

# CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN HEALTH CARE AT VWCC

## RADIOGRAPHY

Associate in Applied Science

2025

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Room 339

Application Deadline: **February 1, 2025**

(Notes listed below)

Virginia Western Community College has an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Radiography.

Pam Woody & Jasmine Terry process completed academic files for applicants applying to Dental Hygiene, Nursing, Practical Nursing, Radiography, Radiation Oncology, Medical Lab. Technician, Physical Therapist Assistant, Surgical Technology, and OTA (coming fall 25, pending approval). All academic files to one of these Health Professions programs will be processed in the Health Professions Advising and Applications Office. Our office is located in Fralin Center for Science and Health Professions which is on the Virginia Western Community College campus in Roanoke, Virginia. The room number is 339 and Pam is typically in the office from Monday through Friday from 8:00-3:30. However, you may slide any application materials under the door of 339 in Fralin if the office is currently closed. Jasmine is typically in the office Monday-Thursday from 11:00-2:00.

The Radiography Program is a five-semester program, and we accept one time a year and classes will begin in the Fall which is usually in the mid to later part of August.

We do not have a waiting list for this program. We go through an acceptance

process each year to consider all applicants that have made application---in this instance from May the year prior to February 1 deadline to the application deadline of **February 1**.

This presentation will discuss the Admissions Criteria and Process, the prerequisites for the program, the Radiography Curriculum, a typical schedule for the first semester, if accepted, estimated cost of the program and some Admissions Statistics.

You may contact Ms. Yolanda Brown for general application information regarding the process and verification of the complete academic file prior to receipt of the advising letter. You may contact one of the team-members in the Health Professions Advising and Applications Office. For course mapping and career information, you may contact Ms. Perdue, Program Advisor for Health Professions.

# PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Academically Challenging
- Science and Math orientation
- Classroom and Clinical components
- Skills application
- Clients as partners in health/wellness

The Radiography program is academically challenging in regards to it is a very intense program.

It does have a strong math and science orientation as studies have shown if students are successful in Math and Science they should be successful in a Health Technology program. That is one reason we have the math and science prerequisites for our program and that science and math is the basis for our courses.

The program does consist of classroom and clinical components. At VWCC, we have an on-campus lab to help facilitate learning and students also go into the clinical sites. Some of the clinical sites we use include Lewis Gale Medical Center, VAMC, Carilion-RMH, Carilion-NRV, Crystal Springs Imaging, and Riverside 3 Imaging. The on-campus lab has the same digital equipment that is utilized in clinical educational sites that we use.

# RADIOGRAPHY ADMISSION CRITERIA

## REQUIRED:

- High School Diploma/GED
- One lab science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics) at C level or above completed by the end of **Spring prior to fall admission** (Lab science courses must have lab component as part of course.) NOTE: BIO 141 cannot be used to fulfill both the lab science prerequisite and the BIO 141 prerequisite.
- College level Anatomy and Physiology I (BIO 141) at C level or above completed by **end of Spring prior to fall admission**.
- Two credit of SDV 101 Orientation to Health Professions completed by **end of Spring prior to fall admission**.
- **High School/College GPA 2.5 or above by end of Fall semester prior to spring deadline.** (If using college GPA must have at least 12 credit hours of college credit in 12 month timeframe to use GPA.)
- Must be 18 years of age by June 1 prior to fall admission

In order to be considered for the Radiography program, you must be either a HS Graduate or have obtained a GED.

For high school grades for prerequisites: if the grades are on semester and one semester you make a “C” and the second semester you make a “D”, you will need to repeat this course at VWCC or another Community College. Both semester grades need to be a “C” or above unless number averages are included, or a final grade given for the two semesters and the grade is “C” or higher.

One lab science is required. This can include High School Biology, Chemistry or Physics and can include College Biology or NAS 2. The Physics course can help with the Radiography Physics you encounter in second year of program. Must be completed by end of spring prior to fall admission. Note: BIO 141 **cannot** be used to fulfill both the lab science prerequisite and the BIO141 prerequisite. BIO 101 or NAS 2 can be used to fulfill the lab science course.

College level A&P I (BIO 141) completed by end of spring prior to fall admission. (Pre-requisite to BIO 141, at VWCC, is a recent BIO 101, passed with a grade of “C” or higher or NAS 2 passed with grade of “s”, within the last three years or complete the challenge exam for the course at 75% or higher, or complete NAS 2 within the last three years with final grade of “S”).

SDV 101-two credits—Orientation to Health Professions, which is designated with a “P” on the course listing. Please note that if you have obtained a Bachelor’s Degree (in the United States or provided documentation from an organization that indicates the equivalent of such in your country), we can waive the two credits of SDV 101 and award the two credits of SDV based on completion of the Bachelor’s Degree (or Associate Degree).

The GPA is calculated at end of Fall prior to the February 1 deadline. College GPA must be based on at least 12 credit hours of college credit in 12-month timeframe.

We look at the academic history from HS to most recent with an emphasis being placed on the most recent academic accomplishments.

If you perform poorly in High School and come and complete 22 college credits with a cumulative 3.6, this is a good scenario.

If you perform poorly in High School and come and complete 22 college credit with a cumulative GPA of 1.7, you will not qualify for consideration based on GPA criteria.

If you perform poorly in HS, you will need 12 credit hours of college credit by end of Fall semester for us to use your college level GPA

You may wish to visit the website with the checklist for application at : <https://www.viriniawestern.edu/academics/health-professions/radiography/> that outlines the application process for admission. Look under “Radiography Forms”

Must be 18 years of age by June 1 prior to fall admission.

Please note that changes can be made to pre-requisites, so please pay attention to college website.

## RADIOGRAPHY ADMISSION PROCEDURES

- Apply to VWCC and indicate program of study as Career Studies Certificate: Introduction to Radiography and curricular.
- Apply to Radiography Program complete the application
- Submit official transcripts from HS and copy of GED scores and **all** colleges attempted to the Health Profession Information Office. Information needs to arrive in one envelope. (Exception: VCCS transcripts are not required as we can access information on system.) Mail official transcripts to School of Health Professions, VWCC, Attn: Pam Woody, 3091 Colonial Ave. SW, Roanoke, VA 24015.
- The Advising letter is scanned to student email in SIS usually within three-six weeks of completed academic file. (Exception: high-volume time periods like registration and just prior to HP deadlines).
- Email one of the Health Careers team-members, to discuss concerns or questions after receipt of advising letter if necessary or the Program Advisor, Ms. Perdue

Complete the VWCC application and indicate you are interested in Career Studies Certificate (CSC): Introduction to Radiography. This also allows for the Admissions Office to “match” transcripts that may arrive at the Admissions Office with your academic file.

Complete the Radiography Program Application and return to the Health Professions Advising and Applications Office. (Form is available from HPAAO and the HP Radiography website.) Please remember to list all colleges attempted on the Radiography application. You may attach another sheet of paper, to the Radiography application. with additional college information if necessary.

It is YOUR responsibility to request and determine if your file is complete by the deadline. We need OFFICIAL transcripts from ALL colleges attended/attempted (except other Virginia Community Colleges). We also need official High School even if you have an advanced degree and we’ll need High School if attended thru 9<sup>th</sup> grade and completed a GED. We will need a copy of your GED scores. All items must arrive by the application deadline of **February 1**.

It is important that the information is addressed to the School of Health Profession Advising and Applications Office (not the Admissions, Records or Enrollment Offices as this delays the process).

Once evaluated, applicants are sent an “advising letter” informing you about

prerequisites and career support classes. VERY IMPORTANT—**IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED THIS LETTER-YOU WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.** Usually there is a three to six week turn around time from receipt of complete academic file to process your file and complete the Advising letter. Please be aware that during high volume times such as registration and deadlines and the Spring semester as this will delay the processing of your file. Deadlines range from February to April for all Health Profession programs. You can expect delays during this time. The advising letter will be mailed upon completion of academic file and it will inform you of your prerequisites you have completed, the grade you rec'd in those classes, your cumulative GPA at point of application, and any college courses previously completed or currently enrolled in that can be used in RAD curriculum. In addition, after acceptance in May and through July, there could be a delay in the advising letter due to orientations and etc. over the summer months.

Deadline is **February 1**—no exceptions!

It is in your best interest to **apply early** so we can advise course selection for Spring semester and etc. Even if you lack some of the prerequisites, we update your record in January to reflect courses completed in Fall and your cumulative GPA at the end of Fall and which courses you are enrolled in for Spring. If you apply from May to December and you are currently enrolled in a non-Virginia Community College, you will need to provide us updated transcripts reflecting your final grades in the Fall semester. Keep in mind that this updated transcript must arrive by **February 1**.

For those ineligible to continue in the process you will receive a letter in February that will indicate why you are ineligible. Reasons for ineligibility may include missing items like updated college transcripts, or missing pre-requisites, or cumulative GPA is below the 2.5.

# RAD ADMISSION PROCEDURES (con't)

- DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL IS  
**FEBRUARY 1**

In Spring:

- complete entrance examination (currently using HESI)  
For 2024 there was no requirement to have a minimum score. For 2021 the combined score needed on the HESI for both Math and English (and Critical Thinking) was a minimum score of 70-75. Details given in testing letter to minimum score needed to proceed to Interview.
- Interview with Program Director and Radiography Faculty (written portion of interview is on campus in group format, individual interviews follow)

**Deadline is FEBRUARY 1.**

After the application deadline has passed, we will begin the next phase in the application process. The next phase would involve coming to VWCC and completing the entrance examination and we used the HESI for the admission for the fall admission group. The HESI score needs to be at the established rate or higher (typically 70-75%) to progress to the next step, the interview component of the application process. However, for the fall 2024 cohort, everyone who tested moved on to the interview portion. The HESI letter will inform of any minimum cut off score to progress. However, the higher the score, the higher the points scored on the Admission Rubric. The interview will take place after the admission testing. This would involve another trip to the campus to complete the interview after the initial trip to complete the Entrance Testing for the program. On the day of your interview, the Program Director will give you a general overview of the program and application process and the Essential functions you would need to be able to perform if you were accepted into the program. At the end of her presentation, she will present each applicant with a set of interview questions or essay assignment and the applicants are instructed to write their response on the paper provided. In addition, at the end of the written group interview, you will be interviewed by the Program Director and also with two faculty members from the Radiography program.

NOTE: HESI testing typically occurs in March and the interviews in April. HESI testing materials are sent to the email account in Navigate. You need to be aware of the email account associated with Navigate and be sure and turn on your notification in Navigate as well. This is very important. It is important to reach out to us mid-March, if you have not heard from us regarding the HESI exam.

What the faculty members are trying to determine through this process is your knowledge of the profession, the skills and abilities that you think you possess that is used in the profession, and how you can relate that information. There are several ways to obtain information in regard to the profession.

It is important to know about the profession and be able to relay the information to the interviewer. It is important to know your “why” Radiography.

“Shadowing” may be possible (but not required), and you may visit <https://www.carilionclinic.org/visiting-student-affairs> for information on the shadowing policy and procedures at Carilion. Please note that the TST (tuberculosis skin test) is generally required prior to shadowing at Carilion.

You may also be able to access information regarding the field at the following website which may also discuss trends within the profession and etc.: [ADVANCEweb.com](http://ADVANCEweb.com), [vsrt.org](http://vsrt.org), [asrt.org](http://asrt.org), [arrt.org](http://arrt.org) or by interviewing several people in the profession.

## RADIOGRAPHY STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES- DURING APPLICATION PROCESS

- Notify the Office of Health Professions Information Office (healthprofessions@viriniawestern.edu) of any changes in your email address, name, and phone number after application. This must be done in writing in a note that includes Student ID.
- Review the Essential Functions of the Radiography Program. This listing is available from the Program Director and on the website for Radiography.
- Contact American Registry of Radiologic Technologist (651)687-0048 if you have a felony or misdemeanor conviction as you may be ineligible to take the licensing examination. [www.art.org](http://www.art.org)

Anytime you move or change your name during the application process, you need to inform the Health Professions Information Office (healthprofessions@viriniawestern.edu). We use a separate database than the college and if you inform Admissions, we will not know of the changes and we need to maintain contact with you in regard to the next step in the application process. We will need changes in writing with an identification number such as your student id and if your name changes, we will also need a copy of your marriage license or your driver's license that reflects the name change.

You need to review the Essential Functions which are available from the Program Director or on the website to make sure that you are able to perform these functions or if we can make reasonable accommodations for any disability.

If you have been convicted of a Felony or misdemeanor, you need to contact the number for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologist as you may be ineligible to set for the registry. In addition, you may not pass the background & urine drug screening that is required of all HP students in relation to our contract with our clinical sites. If you do not receive a clear criminal background check or negative drug screening the clinical sites may not allow you to go for clinical and therefore, you will be unable to fulfill your clinical requirements.

## RADIOGRAPHY STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES-if accepted

- Attend Radiography Orientation
- Admission contingent upon receipt of satisfactory medical examination, CPR certification, negative drug screening and clear criminal background check
- Maintain a "C" average in radiology and clinical course and the support (non-RAD) classes in the curriculum

Your Admission is contingent upon satisfactory receipt of medical examination, the required CPR certification, clear criminal background check and a negative urine drug screening. The forms and the amounts of the above and other cost associated with the beginning of the program will be discussed at orientation that is held in mid-June once we have selected our class and they have accepted their positions,. CPR is generally provided by VWCC during the summer semester. (HLT 105 and 106 at VWCC can both be completed to satisfy the CPR requirement.) You will need to wait to obtain your CPR as a specific type is required. You will be notified at orientation the type that is required and the offerings that VWCC will be having (if any) during the summer prior to the beginning of Fall semester.

In addition, your responsibilities include maintaining at least a "C" average in all of your Radiography courses and the Medical Terminology course as well as the support classes of non-RAD prefix courses (like ENG 111, PHI 220 etc.)

## RADIOGRAPHY STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES-con't

- Be prepared to attend classes/clinicals on day or evenings
- Purchase lab supplies, uniforms, and accessories as directed. NOTE: if using Financial Aid, there are outside cost that FA will not be able to cover
- Provide transportation to and from agencies

Your orientation will include information regarding the supplies, uniforms, and monies that are required to begin the program. Classes and clinical for Radiography are generally held during the day, however, for you to obtain the best clinical experiences possible, we do require some night and weekend clinical rotations, especially during the second year of the program. You will be notified of the night and weekend clinical prior to the rotations.

Of course, providing transportation to and from the college and our clinical sites are your responsibility.

## CREDENTIALS FOR PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED RADIOGRAPHER (RT-R)

- Graduate of an accredited program (VWCC's Radiography program is accredited by Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology)
- Successful completion of the National Registry Examination
- Virginia license and annual renewal
- Completion of 24 hours of continuing education over a 2 year period

I have included the credentials necessary for practice in this slide. As a matter of note, the average pass rate for the VWCC Radiography graduate on the National Registry exam is generally higher than the national average.

## PRE-PREREQUISITE COURSES- Radiography

EDE 10 or EDE 11. If you are a recent High School graduate (within the last five years) here are the guidelines for placement into ENG 111.

-HS GPA < 2.0= EDE 10

-HS GPA 2.0-2.99= EDE 11 + ENG 111

-HS GPA = 3.0+ = ENG 111

If you have graduated over six years from High School, then Informed self-placement will place you in the recommended ENG or EDE courses.

Can work with New Student Advising your first semester at VW.

Depending on your academic history it may be necessary for you to take certain English preparatory courses. Joint Venture applicants, please work closely with the Counseling Office, at your college, to determine the appropriate English course that is needed, if not previously completed. VWCC applicants will need to work with New Student Advisor in assessing the need for discussion regarding your course sequencing. Sometimes it is necessary to complete the English writing sequence of a non-credit English to assist you with some skills and then move to other courses offered at the college.

Readiness for ENG 111/EDE 11 is required before BIO 101, PSY 230 and other courses requiring reading. For instance, if you need to register for EDE 11 and ENG 111 and plan to complete BIO 101, you will need to either be enrolled in the EDE 11 and ENG 111 as well as BIO 101 or complete the sequence of EDE 11 and ENG 111 prior to enrolling

## PREREQUISITE COURSES Radiography

- **ONE LAB SCIENCE—Must contain a lab component**-for example:

-BIO 101-(4 credits)-Biology-(must have lab component) or NAS 2.

Must be eligible for EDE 11/ENG 111 and pass (or bypass) MTH 10. This is a prerequisite for the college level BIO 141 at VWCC.

-CHM 5-4 Successful self direct enrollment into college math (or waiver based on High School grades and GPA within the last five years) is required prior to registering for CHM 5 at VWCC. (must have lab component—For VWCC, you will need to place out of MDE 10 (or successfully complete) within the last five years.

Some prerequisite courses can be fulfilled in High School with a final grade of “C” or higher or taken at a community college or another college or universities with a final grade of C or higher.

Successful completion of MDE 10 or direct enrollment into college level courses are required before registering for Chemistry 5 or Biology 101.

Chemistry 5 can fulfill the prerequisite, if the chemistry has a lab component—some of the other colleges may offer another chemistry that can be used to fulfill the requirements and you will need to check with the Counseling/Advising office at that institution to make sure that you meet the prerequisites for the class. For VWCC, you will need to place out of MDE 10 or successfully complete to take CHM 5 because of the math skills needed to successfully pass this course.

If you take Chemistry 5 you will receive a grade of “S” for satisfaction, or “U” for unsatisfactory or “R” for repeat. Your grade must be an “S” in order to fulfill these requirements. In addition, if establishing a GPA at VWCC, with 12 credit hours, the CHM 5 will not count towards that 12-credit college GPA, since the course is considered developmental in nature.

Prerequisite courses must have a lab component to be used to fulfill requirement.

Grade of “C” or higher is required.

One lab sciences can be Biology, Chemistry, Physics from High School or a college level BIO 101 or Chemistry or Physics. There are several options available to applicants. The science pre-requisite must be from Biology, Chemistry or Physics and contain lab components. Ecology and consumer Chemistry are two courses that can NOT be used to fulfill the requirement.

Most lab science courses will take two nights a week to complete because of the lecture and the lab components.

Must have lab component for the lab science course.

College level Anatomy and Physiology I (BIO 141) within the last five years before beginning the program. Pre-requisite for BIO 141 is a recent Biology or NAS 2.

# PREREQUISITE COURSES

## Radiography

- **College level Anatomy and Physiology I (BIO 141)**. Pre-requisite is recent Biology/NAS 2 within the last five years. The BIO 141 must be completed within five years of beginning the program. (see details on next slide)

## COLLEGE LEVEL PRE-REQUISITE CLASS

- BIO 141-Human Anatomy & Physiology I.  
Prerequisite: Recent (within the last three years) Bio 101 or NAS 2. This course is often offered Fall, Spring and Summer semesters. Course must have lab component and be completed within five years of beginning the program. Must be completed with grade of "C" or higher. If placement is determined and indicates enrollment in ENF 3/ENG 111, student must enroll in those courses the same semester (or prior to) with BIO 141.
- SDV 101-two credits—Orientation to Health Professions

Anatomy and Physiology I (BIO 141) is typically offered in the Fall, Spring and Summer semesters. However, for admission purposes, the BIO 141 must be completed with a final grade of "C" or higher by the end of spring prior to fall admission

The prerequisite course for the 141 is recent college Biology, within the last three years, grade of "c" or higher, or completion of NAS 2 within the last three years, with a grade of "s" , or completed of challenge exam at 75% or higher within the last three years to place into BIO 141 and the eligibility for ENG 111. Pre-requisite for BIO 101 is successful completion of MDE 10 or placing into college level math and co-requisite of ENF3/111 or ENG 111 placement.

Also, remember the Anatomy and Physiology it must be within the last five years of beginning the program.

## PREREQUISITE COURSES- Radiography-con't

- Prerequisite courses need to be completed by the end of Spring prior to fall admission to qualify for fall Radiography Program.
- GPA must also be equal to or above a 2.5 by end of Fall prior to February deadline (if using college GPA, must be based on at least 12 credit hours of college credit within 12-month timeframe).

Prerequisite courses can be fulfilled in High School with a final grade of “C” or higher or completed at a community college or another college or universities with a grade of S or C or higher.

Biology must have a lab component and can be completed in HS with grade of “C” or higher or can be completed at college by completing BIO 101 at a college. Remember it must have a lab component. Math pre-requisite for Biology are math direct placement into college level math or successful completion of MDE 10.

Chemistry 5, which is a developmental class can be used to fulfill the lab science prerequisite—the chemistry must have a lab—some of the other colleges may offer another chemistry that can be used to fulfill the requirements and you will need to check with the Counseling office at that institution to make sure that you meet the prerequisites for the class.-- For VWCC, you will need to successfully complete MDE 10 or place into a college level math to take CHM 5 because of the math skills needed to successfully pass this course.

-If you take MDE 10 and/or Chemistry 5 you will receive a grade of “S” for satisfaction, or “U” for unsatisfactory or “R” for repeat. Your grade must be an “S” in order to fulfill these requirements

-It is best to complete prerequisites as early as possible, but the latest you have to complete the pre-requisites is **Spring prior to fall admission**. If you are accepted into the program, your acceptance will be based on the contingency that you successfully complete any prerequisites currently enrolled in for Spring semester

-GPA will be obtained from the last place attended. if you have 12 credit hours by end of Fall, prior to spring deadline, that is the GPA we will use. If you have less than 12 credit hours at an Institution, we will proceed in reverse chronological order.

## CAREER SUPPORT CLASS INFORMATION-Radiography

- Career support classes may be completed prior to entering the Radiography Program.
- Career support classes are classes in the curriculum without the "RAD" prefix in the class.
- Completion of classes does not guarantee a position in the program.
- Course do have to be completed with a grade of "C" or higher

In addition to the pre-requisites there are career support classes that can be completed prior to entering the Radiography program.

Career support classes are classes within the curriculum that do not have the "RAD" prefix. This would include courses for instance like Medical Terminology, Math 130, the social science course such as PSY 230, ENG composition, PHI 220-Ethics. These will be listed on a following slide. ENG 111, HLT 143, PHI 220, MTH 130, HLT 105. Please note that MTH 120 may be used to fulfill the MTH 130 if previously completed or a higher-level college level math course. Also note that Medical Terminology must be completed with final grade of "C" or higher as well as all support classes for Radiography

You are encouraged to complete some of the support classes prior to entering the program but it is not mandatory that you do so. Most of the applicants have completed some, if not all of the support classes. However, keep in mind that completion of the support classes do not guarantee you Admission into the program. If you are accepted into the Radiography program without completing the support classes, you will take the curriculum as outlined in a following slide.

## CAREER SUPPORT CLASS INFORMATION-continued

- Advantages to completing career support classes prior to entering program:
  - Helps establish a college GPA with science courses
  - If accepted, allows student to spend more time on "core" classes
  - Student has been exposed to material prior to Radiography lecture in Medical Terminology.

There are several advantages to completing the support classes prior to entering the program. One of them would be it would allow you as a student, if you were to be accepted into the program, to spend more time on your core Radiography classes.

Another advantage to completing career support classes prior to entering is the time-frame for you to associate previous learning with current learning. For instance, if you have completed Medical Terminology prior to entering, you should be able to associate the current learning in Radiography with previous information learned in Medical Terminology. Studies have shown the more times a student is exposed to material and the student's ability to associate and relate previously learning---it assist with retention and recall of information.

Once again, you are encouraged, if possible, to complete some of the support classes prior to entry. However, it is not mandatory and we do have students who enter the program w/o completing the support courses prior to entry and they are successful. Just remember it is an intense two-year program.

# RADIOGRAPHY CURRICULUM

## Fall-1<sup>st</sup> year

HLT 143-3 cr  
RAD 121-4 cr  
RAD 125-3 cr  
RAD 131-3 cr  
MTH 130-3 cr  
HLT 105-1 cr

## Spring

RAD 132-3 cr  
RAD 221-4  
RAD 245-2  
ENG 111-3 cr  
MTH 130-3 cr

## Summer

RAD 190-4 cr  
RAD 205-3 cr

## Fall-2<sup>nd</sup> year

PHI 220-3 cr  
RAD 111-4 cr  
RAD 231-5 cr  
RAD 240-3 cr

## Spring

RAD 215-2 cr  
RAD 112-4 cr  
RAD 232-5 cr  
PSY 230- 3 cr

## Fall

143-Medical Terminology-only offered in Fall and Spring in the classroom—  
Distance Learning all three semesters-but this is not encouraged. Grade must be  
“C” or higher in this class to be utilized in the Radiography program and must be  
obtained prior to proceeding to spring semester in Radiography

121-Rad Procedures I

131-Clinical Procedures

125-Patient Care Procedures

HLT 105 CPR--1 cr

## Spring

245-Rad Specialties

132-Elem. Clinical Procedures II

221-Rad Procedures II

MTH 130-3 cr- Fundamentals of Reasoning-MTH 120 or higher-level math course  
can be used to fulfill MTH 130

ENG 111-English Composition

## **Summer**

190-Coordinated Practice

205-Radiation Protection and Radiobiology

## **Fall-2<sup>nd</sup> year**

111-Rad Science I

231-Advanced Clinical Procedures

240-Radiographic Pathology

PHI 220-Ethics

## **Spring**

112-Rad Science II

232-Advanced Clinical Procedures II

RAD 215-Coorelated RAD Theory

PSY 230-Developmental Psychology

This is the Radiography curriculum, and it is divided into Fall, Spring, Summer and the second year of the program also includes a Fall, and Spring semesters. I would like to talk about the core classes for a minute, but this slide includes the core RAD classes and the support classes. If you have not completed the support classes prior to entering, the Medical Terminology (HLT 143) must be completed in the first semester if the course has not been completed prior to entering. The MTH 130 will need to be completed within the first semester of the program as well. Some of the other support classes have some flexibility—for instance, the PSY 230 (pr PSY 200, SOC 215), PHI 220 and English Composition may be taken in any semester and must be completed prior to the final semester of the Radiography program. Please keep in mind that applicants need to be accepted into the Radiography program in order to enroll in the RAD classes.

HLT 105—can be fulfilled with appropriate CPR required for Radiography. You may complete HLT 105-1 credit or HLT 106-2 credits at VWCC to fulfill the course and CPR requirement for Radiography. Or if you are already a certified in the appropriate CPR (American Heart Association, BLS with Adult, Child and Infant with AED training), then you may submit a copy of the front and back of your card and we will begin the paperwork that will allow this to fulfill your HLT 105 requirement. Note:

The CPR card can fulfill the HLT 105 requirement but the requirement to go to clinical within the RAD program requires a specific hands on training—AHA BLS Adult, Child and Infant

with AED training.

Let me begin by giving you a general overview of the curriculum and the way the courses are offered. In the first three semesters of the program, classes will be on campus in lecture on MWF and in a clinical setting on Tuesday and Thursday. The second year of the program, students will be in clinical on MWF and on-campus for lecture on Tuesday and Thursday. Each semester our student will rotate through a different clinical site.

Regarding the core classes—I have already discussed the Medical Terminology (HLT 143), the RAD 121 in the Fall semester is your RAD procedures I and the RAD 131 is your clinical procedures course which is where you will be in a clinical site.

Spring semester you will have RAD 125 which is Patient Care Procedures and 132-will be your Elementary Clinical Procedures II—your second clinical, RAD 221-Rad Procedures II. And RAD 245 which is Radiologic Specialties. Summer semester includes RAD 190-the Coordinated Practice which is a clinical course and RAD 205-Radiation Protection and Radiobiology.

Fall of the second year, you will have RAD 111-Rad Science I, and RAD 231-Advanced Clinical Procedures, and RAD 240-Radiographic Pathology

During the spring semester of the second year, you will complete RAD 112-RAD Science II, RAD 232-Advanced Clinical Procedures II, and RAD 215-215-Coorelated RAD theory .

## SUPPORT CLASSES-con't

Generally offered every semester

- HLT 143-3 credits-Medical Terminology
- ENG 111-3 credits-English-Prerequisite satisfactory COMPASS results.
- MTH 130-Fundamental of Reasoning (pre-requisite is MDE 10 or placement out of MDE 10)
- PSY 230
- HLT 105-1 credit
- PHI 220

HLT 143-good to take before BIO 141 or in conjunction with, it is offered in Fall and Spring in class and D.L. and DL in summer. FA will only cover this course, if accepted into the program or if you are in the CSC: Introduction to Radiography

ENG 111—sometimes listed at ENG 101/102 at other institutions and will transfer in as 111 and 112, provided the course covered composition. This course is offered on campus and Distance Learning.

MTH 130- Fundamental of Reasoning-pre-requisites is direct placement into college level math or successful completion of MDE 10. A higher-level course may be used to substitute for this math course.

Social Science PSY 230-Developmental Psychology

HLT105-1 credit can be obtain by completing HLT 105 and this will allow you to be certified in Health Care Provider CPR. If you are certified in the required CPR, American Heart Association BLS Adult, Child and Infant with AED training, we will be able to use a copy of your CPR card to equate to this one credit course. Therefore, you will not need to complete the HLT 105 credit. CPR card must remain valid for entire program duration.

PHI 220-Ethics

## TYPICAL SCHEDULE FOR RADIOGRAPHY CLASSES

See below for a tentative fall schedule

Typical schedule for first semester—can always change.

HLT 143- MW 2-3:30

RAD 121-Procedures---W from 8-8:50 and MF 9-9:50 with lab either Wednesday from 9-12 or from 11-2 or W from 1-4 (groups randomly assigned)

RAD 131-Clinical Procedures T and TH from 7:30-3:30

RAD 125-MF from 10-11:30

Once again this is a typical schedule to give you an idea of when your classes will be and how the Med Term fit around your RAD courses.

Sometime there is a need to have an evening clinical and what you see here is a typical schedule only. The schedule can vary as deemed necessary from one fall to another.

If you are accepted into the Fall program, you will receive your fall schedule at orientation in June.

## TIME LINE OF APPLICATION/ADMISSION

- Apply by **February 1 prior to fall admission** with complete file {VWCC application, RAD program application, GED/HS official transcripts, official college transcripts (except VCCS transcripts)}
- **Once academic file is complete**—should receive an ADVISING letter from Student Information Specialist
- Will be contacted in late February/early March for entrance testing dates (typically conducted in March) and at testing's end an interview appointment with Program Director will be scheduled. Interviews typically occur in April.
- Wait for acceptance/alternate/denial status in program—usually in late May as spring prerequisite courses have to be recorded.
- Program begins in August of each year, if accepted

The process of application---once again the deadline is February 1 and all items must be at VWCC on or before that date.

The process includes completing a VWCC application and indicating Introduction to Radiography on your program of interest. Also, need to complete the program application, official High School transcripts, a copy of your GED scores, if applicable. Remember if you obtained a GED and completed at least through 9<sup>th</sup> grade of High School, we will need both the GED scores and an official HS transcript. We also need official HS transcripts if you have obtained advanced degrees. We need official transcripts from all colleges attempted, except VWCC and other Virginia Community Colleges. It is best for the above to arrive in one envelope to the HPIO.

We do encourage you **to apply early** to the program, not because priority is given—because none is given for early application—but it allows us a chance to review your academic file and offer course suggestions as well as point out any missing official transcripts from colleges attempted.

Once your academic file is complete, you'll receive the Advising letter that I have previously mentioned. The Advising Letter will verify your pre-requisites, your cumulative GPA at point of application, and college courses, if applicable, that can

be utilized in the RAD curriculum. If you've applied from May, after February 1 deadline-December prior to February deadline of following year---we will update your records in January regarding courses completed in the Fall semester and what your cumulative GPA is after the Fall semester and what courses you are currently enrolled in for the Spring semester. If your GPA is above a 2.5 and you have completed or are currently enrolled in any missing prerequisites for Spring, we'll send you a letter regarding the next step in the process. If your GPA is below 2.5 or you are missing prerequisites for Spring, we'll send you a letter in January informing you of your ineligibility to be considered for the program and indicate the reason.

If you applied between May and January , we will need updated transcripts showing completion of the Fall semester with grades posted if you have been attending a non-VCCS. Once your academic file is updated, you should receive a letter usually in February, regarding the next step in the process. The first step, will be to complete the entrance examination and once again, we used the HESI for the admission of students for the Fall program. The next step would be the group session with the Program Director on the VWCC campus and then followed with the individual interview by the Program Director. Then, the interview will occur with two faculty members from the Radiography Department. These interviews usually take place in late February and the months of March and early April.

After everyone who is eligible has completed the testing and interview process, the Admissions Committee will meet to select the students coming into the program. You will receive a letter informing you of our status into the program—typically in May.

## TIME LINE OF APPLICATION/ADMISSION

- If accepted, return acceptance form to confirm your class position for fall
- If on alternate list, return alternate acceptance form
- Will receive orientation information which includes the following information regarding: obtaining your criminal background check and submitting your urine for the drug screening, CPR information, uniform ordering information and etc. This typically occurs in June.
- Program begins in August, if accepted.

All applicants will receive a letter of either acceptance, placed on alternate list or a not quite this year, as long as they completed the application process, with the last steps being the interview and essay/interview questions.

If you are accepted into the program, you'll need to return the acceptance forms to HPAAO and plan to attend your orientation typically held in June. If you are placed on the alternate list, you'll need to return the alternate acceptance form. If someone we've accepted into the program, declines their position, then we go to the prioritize alternate list and offer the next person a seat in the upcoming class.

All applicants completing the application process will receive a letter informing them of their status in the program in late May as we need to wait for spring prerequisite course grades to post, if enrolled.

If you are accepted into the program, usually at the end of the May, you'll receive the orientation date for June. The orientation will include information regarding how to obtain your criminal background check, the appropriate type of CPR required and information regarding fees due at orientation and where to obtain your uniforms.

## **ESTIMATED COST OF RADIOGRAPHY PROGRAM**

- Tuition based on 71 credit hours at \$175.20 per credit hour for in-state students (\$12,439.20-you are encouraged to check the VWCC website for updated tuition rates.)
- Books (for Radiography only)-\$650.00
- Program Fees-\$400.00
- Physical/CPR/Hepatitis B/Background check-\$660.00
- Uniforms/Shoes-\$425.00

Once accepted, we'll provide you with a contact person in the Financial Aid office for scholarships for allied health persons that could be possibly beginning in the fall or sometimes begin in spring.

The estimated book cost is for the Radiography books only. Other general education courses like PHI 220 and PSY 230 and etc. will be an additional book cost.

## RADIOGRAPHY ADMISSIONS STATISTICS

- For 2024 we had 68 go through the application process and a total of 170 applicants and we did not have a minimum score of the HESI.
- For Fall 2023 we had 48 go through application process and a total of 105 applicants no minimum required score on HESI
- For 2022 we had 43 go through the application process and a total of 109 applicants no minimum score required for HESI
- For 2021 we had 95 applicants and 41 were interviewed (6 not achieve 70+ on HESI)
- For 2020 we had 125 applicants and 40 were interviewed (5 not achieve 70+ on HESI)
- For 2019 we had 153 applicants and 36 were interviewed (12 not achieve 75+ on HESI)
- For 2018 we had 150 applicants and 40+ were interviewed (17 did not achieve 75+ on HESI)
- Accept 21-24 students into the program each Fall  
Based on strength of entrance examination (HESI was used for the fall admission purposes) and interviews/writing prompt with Program Director and Faculty Members and writing assignments, Critical Thinking score on HESI and etc.), strength of science grades and GPA

For fall 2022 or 2023 no minimum HESI score was required to continue in the application interview process. However, the HESI score is included in the admission rubric. The higher the score(s) achieved on the HESI, the more admission points are awarded in the admission rubric.

Prior to fall 2022 cohort, the last applicants had to achieve a score of 70 of combined Math and English and Critical Thinking on the HESI to proceed with the Interviews

We had 150 applicants and interviewed 46

We had 172 applicants and interviewed 60 students

We had 119 applicants for 2015 and we interviewed 50 students

We had 136 applicants and interviewed 60 for 2014. We accept 21 students into the program each Fall and the acceptance is based on the strength of results of the individual entrance examination, your interview with the Program Director and faculty members are ranked as well.

We had 170 applicants for 2014. 68 went through the interview process (after HESI). We accept 21-24 students into the program each Fall

In regard to the interview process, the interviewer is trying to ascertain the skills and abilities that you think you possess that people who are RTs possess, how much you know about the profession, why you chose this as a profession, and your general overall knowledge of the profession.

## EXAMPLE OF APPLICANTS

It is hard to give examples of applicants that were accepted into the program, because of the components involved in the process such as the testing results and interview results.

Someone with poor performance on the entrance examination may have an outstanding knowledge of the profession and were able to relate this information in regard to skills and abilities and also trends in the profession, that could be someone that was accepted over someone with stellar academics but limited knowledge of the profession. The strongest applicants will have the strongest academics in science, such as Anatomy and Physiology I, Math and English and overall GPA, strongest entrance test for program (HESI), strongest interview score based on knowledge of profession and strongest essay written for the program.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR REAPPLICATION

- Submit application for the next year and increase academics/professional knowledge to be more competitive and perform well on entrance examination
- You will need to go through application process again. Complete entrance examination, interview with Program Director, and interview with Radiography Faculty and this process will begin in February
- Submit updated transcripts after each semester (non-VWCC students or VCCS students) and send to my attention at the VWCC address.
- Remember to review the website to determine if any changes have occurred to the application process, pre-requisites, curriculum or etc..

If you applied to the fall program and you were not accepted, you are encouraged to reapply to the following fall program. To do this you would need to submit a new Radiography program application, we would not need transcripts that you have already submitted, except for updated one if applicable. You would also need to submit a new application for new fall program and you could increase your chances by strengthening your academics and knowledge of the profession, if you felt that was an area that was lacking. You will repeat the application process, of going through the testing and interview process with the Program Director and faculty members. Keep reviewing the website for any changes in the process, pre-requisites, curriculum and etc. You are welcome to contact the Program Director, Ms. Nolley, for notes from areas of weakness on the admission rubric and techniques to improve upon.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Ultrasound
- CT/MRI
- Oncology (Radiation Therapy technology)
- Vascular
- Nuclear Medicine
- Mammography
- Education/Administration

There are continuing educational specialties or modalities, within the Radiography profession. VWCC provides the specialty of Associate in Applied Science in Radiation Oncology and we offered the CT specialty in the odd years. We offer MRI in even years. The CT and MRI programs are designed to run alternate years. The other modalities could be offered in hospitals or training outside of the VWCC arena. If you are interested in Radiation Oncology, you may contact our office and we will be happy to supply you with information to assist in your application to that program or you may visit the ROC webpage at <https://www.viriniawestern.edu/academics/health-professions/radiation-oncology/>

## Informational Material

- You may access the following website for Application materials including the Application, Transcript Request Form and other information regarding the application process including Questions and Answers regarding the program:

<https://www.viriniawestern.edu/academics/health-professions/radiography/>

Email questions/concerns/feedback to [healthprofessions@viriniawestern.edu](mailto:healthprofessions@viriniawestern.edu).

There will also be “Best Practices” for application to Restricted Health Professions Programs, the first Friday of every month (except July) at 1:00 in HP 210.

Our information packet, includes the information previously mentioned, questions and answers about our program, the transcript request form, and other information can be accessed at this website, if you are unable to access this information or to download this information, you are welcome to contact our office.

If you would like to provide feedback regarding this presentation, please contact the Health Professions Advising and Applications Office using the email address listed here.

In addition, the staff of the Health Professions Advising and Applications Office will conduct a “Best Practice” informational sessions for those wishing to apply to any of our Restricted Admission Health Professions programs. This will occur in the Fralin Center for Science and Health Professions at 1:00 on the First Friday of every month (June-January)—except July 5<sup>th</sup>. At this time, no registration will be required.