

## St. Cloud Technical & Community College Sonography Program

### Prospective Student – Information Packet

#### **Welcome!**

Health programs have specific requirements for students to complete.

This material is to help guide you through the process from beginning to graduating from your intended health major. Staff and faculty are here to assist with your educational journey and look forward to seeing you on campus!

#### **Sonography Program Description**

The Sonography Program is a full-time, 4-semester program.

- Sonography program begins each fall semester.
- 12 students are accepted each fall semester.

It is a competitive program that requires a 2-application process.

With a Sonography degree, graduates have the skills and expertise to perform and analyze ultrasound images through the use of high-frequency sound waves for procedures that go beyond obstetrics.

Students will learn scanning procedures in abdominal, superficial structures, gynecological, obstetrical, and vascular ultrasound. Clinical internship experience lets students put their classroom knowledge to the test in the real world and opens doors to career opportunities after graduating.

Sonography grads find work in hospitals, clinics, imaging centers, and mobile scanning services.

#### **Sonography Careers**

Potential employers include Hospitals, Clinics, Imaging Services, Ultrasound Companies, Colleges, Vascular Centers, Breast Centers, Obstetric Centers

- The three-year placement rate for the Sonography program is 100%.
- The average Central MN hourly salary range is \$38.00 per hour.

## **Sonography Program Admissions Process – 1<sup>st</sup> Steps**

### **First application**

- Complete online application found at <http://www.sctcc.edu/application>
- Apply as a Pre-Sonography/AA degree student
- Pay \$20.00 application fee
- Submit high school / college transcripts
  - MN State college transcripts are available to SCTCC once student applies.
  - Official college transcripts are required from University of MN and all private colleges

Students returning to St. Cloud Technical & Community College (SCTCC) will contact Admissions office to re-open and update student file.

Students that are fully accepted to SCTCC will be notified by the Admissions office when to complete e-orientation and meet with an academic advisor.

**Admissions Office: 320-308-5089 ● Email: [enroll@sctcc.edu](mailto:enroll@sctcc.edu)**

### **If Transferring to SCTCC**

If you have previously earned credits and want to know if they will transfer to meet the program pre-requisites, please apply to SCTCC as a Pre-Sonography student (see steps above) so the Registration Office can review your transcript(s).

Check <http://www.transferology.com> for unofficial course equivalency information.

### **e-orientation**

Applicants that are fully accepted to SCTCC will be notified by the Admissions office about when and how to complete e-orientation and meet with an academic advisor.

Students starting Fall Semester: e-orientation and advisor appointments begin in April.

Students starting Spring Semester: e-orientation and advisor appointments begin in November.

Students starting Summer Semester: e-orientation and advisor appointments begin in February.

### **Academic Advising Center – Current Student / Advisor Meetings**

Current students are required to meet with an advisor at least once a semester to receive a registration access code and review their academic plan.

We encourage students to visit more often with any questions or concerns they may have.

We are here to align you with resources that are available and help guide you through your educational journey at SCTCC!

Definition of a Current Student is one that has:

- Completed the Admissions process and fully accepted to SCTCC AND
- Completed e-orientation and scheduled an initial appointment with an academic advisor OR
- Currently registered for classes at SCTCC as a current, accepted student.

**Academic Advising Center: 320-308-5741 ● Email: [advising@sctcc.edu](mailto:advising@sctcc.edu)**

## **Sonography Program Requirements**

- ALL pre-requisites **MUST** be complete before applying to the program.
- A minimum grade of “B” or better AND a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above in pre-requisite coursework is required to be considered for admission.
- Re-take Options: Pre-requisites may be taken 3 times (effective December 2022).  
Consult with an advisor about the impact of repeated courses
- When applying to the program, applicants must be in *Good Academic Standing* at SCTCC (not on warning or probation – cumulative GPA 2.0 & cumulative completion rate of 66.67%).

### **General Education pre-requisites include:**

<b>BLGY 2310</b> Human Anatomy/Physiology I (Prereq is <b>BLGY 1351</b> )	4 credit
<b>BLGY 2320</b> Human Anatomy/Physiology II (Prereq is <b>BLGY 2310</b> )	4 credit
<b>MATH 1300</b> College Algebra	3 credit
<b>PHYS 2300</b> General Physics I	4 credit
<b>OR</b>	
<b>PHYS 1305</b> Conceptual Physics	4 credit
<b>HLTH 1440</b> Medical Terminology	1 credit
<b>Goal area 1 Communication – Oral</b> (Example CMST 2310)	3 credit
<b>Goal area 1 Communication – Written</b> (Example: ENGL 1302)	4 credit

### **CPR requirement:**

**MUST BE American Heart Association – Basic Life Support (BLS)** (Red Cross NOT accepted)

- Provide a copy of CPR card AFTER accepted to the Sonography program
- (During Sonography orientation meeting)

Course options at SCTCC: EMSC 1480 (1 credit course) **OR** HBHE 1513 (Hour based course)

**HESI and USA Exams:** These exams will be given to the qualified applicants AFTER the application period closes and the scores will be considered in the acceptance process to the Sonography program. The HESI and USA exams will count as 30% of the admissions acceptance (15% of each exam weighted score)

### **NOT required, but highly recommended to improve Sonography program acceptance:**

- Complete Nurse Assistant course -options at SCTCC include:
  - HLTH 1402 (3 credits) **OR** HCCC 1415, 1425 and 1480 (6 credits)
- Earn a health degree, AA, HSBF – AS or bachelor’s degree
- Complete 12 or more pre-requisite credits at SCTCC

### **Sonography Program application (2<sup>nd</sup> application):**

Applicants **MUST** be a *Current Student* (applied and accepted to SCTCC).

Students can apply to the program upon completion of ALL pre-requisite courses. Minimum GPA 3.0 for the pre-requisite courses.

Applicants must be in *Good Academic Standing* at SCTCC.

(cumulative GPA of 2.0 and cumulative completion rate of 66.67%).

Students who are on academic warning or probation will only be considered through an appeal process.

- The Sonography application is open December 1<sup>st</sup> through January 15<sup>th</sup>
- Application is found at <http://www.sctcc.edu/sonography-apply-online>

Sonography is a highly competitive program, and the college may not be able to accept all applicants that meet the minimum admission standards.

### **Historical Applicant Data – Sonography Program** **(Previous Years Student Data)**

Start Date	Seats Available	Total # of Applicants	* Total # of Qualified Applicants	Average GPA in pre-requisites	Average HESI Score	*** Earned AA, HSBF, Bachelor's Degree OR Health Degree	*** Earned 12 or more pre-requisites at SCTCC	*** Completed Nurse Assistant course
Fall 2017	12	54	43	3.86	NA	12	12	12
Fall 2018	12	67	52	3.96	84.92	12	12	12
Fall 2019	12	61	45	3.95	80.3	12	12	12
Fall 2020	12~	46	40	3.91	87.46	12	13	13
Fall 2021	12	51	45	3.97	86.92	12	12	12
Fall 2022	12	59	45	3.97	88.30	12	12	12

\* All pre-requisites complete with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

~ In Fall 2020 – 13 students were accepted due tie in scoring.

\*\*\* Students accepted to the Sonography program earned /completed areas.

**Applicants accepted for Fall 2023 will be required to take BOTH the HESI and USA Exams**

**HESI Exam:** After the application window closes, qualified applicants will be notified to sign up for the HESI Exam. More information can be found on the HESI Exam FAQ sheet.

**USA Exam:** After the application window closes, qualified applicants will be notified to sign up for the USA Exam. Currently there are no student materials available for this exam

These exams will be given to the qualified applicants AFTER the application period closes and the scores will be considered in the acceptance process to the Sonography program. The HESI and USA exams will count as 30% of the admissions acceptance (15% of each exam weighted score)

## **FAQs – Sonography Program**

### **Can I apply to the program without all of the pre-requisites complete?**

All pre-requisite courses MUST be complete prior to applying to the program.

### **Can I re-take a pre-requisite course to improve my GPA?**

- Each pre-requisite may be taken 3 times.
- Consult with an advisor about the impact of repeated courses

### **Beside my Pre-Requisite GPA, what can I do to improve program acceptance?**

(Listed below are NOT required, but highly recommended).

- Complete Nurse Assistant course (HLTH 1402) or (HCCC 1415, 1425 & 1480)
- Earn a health degree, AA, HSBF - AS or Bachelor degree
- Complete 12 or more pre-requisite credits at SCTCC
- HESI and USA Assessment Examination scores

### **When does the Sonography program start?**

The Sonography program is a 4-semester program that begins each Fall Semester.

### **How many students are accepted?**

12 students are accepted each fall semester.

### **Can I attend Part-Time?**

The Sonography program is a *full-time* and *in-person* program only.

### **Are any of the Sonography courses offered online?**

Once accepted to the program, classes are all held on-campus or at Clinical sites.

### **When can I apply to the Sonography program?**

The Sonography application window is open December 1<sup>st</sup> through January 15<sup>th</sup>

Application found at <http://www.sctcc.edu/sonography-apply-online>

### **Once accepted to the program, what is the schedule like?**

#### **First year students:**

First semester will be on campus approximately 4-5 hours per day, Monday-Friday.

Second semester will be on campus 6.5-7 hours per day, Monday-Friday. Students will also be doing a clinic observation rotation on Thursdays and Fridays for a total of 6 hours per week during the Spring Semester.

#### **Second year students:**

Third semester will be completing clinic internship at a clinic site for 40 hours per week. Required clinic hours is 660.

Fourth semester will be completing clinic internship at a clinic site for 40 hours per week. Required clinic hours is 240. Student completion will be in February-March of the second year. Instructors will provide an end date yearly.

### **Is the Sonography Program accredited?**

The St. Cloud Technical and Community College (SCTCC) Sonography program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs ([www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)).

St. Cloud Technical & Community College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

## **FAQs – Sonography Program and HESI Admission Assessment Exam (A<sup>2</sup>)**

### **What does HESI stand for?**

Health Education Systems, Inc., and A2 stands for Admission Assessment.

### **Why is the HESI admission exam being used?**

The HESI exam is being used by the Sonography Program to help evaluate students' academic readiness as part of the selection process. Students will also be completing a learning style and personality profile assessment. The learning style and personality profile assessment will not be scored.

### **When can I take the HESI exam?**

Students MUST be invited to take the HESI exam at SCTCC. Students are invited to take the HESI exam after the Sonography Program applications have been reviewed. Students that have completed all program requirements and scored a minimum required GPA of 3.0 for the required prerequisites will be eligible to take the HESI examination. Directions are included in the invitation that is sent via email & mailed letter.

### **What is covered of the HESI exam?**

Eligible students will take the following components of the HESI exam for application to the Sonography program:

#### English:

- Reading Comprehension (60 minutes)
- Vocabulary and General Knowledge (50 minutes)
- Critical Thinking (25 minutes)

#### Math:

- Basic Math Skills (50 minutes)

#### Science:

- Anatomy and Physiology (25 minutes)
- Physics (50)

#### Learner Profile:

- Learning Style (14 items)
- Personality Profile (15 items)

*These items are not scored for program*

### **How long will the HESI exam take?**

Students will be permitted short breaks between components if needed. Registering for the test will take about 30 minutes, so students should allow about 5 hours to complete the exam.

### **What is the cost of the HESI examination?**

The test will cost approximately \$50 - \$60.

### **What are the student accommodations?**

Students will be permitted the use of scratch paper which will be collected by Testing Center staff and immediately shredded after the test.

In general, students are not allowed to use a calculator when testing. However, students with documented disabilities may request the college's Accommodation Committee to approve the use of a basic 4 or 6 function calculator. Students will need to make arrangements in advance for this and any other possible accommodation.

### **How many times can I take the HESI exam?**

Qualified Sonography applicants are allowed to take the HESI once during the application period. If the student re-applies to the Sonography program, another HESI exam can be taken for a total of 2 exams only. The HESI exam must be taken at St. Cloud Technical & Community College and will only be offered once each year in March.

### **Is there an expiration date of my HESI exam?**

The HESI exam has to be taken within two years of applying to the program for the score to be eligible for consideration in the selection process.

### **FAQs – Sonography Program and HESI Admission Assessment Exam (A<sup>2</sup>) Continued**

#### **When will the HESI exam be administered?**

Eligible students will receive an email with detailed information.

The testing window for the Sonography HESI exam will usually be scheduled mid-March.

#### **What is the minimum score accepted for the HESI exam?**

There will not be a minimum score needed to achieve for admission to the Sonography program. Students will receive points based off their comprehensive score based on a percent set forth by program faculty.

#### **When will I know the results of the HESI exam?**

Within 48 hours, students will receive a detailed email regarding their score.

#### **How can I study for the HESI exam?**

A study guide is available: HESI Admission Assessment Exam Review, 5th edition ISBN: 9780323582261

### **FAQs – Sonography Program and USA Admission Assessment Exam**

- The USA Exam will be implemented for Fall 2023 program acceptance.
- Qualified applicants will take both the HESI and USA exams, scheduled on 2 different days.
- Cost of USA Exam is approximately \$50. - \$60.

### **Checklist for Acceptance - Sonography program at St. Cloud Technical & Community College**

- Complete Admissions Process – 1<sup>st</sup> Steps
- Complete eOrientation
- Schedule an Advising & Registration appointment (available after completion of e-orientation)
  - Register for pre-requisite courses
  - Each semester students meet with an advisor to review their academic plan and complete registration
- Earn high GPA in pre-requisite courses and
- review *Historical Applicant Data* to learn ways to improve program acceptance
- Apply to the Sonography program when requirements are met & program application window is open
- After the application window closes, applicants that meet the minimum requirements will be invited to take the HESI and USA Assessment exams.

## **Sonography Information Session**

Thank you for your interest in the Sonography program at SCTCC!

We invite you to sign up for a Sonography Information Session to learn more about the program, visit the Sonography lab and meet the program instructor.

<https://www.sctcc.edu/infosessions/HEALTH>

After reviewing this information, if you need further assistance, please contact:

- Admissions Office 320-308-5089 [enroll@sctcc.edu](mailto:enroll@sctcc.edu)
- Academic Advising Center 320-308-5741 [advising@sctcc.edu](mailto:advising@sctcc.edu)
- Health Science offices: 320-308-5485 or 320-308-5403