DCH SONOGRAPHY PROGRAM

A Certificate Program to Graduate Skilled Sonographers Prepared for Registration

Mission of the DCH Health System

We provide high-quality, community-based health care services to Tuscaloosa, West Alabama and the surrounding areas through our employees, volunteers, and physicians.

We are committed to providing compassionate, cost-effective services to meet the needs of our patients, improve the health of the communities we serve and maintain our financial viability.

Goals

The goal of the Sonography Program at DCH Regional Medical Center is to prepare a graduate who:

* Will recognize the importance of the patient in providing health care
* Is able to execute the responsibilities of a member of the health care team in Sonography
* Maintains high ethical standards and who assumes responsibility for self-direction in his or her profession

The Program

The Sonography Program is a 12-month, full-time certificate program leading to registration in Sonography. The structure of the program cannot and does not accommodate part-time or transfer students.

The curriculum includes anatomy (cross-sectional and traditional), pathology, physiology, embryology, physics, and scanning techniques.

The program prepares the graduate to function as a sonographer in a hospital or a physician’s office. The program strives to provide the stimulation and encouragement that offers a good learning environment.

Registered diagnostic medical sonographers provide instruction. Staff sonographers provide clinical instruction.
**Philosophy & Purpose**

The philosophy of the Sonography Program at DCH Regional Medical Center promotes the belief that in order to graduate skilled sonographers, academics and clinical practice work hand in hand.

The primary purpose of this program is to prepare the Sonography student to perform diagnostic sonographic procedures that assists a radiologist in providing the ordering physician with accurate information for the care and treatment of the patient.

Emphasis is placed on sonographic procedures of the abdomen, pelvis to include obstetrics, peripheral vascular and small parts, using real time ultrasound, Doppler, and color flow imaging.

**Expenses**

- Annual Tuition $3000
- Textbooks (estimate) $650
- Uniforms are worn in the clinical setting

**Admission Process**

Candidates for admission must be a high school graduate or GED equivalent who has also completed a two-year allied health patient care related program (i.e.: RN, ARRT (Radiology Technologist), Respiratory, OT or PT) and are registered/certified in that field.

If selected, a candidate must complete the DCH Regional Medical Center's pre-employment physical examination.

Ultrasound is very demanding. Sonography is a hands-on technical field. All candidates for admission must complete a 4-hour observation visit prior to the interview process.

**Application Process** - Must be completed no later than Sept 30.

If all requirements are met, submit your completed application to include high school and post secondary school transcripts and proof of registration or eligibility for registration no later than Sept 30.

If you have just graduated and have yet to take your registry or certification and you are chosen as a student in the program, your acceptance is contingent on you passing your registry or certification.
The number of students accepted each year is limited. Therefore, admissions are a competitive process.

DCH Regional Medical Center will not discriminate or permit discrimination against anyone because of race, religion, color, age, sex, national origin, or in the case of handicapped persons, their disabilities, or any other reason prohibited by law. Additionally, it will continue to be DCH Regional Medical Center's policy to provide promotion and advancement opportunities in a non-discriminatory fashion.

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DCH Sonography Program

For an application, fill out this form and mail to address below or email kwiggins@dchsystem.com. Applications can be emailed as well.

Kim Wiggins
Sonography Program
DCH Regional Medical Center
809 University Blvd East
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Or you may call Sandi Bowen, Sonography Program Director, in the Imaging Department at DCH Regional Medical Center at 759-7450.

Applicant's Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

How did you learn of this program: