

Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Program Guide, Curriculum and Observation Log



The Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) program at the University of Southern Indiana provides a curriculum which includes didactic courses in conjunction with laboratory and clinical experiences. The DMS curriculum consists of 1 1/2 years of prerequisite general education courses, 1 1/2 years of General Sonography (physics, abdomen, OB/GYN) course work, and one year of EITHER Vascular Sonography or Adult Cardiac Sonography course work. Completion of these four years results in a Bachelor of Science degree. The student will be eligible to apply for credentialing examinations administered by the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS). The DMS program at USI is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) on recommendation by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS) in Abdominal-Extended, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Vascular, and Adult Cardiac concentrations.

- CAAHEP ADDRESS: 9355 113th St. N #7709, Seminole, FL 33775
PHONE: 727-210-2350 WEB: www.caahep.org
- JRC-DMS ADDRESS: 6021 University Blvd., Suite 500, Ellicott City, MD 21043
PHONE: 443-973-3251 WEB: www.jrcdms.org

Admission to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program

Prospective students must be accepted for admission to USI before being considered for admission to the DMS program. Applicants must have graduated from high school and completed all DMS program prerequisite courses with at least a “C” and a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (4.0 scale). Beginning with the fall 2025 application period, prerequisite science courses (BIOL 121, BIOL 122 and PHYS 101) should be taken within seven years of program application. Program selection occurs annually following the application deadline of **September 15**.

The DMS program application, accompanying required documents, and transcripts must be received by September 15 for program consideration. Failure to submit all necessary documents by the deadline will make the student ineligible for program consideration including the admission interview process. Applicants meeting academic requirements must be eligible for ARDMS certification and be capable of fulfilling essential functions of a diagnostic medical sonographer.

Observation within a sonography department is not required, but it is highly recommended. If you have not completed observation hours, it is strongly recommended that you contact a sonographer and research the following questions:

- What kind of procedures are performed in a general sonography department?
- What type of invasive procedures are performed and what is the sonographer's responsibility during these procedures?
- What type of interaction does a sonographer have with a physician?
- What job responsibilities does a sonographer have other than scanning?

The DMS program is limited in the number of students that may be accepted each year due to limitations for clinical placement. USI, in collaboration with the clinical affiliates, reserves the right to determine the number of students enrolled in each beginning class. Currently, 15 students are accepted to the DMS program each year.

The DMS student selection process involves a review of all required documents and an interview by the DMS admission committee. This committee consists of the program faculty and clinical instructors from various clinical affiliates. Applicants are informed when to schedule the interview via e-mail from a DMS program representative. All interviews are conducted privately and by appointment only. The committee's decision is conveyed by email no later than two weeks after all interviews are completed.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program Guide

Program Fees

Recently accepted DMS students must pay a \$250 deposit fee to reserve their position in the program. This deposit fee will be deducted from the following semester's tuition bill at USI. All Kinney College of Nursing and Health Professions (KCNHP) students involved in clinical, fieldwork, and/or internship experiences are required to provide documentation of required immunizations, criminal background check, and drug screening. In addition to tuition and fees, expenses of the program include: books \$1000, uniforms \$200, professional society memberships \$100, clinical education management system \$150, student compliance management system \$150, CPR certification \$100, certification exam review \$200, and immunizations/TB testing \$100. Expenses will also be incurred by the student for travel to local and distance clinical education sites. These expenses are approximate and are subject to change. For information on current charges for tuition and fees, contact the USI Office of Admissions at 812-464-1765. Financial aid information can be obtained through the Office of Student Financial Assistance at 812-464-1767.

Application Checklist

- Apply to the University of Southern Indiana and complete the admissions process, including submission of official university transcripts from all institutions other than USI.
- Declare the Pre-Diagnostic Medical Sonography major with Registrar's office.
- Enroll in and complete prerequisite courses for the DMS program.
- Submit a completed online application with DMS program by September 15.
- Submit verification of observation within abdominal, OBGYN, vascular, and cardiac areas of sonography if applicable. It is highly recommended that students observe a minimum of 20 hours and maximum of 60 hours within a sonography department before the application deadline. Observation may be completed at any facility performing general, vascular or cardiac sonography examinations. All observation hours must be documented in the observation log and verified by the supervising sonographer.
- In a narrative format, signed and dated, address the following:
 - ◊ Through your observation experience, online research, or communication with practicing sonographers, explain what various sonography examinations are performed by the sonographer in a general sonography department.
 - ◊ Describe which sonography discipline you prefer to pursue in the fourth year of the DMS program, vascular sonography or adult cardiac sonography; provide a detailed rationale for your preference.
 - ◊ Describe what you believe are essential traits of a diagnostic medical sonographer.
 - ◊ List your long-term career goals.
- Submit all materials no later than September 15 to be considered for admission to the DMS program to:

Diagnostic Medical Sonography, HP 3062
Kinney College of Nursing and Health Professions
University of Southern Indiana
8600 University Boulevard
Evansville, IN 47712
- Interviews are typically scheduled during the first full week in October. Applicants are notified by email of admission status no later than two weeks after all interviews are completed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY PROGRAM AT 812-465-1181 OR <https://www.usi.edu/health/diagnostic-medical-sonography>



Diagnostic Medical Sonography Essential Functions

Essential functions are those physical, mental, and psychosocial characteristics that are necessary to meet the clinical/practice/fieldwork expectations for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) program. Becoming a healthcare professional requires the completion of an education program that is both intellectually and physically challenging. The purpose of this statement is to articulate the essential function requirements of the DMS program in a way that allows students to compare their own capabilities against these demands.

A student with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation in order to meet academic requirements and to fulfill the essential functions of the KCNHP programs. Reasonable accommodation does not mean that students with disabilities will be exempt from certain tasks; it does mean that we will work with students with disabilities to determine whether there are ways that we can assist the student toward completion of the task(s) at issue without fundamentally altering the nature of the program or task and without incurring undue financial and administrative burden.

Motor Skills

- Ability to independently manipulate and guide weights up to 50 pounds
- Ability to move about freely and maneuver in small spaces
- Tolerate regular changes of physical position, both stationary and mobile, for extended (8-12 hour shift) periods of time
- Possess skills to independently handle and operate a range of items, devices or equipment
- Maintain a stable physical position
- Agility to respond in an emergency situation
- Manipulate equipment by pushing buttons, operating keyboards, and turning dials
- Simultaneously manipulate controls with one hand and manipulate the transducer with the other hand

Communication Skills

- Process, comprehend, and communicate information effectively, clearly, in a timely manner, in the English language, and with individuals from various social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds including the ability to perceive nonverbal communication

Cognitive/Critical Thinking Skills

- Collect, measure, calculate, analyze, interpret, and apply information
- Exercise good judgment in a variety of settings
- Ability to set priorities and manage time effectively

Interpersonal and Behavioral Skills

- Establish and maintain professional working relationships
- Apply conflict management and problem-solving strategies
- Demonstrate professional, ethical, and legal behavior
- Demonstrate appropriate maturity, stability, and empathy to establish effective and harmonious relationships in diverse settings
- Demonstrate flexibility and ability to adapt to change
- Maintain self-control in potentially stressful environments
- Comply with professional standards regardless of circumstance

Sensory Skills

- Uses all available senses to collect data regarding patient status and provide patient care
- Monitor the patient and machine controls from a distance of 20 inches in a darkened room
- View and evaluate images displayed on a computer screen distinguishing between white, grey, black, red and blue colors for up to eight hours each day

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Curriculum

Course	Course Title	Credits	CORE 39
<u>Fall Semester-First Year</u>			
ENG 101	Rhetoric and Composition I	3	F
CMST 101/107	Communication	3	F
MATH 111/114/ 215/230	Mathematics	3	F
BIOL 121	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4	BS- NS Lab
USI 101	Soar to Success	1	F
HP 115	Medical Terminology for the Health Professions	<u>2</u>	
		16	
<u>Spring Semester-First Year</u>			
ENG 201	Rhetoric and Composition II	3	F
BIOL 122	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4	BS-NS Lab
PHYS 101	Introduction to Physical Sciences	3	WOK-S & MI
RADT 196	Orientation to Radiologic and Imaging Sciences	2	
WOK-SIQ	Choose course from Ways of Knowing-Social Inquiry	<u>3</u>	WOK-SI
		15	
Applicants must complete the 11 prerequisite courses listed above with at least a “C” and a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (4.0 scale). All grades must be available to be eligible to apply to DMS program.			
Beginning with the fall 2025 application period, prerequisite science courses (BIOL 121, BIOL 122 and PHYS 101) should be taken within seven years of program application.			
<u>Fall Semester-Second Year</u>			
KIN 192/281	Physical activity/wellness	1	F
BS-SS	Choose course from BS-Social Science	3	BS-SS
BS-World L/C	Choose course from BS-World Languages and Cultures	3	BS-World L/C
IPH 356	Ethics and Healthcare in a Pluralistic Society	3	WOK-M/E, EE-Diversity
HP 211	The Healthcare Delivery System and Healthcare Policy	<u>3</u>	
		13	
<u>Spring Semester-Second Year</u>			
DMS 301*	Patient Care for Imaging Sciences Professionals	2	
DMS 312*	Introduction to DMS Principles and Procedures	2	
DMS 313*	Sonographic Sectional Anatomy	2	
IPH 401	Interpersonal Perspectives on Global Health	3	EE-Global
WOK elective	Choose course from CAE, HI, or World L/C	<u>3</u>	WOK
		12	
<u>Summer Semester-Second Year</u>			
DMS 315*	Abdominal Procedures	3	
DMS 316*	Sonographic Lab Practice I	<u>3</u>	
		6	
<u>Fall Semester-Third Year</u>			
DMS 321*	Sonographic Physics and Instrumentation I	3	
DMS 323*	Obstetric Sonography	3	
DMS 324*	Gynecologic Sonography	3	
DMS 326*	Sonographic Lab Practice II	2	
DMS 327*	Clinical Practice I-General (24 hours per week)	<u>3</u>	
		14	
<u>Spring Semester-Third Year</u>			
DMS 331*	Sonographic Physics and Instrumentation II	3	
DMS 332*	Small parts, Pediatric and Specialty Sonographic Exams	2	
DMS 333*	Critique, Clinical Correlation and Case Analysis	3	EE-Writing
DMS 336*	Sonographic Lab Practice III	2	
DMS 337*	Clinical Practice II-General (24 hours per week)	<u>3</u>	
		13	

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Curriculum

Diagnostic Medical Sonography students will complete one of the following concentrations:

Diagnostic Medical Sonography, General Sonography and Vascular Specialty, B.S.

Course	Course Title	Credits	CORE 39
<u>Summer Semester-Third Year</u>			
DMS 347*	Advanced Clinical Practice (32 hours per week)	4	
DVT 398*	Vascular Sonography Lab I	2	
DVT 401*	Vascular Sonography I	<u>2</u>	
		8	
<u>Fall Semester-Fourth Year</u>			
DVT 402*	Vascular Sonography II	3	
DVT 423*	Vascular Sonography Lab II	2	
DVT 426*	Clinical Practice I-Vascular (32 hours per week)	4	
Writing (EE)	Choose EE-Writing Course	<u>3</u>	EE-Writing
		12	
<u>Spring Semester-Fourth Year</u>			
DVT 421*	Vascular Sonography III	2	
DMS 436*	Sonographic Professional Advancement Seminar	3	
DVT 437*	Clinical Practice II-Vascular (24 hours per week)	3	
HI 301 OR HA 431	Choose ONE - HI 301 Health Informatics OR HA 431 Healthcare Quality	<u>3</u>	
		11	

— OR —

Diagnostic Medical Sonography, General Sonography and Echocardiography Specialty, B.S.

Course	Course Title	Credits	CORE 39
<u>Summer Semester-Third Year</u>			
DMS 347*	Advanced Clinical Practice (32 hours per week)	4	
ECHO 398*	Echocardiography Lab I	2	
ECHO 401*	Echocardiography I	<u>2</u>	
		8	
<u>Fall Semester-Fourth Year</u>			
ECHO 402*	Echocardiography II	3	
ECHO 423*	Echocardiography Lab II	2	
ECHO 426*	Clinical Practice I-Cardiac (32 hours per week)	4	
Writing (EE)	Choose EE-Writing course	<u>3</u>	EE-Writing
		12	
<u>Spring Semester-Fourth Year</u>			
ECHO 421*	Intro to Congenital Heart Defects	2	
DMS 436*	Sonographic Professional Advancement Seminar	3	
ECHO 437*	Clinical Practice II-Cardiac (24 hours per week)	3	
HI 301 OR HA 431	Choose ONE - HI 301 Health Informatics OR HA 431 Healthcare Quality	<u>3</u>	
		11	

*ALL DMS, DVT and ECHO courses must be completed with a “C” or better to progress in the DMS program.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Observation Log



Student Name: _____

**Kinney College of Nursing
and Health Professions**

[illegible]

	GENERAL	VASCULAR	CARDIAC	TOTAL
NUMBER OF HOURS OBSERVED				