

# DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY - CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

## Special Admissions Criteria and Required College Prerequisites

The program is approximately 24 months in length, plus prerequisites, and is designed to provide students with the academic coursework and clinical internship experience necessary to apply for national certification examinations in the specialty areas of Abdominal and OB/GYN Sonography.

**There are 2 pathways to qualify for this program, depending on your educational background:**

- **Associate of Applied Science** pathway is for those applicants without an existing health-related degree. This requires students to complete pre-requisite courses, and is the more common track. Selection criteria can be viewed on the program website (<https://dacc.nmsu.edu/academics/programs/diagnostic-medical-sonography/>), at the Admissions Policies link.

OR

- **Certificate Program** pathway is for applicants with either a 2-year allied health degree (i.e., radiologic technology, RN, etc.) OR a bachelor's degree in a medically related science. Selection criteria can be viewed on the program website (<https://dacc.nmsu.edu/academics/programs/diagnostic-medical-sonography/>), at the Admissions Policies link.

**All students, regardless of the pathway they qualify under, will follow the same two-year roadmap once accepted into the sonography program.**

Students may have a maximum of two prerequisite courses progress at the time of application, and the student must have maintained at least a 3.0 GPA in prerequisite courses and overall college GPA. This is a full-time program with all requirements falling Monday-Friday between 8 am-5 pm (exact days/hours vary by semester), including clinical internships which may occur outside of the immediate Las Cruces area. All sonography core courses relate to each other and are only offered once during the program and, therefore, cannot be taken out of sequence or individually. Students must maintain a grade of "C" in all sonography core coursework and clinical internship to remain in the program. The DMS program utilizes an accelerated grading scale. 74% is the minimum passing score for all assignments, assessments, and overall class grading and corresponds to a "C." **All students are required to have personal health insurance to attend clinical internships.**

*Applicants with pre-requisite coursework from an institution outside of the United States MUST have an official, detailed translation of their coursework into the US equivalency sent to the program from the World Education Services (WES). International applicants who do not provide official documentation of acceptable US course and degree equivalency will not be considered during the application process.*

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This track is only designed for students with existing health-related degrees. If you do not have an associate or bachelor's degree in a medically related field, please visit the Associate Track page.

### Certificate Track (53 credits)

This is a limited-entry program beginning only in the spring semester. Criteria and factors used in evaluating applicants include the following:

- High school diploma or GED
- 2-year allied health degree (i.e. radiologic technology, RN, etc.) **OR** a bachelor's degree in a medically related science (see prerequisite admission requirements for specific content)
  - Application points based on GPA
- County of residence

**Note: Application cycle is open July 1st-September 1st, and requires prior attendance at a program orientation session.**

NOTE: A grade of C- or better on a traditional grading scale is required in designated Mathematics courses. Students must earn a final grade of C or better in all required DMS courses/Technical Requirements and achieve a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.0. The DMS program utilizes an accelerated grading scale. 74% is the minimum passing score for all assignments, assessments, and overall class grading and corresponds to a "C."

Students must complete all University certificate requirements to total at least 53 credits. Developmental coursework will not count towards the degree requirements and/or elective credits, but may be needed in order to take the necessary English and Mathematics coursework.

Prefix	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
MATH 1220G	College Algebra	3
PHYS 1230G	Algebra-Based Physics I <sup>1,2</sup>	3
	or PHYS 1112	Introductory Physics for the Health Sciences
	or RADT 105	Radiographic Physics and Equipment
<b>Technical Requirements <sup>3</sup></b>		
DMS 100	Introduction to Clinical Practicum	1
DMS 101	Introduction Sonography/Patient Care	2
DMS 105	Introduction to Clinical Practicum II	1
DMS 130	Pelvic Sonography	2
DMS 130 L	Pelvic Sonography Lab	1
DMS 140	Abdominal Sonography	2
DMS 140 L	Abdominal Sonography Lab	1
DMS 150	Sonographic Principles and Instrumentation I	2
DMS 160	1st Trimester Obstetric Sonography	1
DMS 165	2nd/3rd Trimester Obstetric Sonography	1
DMS 170	Clinical Practicum I	1
DMS 180	Clinical Practicum II	4
DMS 226	Sonographic Case Studies I	1
DMS 227	Sonographic Case Studies II	1
DMS 230	Gynecologic Pathology	2
DMS 240	Abdominal Pathology I	2
DMS 245	Abdominal Pathology II	2

DMS 248	Pediatric Sonography	2
DMS 250	Sonographic Principles and Instrumentation II	3
DMS 260	High Risk Obstetric Sonography	3
DMS 270	Clinical Practicum III	3
DMS 290	Small Parts & Superficial Structures	2
DMS 280	Clinical Practicum IV	5
DMS 291	Registry Preparation: OB/GYN	1
DMS 292	Registry Preparation: Abdomen	1
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>53</b>

<sup>1</sup> Courses are identical to those offered at New Mexico State University Las Cruces (main) Campus.

<sup>2</sup> While RADT 105 and PHYS 1112 meet program requirements, they do not meet the NM General Education Area III: Laboratory Sciences requirement.

<sup>3</sup> All DMS classes are restricted to students who have been formally accepted into and in good standing with the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program.

## Course Fees

In addition to tuition, a fee of \$200 is charged for each of the following courses:

Prefix	Title	Credits
DMS 170	Clinical Practicum I	1
DMS 180	Clinical Practicum II	4
DMS 270	Clinical Practicum III	3
DMS 280	Clinical Practicum IV	5

## (Certificate 53 credits)

**Note: Application cycle is open July 1st-September 1st, and requires prior attendance at a program orientation session.**

### A Suggested Plan of Study

The contents of this Road Map may vary depending on initial student placement in mathematics and English. This is only a suggested plan of study for students, and is not intended as a contract. Individual student academic plans may vary. Please contact your academic advisor to create a plan that works for you. Course availability may vary from fall to spring semester and may be subject to modification or change.

**NOTE:** All of the courses in this program relate to each other and to the clinical internship and cannot be taken individually.

NOTE: A grade of C- or better on a traditional grading scale is required in designated Mathematics courses. Students must earn a final grade of C or better in all required DMS courses/Technical Requirements and achieve a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.0. The DMS program utilizes an accelerated grading scale. 74% is the minimum passing score for all assignments, assessments, and overall class grading and corresponds to a "C."

Students must complete all University certificate requirements to total at least 53 credits. Developmental coursework will not count towards the degree requirements and/or elective credits, but may be needed in order to take the necessary English and Mathematics coursework.

Semester 1	Credits
Prerequisite semester	
Area II: Mathematics	3

MATH 1220G	College Algebra	
Choose one from the following:		3
PHYS 1230G	Algebra-Based Physics I	
PHYS 1112	Introductory Physics for the Health Sciences	
RADT 105	Radiographic Physics and Equipment	

**Credits 6**

### Semester 2

DMS program semester 1

DMS 100	Introduction to Clinical Practicum	1
DMS 101	Introduction Sonography/Patient Care	2
DMS 130	Pelvic Sonography	2
DMS 130 L	Pelvic Sonography Lab	1
DMS 140	Abdominal Sonography	2
DMS 140 L	Abdominal Sonography Lab	1
DMS 150	Sonographic Principles and Instrumentation I	2

**Credits 11**

### Semester 3

SUMMER - DMS program semester 2

DMS 105	Introduction to Clinical Practicum II	1
DMS 160	1st Trimester Obstetric Sonography	1
DMS 165	2nd/3rd Trimester Obstetric Sonography	1

**Credits 3**

### Semester 4

DMS program semester 3

DMS 170	Clinical Practicum I	1
DMS 230	Gynecologic Pathology	2
DMS 240	Abdominal Pathology I	2
DMS 250	Sonographic Principles and Instrumentation II	3

**Credits 8**

### Semester 5

DMS program semester 4

DMS 180	Clinical Practicum II	4
DMS 226	Sonographic Case Studies I	1
DMS 245	Abdominal Pathology II	2
DMS 290	Small Parts & Superficial Structures	2

**Credits 9**

### Semester 6

SUMMER- DMS program semester 5

DMS 227	Sonographic Case Studies II	1
DMS 270	Clinical Practicum III	3

**Credits 4**

### Semester 7

DMS program semester 6

DMS 248	Pediatric Sonography	2
DMS 260	High Risk Obstetric Sonography	3
DMS 280	Clinical Practicum IV	5
DMS 291	Registry Preparation: OB/GYN	1
DMS 292	Registry Preparation: Abdomen	1

**Credits 12**

**Total Credits 53**

## Course Fees

In addition to tuition, a fee of \$200 is charged for each of the following courses:

<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
DMS 170	Clinical Practicum I	1
DMS 180	Clinical Practicum II	4
DMS 270	Clinical Practicum III	3
DMS 280	Clinical Practicum IV	5