Radiologic Technologists on the Medical Imaging Team

Radiologic technologists perform imaging examinations and are responsible for accurately positioning patients and ensuring that a quality diagnostic image is produced. They work closely with radiologists, the physicians who interpret medical images to either diagnose or rule out disease or injury.

What Do Radiologic Technologists Do?

Radiologic technologists are the medical personnel who perform diagnostic imaging examinations and administer radiation therapy treatments. They are educated in anatomy, patient positioning, examination techniques, equipment protocols, radiation safety, radiation protection and basic patient care. They may specialize in a specific imaging technique such as bone densitometry, cardiovascular-interventional radiography, computed tomography, mammography, magnetic resonance imaging, nuclear medicine, quality management, sonography or general radiography.

Registered radiologic technologists — known as "R.T.s" — must complete at least two years of formal education in an accredited hospital-based program or a two- or four-year educational program at an academic institution and must pass a national certification examination administered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. (www.arrt.org) Continuing Qualification Requirements including participating in ongoing education is required to maintain national certification.

Based upon the preceding professional description, enrolled students must be able to perform the following essential functions independently or with reasonable accommodations, in order to perform effectively in the clinical education environment. Requests for accommodations will be reviewed by program and institutional administrators on an individual basis and within the guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the West Virginia Human Rights Act (WVHRA).
Essential Functions for United Hospital Center Radiologic Technology and Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program are as follows:

I. EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:

A. The applicant must be a High School Graduate or have successfully completed a standard equivalency test. (GED)

B. The applicant must have documented test results from the American College Test (ACT) with minimum Composite of 19, a Math subscore of 19 and an English subscore of 18. (SAT equivalents are also acceptable.)

C. The applicant must complete fifteen hours of general education credit from an accredited college or university as a pre-requisite or co-requisite in order to qualify for graduation. Oral/Written Communications and College Algebra must be among the courses selected.

II. MENTAL REQUIREMENTS

A. Must have the ability to perform concentrated mental activity with frequent involvement in complex and highly technical situations.

B. Must have the ability to work successfully under highly stressful conditions, and must be capable of adapting to varying workloads and work assignments on a constant basis.

C. Must have the ability to make sound, independent judgments based on scientific principles, and also be able to collaborate with other multi-disciplinary team members in an appropriate fashion.

D. Must have the ability to comprehend and perform oral and written instructions and procedures.

E. Must have effective reading and comprehension skills.

F. Must have strong communication skills, written and verbal.

G. Must be capable of handling information of a confidential nature.

H. Must have independent decision-making ability.

I. Must have the ability to respond to emergency situations in a calm, professional manner.
J. Must be capable of using computers to input and retrieve information.

K. Must have basic math and algebra skills to accurately calculate radiation exposure factors.

L. Must have ability to prioritize tasks.

III. PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

A. Perform frequent walking, standing, stooping, kneeling, reaching, pushing, pulling, lifting, grasping and feeling duties throughout the work shift.

B. Lift, move, and position patients of all weights, with varying amounts of assistance in a fair manner on a regular and recurring basis.

C. Hear within the normal range.

D. Read and write legibly in English.

E. Demonstrate visual acuity within normal range.

F. Perform heavy work: exerting in excess of 100 pounds of force occasionally, and/or up to 50 pounds of force frequently, and/or up to 20 pounds of force constantly to move objects.

G. Perform Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, therefore, the applicant must have sufficient use of all four limbs and be capable of maneuvering their body successfully enough to accomplish the task in a life-threatening situation.