels. It is used to detect and treat heart disease, heart attack, and vascular disease.

Information about the medical sonographers profession is available through two professional associations:

- Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (SDMS) [www.sdms.org](http://www.sdms.org)
- American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS) [www.ardms.org](http://www.ardms.org).

## A Well-Rounded Program of Study

The first two years of the program are spent on the Mount Mary College campus completing general education courses and prerequisites for the major. (Transfer students must complete a minimum of 32 credits at Mount Mary College.)

The last two years of coursework and clinical rotations are completed through the sonography program at Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare - St. Francis Hospital.

Learn more at:

[www.mywheaton.org/locations/st\\_francis/school\\_of\\_sonography.asp](http://www.mywheaton.org/locations/st_francis/school_of_sonography.asp)

Upon successful completion of all coursework and clinical components, students graduate from Mount Mary College with a Bachelor of Science degree. Graduates are eligible to take board exams in physics, abdomen, breast, obstetrics/gynecology, vascular, and neonatal brain imaging. Upon successful completion of select board exams, students qualify for the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS) and/or the Registry of Vascular Technologists (RVT) designation.

## Accreditation

Mount Mary College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.



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## More on the Web

Visit [www.mtmary.edu/div\\_healthandsciences.htm](http://www.mtmary.edu/div_healthandsciences.htm) for additional information about the Health and Sciences Division at Mount Mary College and its academic programs and formats:

- Biology (certificate, minor, day)
- Biology Education (certificate and day)
- Biology Broadfield Science Education (certificate and day)
- Chemistry Education (certificate and day)
- Chemistry Broadfield Science Education (certificate and day)
- Chemistry (certificate, minor, day)
- Diagnostic Medical Sonography (day)
- Dietetics (graduate, certificate, day)
- Environmental Studies (minor)
- Health Sciences/Pre-professional Studies (certificate, minor, day)
- Nursing (day)
- Occupational Therapy (graduate, day)
- Radiologic Technology (day)

[www.mtmary.edu](http://www.mtmary.edu) 800-321-6265

# Diagnostic Medical Sonography

## Prerequisites for Diagnostic Medical Sonography

As a career, diagnostic sonography requires close, personal, one-on-one interaction with patients. Prospective students are expected to have a solid background in science and previous “hands-on” patient-care experience. Students must maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA throughout the program.

Before being accepted into the Wheaton Franciscan program, students must:

- Complete the last 32 credits at Mount Mary College
- Have an updated certification in CPR
- Clear a criminal background check
- Complete a job shadowing experience (not required, but highly recommended)
- Complete a Certified Nursing Assistant course (courses not offered at Mount Mary)

Other requirements also apply. For more information, please contact the Mount Mary College Admission Office at 800-321-6265.

## Employment Outlook

Sonographic technology is expected to evolve rapidly and to spawn newer sonography procedures, such as 3-D and 4-D sonography for use in obstetric and ophthalmologic diagnosis.

Hospitals will remain the principal employer of diagnostic medical sonographers. However, employment is expected to grow in offices of physicians and in medical and diagnostic laboratories, including diagnostic imaging centers.

Healthcare facilities such as these are expected to grow because of the strong shift toward outpatient care made possible by technological advances that permit more procedures to be performed outside the hospital.



## Why earn a bachelor's degree?

There are different avenues for entry into the diagnostic medical sonography field, including programs of varying lengths offered by hospitals, vocational-technical institutions, colleges and universities, and the Armed Forces.

As in other healthcare professions such as nursing, the growing trend is toward employing sonographers who have a bachelor's degree.

Earning a bachelor's degree allows for more career options and greater opportunity for advancement into management positions, as well as greater earning potential.

## About Mount Mary College

Discover what the more than 1,900 current Mount Mary graduate and undergraduate students already know. Mount Mary offers an engaging and transformational education. Here students explore and expand their hopes and dreams. We invite you to be one of them.

Mount Mary's residential campus is home to a diverse student body. Be a part of our gorgeous suburban campus, just 20 minutes from downtown Milwaukee.

For over 90 years Mount Mary College has been educating women in the Catholic tradition – we are committed to your success. Nearly 100% of our full-time undergraduate students receive a scholarship. Mount Mary is dedicated to making a college education affordable for you.

See how Mount Mary's strong academics, small class sizes, safe and vibrant campus, and student organizations and leadership opportunities will help you achieve your personal and career goals. Contact the Admission Office at 800-321-6265 or [mmc-admiss@mtmary.edu](mailto:mmc-admiss@mtmary.edu).

