

Cardiovascular Technology

Cardiovascular Technology use specialist equipment to make images of the chambers of the heart and related large blood vessels. This equipment uses sound, which is bounced off these structures; the resulting echoes are used to construct a computer-generated image. Experts can view these images and use them to identify deformities or abnormalities such as narrowing of the arteries or heart chamber enlargement. Before using the equipment, Cardiovascular Technician usually meet with the patient to explain the procedure and what to anticipate. You may find that you need to reassure particularly anxious patients. After explaining what to expect, you may then position the patient on a couch. You might have to help elderly or infirm patients undress and position themselves. Using a handheld device and following the directions of a physician, you would then scan areas of the heart. Once a good image has been established, by viewing a monitor, you would then save this image as a still or record a moving film for later diagnosis by a physician. You will probably be responsible for replenishing consumables and booking maintenance visits concerned with the machinery and ensuring that the cardiovascular room is tidy. Cardiovascular training schools will generally teach you basic anatomy and physiology of the human body. Clearly, you will receive concentrated training in the circulatory system. You might learn about common heart abnormalities such as chamber enlargement or congenital defects such as how and why a 'hole in the heart' occurs. Cardiovascular training schools may teach you to use a variety of different models and makes of equipment. You may also learn a little about medical physics so you can better understand how the equipment works. You may also receive training in basic maintenance and patient welfare.

Program Description:

The program strives to provide excellence in cardiovascular technology education. The curriculum is designed so that students take courses in a specific sequence. The program utilizes a structured curriculum that includes both classes and clinical rotation assignments. To become a proficient Cardiovascular Technician, the student must have the knowledge gained from didactic study and the hands-on training received during clinical assignments.

Cardiovascular Technology Program Diploma Completion Requirements		Total Clock Hours				Quarter credits
Course Numbers	Course Titles	Lecture Hrs	Lab Hrs	Clinical Hrs	Total Hrs	
EC 50	Introduction to Echocardiography: (HIPPA, Ethics, etc.)	10			10	
EC 30	Anatomy and Physiology	56			56	
EC 20	Medical Terminology	32			32	
EC 120	Physics I-II	80			80	
EC 300	Echocardiography I	105	105		210	
EC 310	Echocardiography II	200	200		400	
EC 400	Vascular I	72	72		144	
EC 410	Vascular II	72	72		144	

CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP START AFTER COMPLETION OF DIDACTIC AND LABORATORY PORTION OF THE PROGRAM						
EC 500	Clinical 1			50	50	
EC 501	Clinical 2			150	150	
EC 502	Clinical 3			624	624	
TOTAL Diploma Program Requirements		627	449	824	1900	112.5

Licensure Requirements:

UPON COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM STUDENTS ELIGIBLE TO TAKE THE NATIONAL REGISTRY EXAM (ARDMS) **ADDITIONAL CLINICAL WORK EXPERIENSE MAY BE REQUIREMENT. No licensure in the State of CA is required.**

Program Schedule:

Program is 18 month in length with the following schedule:

Module I: Tuesday – Thursday 6:00PM – 10:00 PM

Module II:

Morning classes: Monday – Thursday 9:00AM – 1:00 PM

Evening classes: Monday – Thursday 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Module III: Clinical Externship (CE): Minimum requirement 24 hours a week.

Each student must complete no more than 8 month of CE in order to acquire hands-on experience. No evenings or weekends for the CE available. All CE is completed in the regular business hours for the medical facility.

Employment requirements and opportunities as a Cardiovascular Technology have become more demanding with more emphasis to have the student graduate obtain and pass the ARDMS – Sonography Principles and Instrumentation (SPI) exam. All students are required to sit for and pass the SPI examination before they will be placed in a clinical externship. Students will be allowed to begin their externship once they show proof that they took the SPI exam. Students are encouraged to study and prepare to pass this test.

Admission Requirements:

To be considered for acceptance into the program, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

1. Student must have graduated from high school, or earned a GED and be at least 18 years of age.
2. Student must pay all applicable fees, as per the current published fee schedule prior to the issuance of an enrollment contract or make other arrangements acceptable to the school.
3. Student must complete Wonderlic Scholastic Level Exam, with a score of at least 19
4. ESL test is required for non-native speakers.