Community College of Denver
Program Information and Application Process
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Radiologic Technology Program

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Radiologic Technology

What is a Radiologic Technologist?

- A healthcare professional who use specialized equipment to create diagnostic quality images that help doctors diagnose and treat diseases and injuries.

- Radiologic Technologists make up the 3rd largest group of health care professionals – surpassed in number by only physicians and nurses.

What skills are necessary to be a successful Radiologic Technologist?

- Excellent communication skills
- Thorough patient care skills
- Knowledge of human anatomy and physiology
- Basic physics
- Radiographic positioning
- Ability to work independently or as a team

Employment opportunities

- Technologists work in a wide variety of settings including:
  - Hospitals
  - Clinics
  - Surgery Centers
  - Mobile Units
- Shifts that are available to technologists include days, nights, weekends, part time, and full time- lots of flexibility!

Salary

- *From the American Society of Radiologic Technologists: ASRT*
  - National median annual salary for a full time technologist as of 2022 was reported to be $65,246

- *From the Bureau of Labor Statistics: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics*
  - Projected growth in Colorado is 25% through 2028
  - Average salary for a full-time technologist ranges from $60,000-$70,000* (as of May 2022) *this statistic on bls.gov includes CT techs*
  - See additional salary information specific to Colorado HERE

CCD

Why CCD?

- Longest running Radiologic Technology Program in Colorado
- Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) accredited [JRCERT](#)
- High success rates
  - 100% job placement rates since 2016
  - >90% ARRT exam pass rates
  - >95% program completion rates
- Affordable community college tuition
  - In state tuition, with Colorado Opportunity Fund (COF), averages ~$13,000-$15,000 for the entire 5-semester program
    - [CCD Tuition and Fees Chart](#)

What we offer

- 2 working x-ray rooms – CR and DR systems
- C-arm and portable imaging equipment
- Skills lab equipped with hospital beds, stretchers, wheelchairs
- Real bone, posable, full size phantoms to practice positioning and imaging
- [Anatomage table](#) 3-D cadaver table
- Dedicated clinical instructors employed by CCD for clinical education and oversight

Clinical sites

- Our clinical affiliates include:
  - The Children's Hospital – Anschutz, North, and South campuses
  - The Medical Center of Aurora
  - North Suburban Medical Center
  - Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center
  - Sky Ridge Medical Center
  - Avista Adventist Hospital
  - Denver Health Medical Center
  - Porter Adventist Hospital
  - University of Colorado Hospital
  - National Jewish Hospital
  - Kaiser Permanente – multiple locations
  - Health Images – multiple locations

Program overview and application

CCD RTE Mission Statement

The mission of the Radiologic Sciences Program at Community College of Denver is to provide the healthcare community with ethical, competent, and professional radiographers.

This program is guided by 4 goals:

1. **Clinical Competence** in radiographic positioning and technical factor selection

2. **Critical Thinking** – problem solving skills

3. **Communication** – verbal and written communication

4. **Professional behavior** – demonstrated through work habits, taking initiative, responding to constructive feedback, and supporting the needs of the department

Program overview

- 5 semester (22-month) program - August start and May graduation
- Rigorous program
  - 93-100% = A
  - 85-92% = B
  - 75-84% = C
  - Below 75% = Failing
- Full time program
  - Courses are held in person on the Lowry Campus
  - Clinical internships are completed at assigned clinical sites
  - Students are in class and/or clinical internship 4 days per week each semester

Course overview

- Classes Tuesday/Thursday
- Clinical Monday/Wednesday

  - First semester
    - Patient care
    - Radiographic procedures I*
    - Imaging Equipment and Evaluation I*
    - Clinical internship I

  - Second semester
    - Pathology I
    - Radiographic procedures II*
    - Imaging Equipment and Evaluation II*
    - Clinical internship II

- Clinical Monday-Thursday
  - Third semester
    - Clinical internship III

- Classes Wednesdays
- Clinical Tuesdays/Thursdays/Fridays

  - Fourth semester
    - Radiation biology and protection
    - Radiographic procedures III*
    - Clinical internship IV

  - Fifth semester
    - Pathology II
    - Radiographic capstone
    - Clinical internship V

General program requirements

- Applicants must be 18 years old at the time of the program's start
- Minimum 2.8 cumulative GPA for general prerequisite courses
- Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA for science courses (BIO 2101 and BIO 2102)
- Prerequisites can be "in progress" during the application cycle, as long as they are completed by the end of spring semester prior to program start

Prerequisites

- MAT 1021 College Algebra
  - *Must have been taken within 10 years from program start*
- ENG 1021 **or** ENG 1031
- PSY 1001, PSY 2440, **or** SOC 1001
- BIO 2101 and BIO 2102
  - *Must have been taken within 7 years from program start*
- RTE 1001
  - *Can be taken after acceptance into the program*
  - *If taken through CCD: additional points earned toward the application scoring process*
  - *Taking this course at CCD does NOT guarantee admission into the CCD RTE program*
- *Recommended* PHY 1105 *this applies to the application cycle from Dec. 1, 2023 – Feb. 15, 2024 only*

Applying to the program

Step 4. Complete the Application ×

APPLY HERE

Application is only available from December 1 through February 15 each year.

Application steps

- Enroll in CCD
- Send official transcripts to CCDs Office of Registration and Records
- Compile all documents necessary for program application
  - Include unofficial transcripts in your application, even if the classes were taken at CCD
  - Resume and cover letter
  - Job shadowing
  - Essay questions
- Apply online RTE Program Application
  - Applications are open from December 1st – February 15th each year

Official and unofficial transcripts

- You must have **official** transcripts sent from any qualifying institution to the Office of Registration and Records when you apply to CCD

- Even if you took all your prerequisites through CCD, include **unofficial** transcripts in your application to the RTE program

- If you have prerequisite courses in progress, include a copy of your current course schedule that shows your classes as "in progress" in your application

- CCD will not translate international transcripts. If you have international transcripts, please visit NACES.org

Resume and cover letter

- Resumes should include any job experience you have has in the last 7 years
- If you have been a full time student and have not been employed, please include any extracurricular activities, volunteer organizations, or college related organizations you have taken part in
- Include the date you attended an information and advising session in your cover letter
- For resume tips, visit https://www.ccd.edu/docs/cdc-resume-worksheets

Job shadowing

- Job shadowing is an important experience that allows you to make sure this is the field for you!

- We encourage 12 hours of documented job shadowing as a component of our program application. Job Shadow Completion Form

- If you are unable to find appropriate job shadowing opportunities, please watch the videos found HERE and use this information as the basis for your job shadowing essay.

Tips for job shadowing

- Ask someone you know who works in healthcare if they have a contact that you can reach out to

- Contact Human Resources or the volunteer office at local hospitals and ask if they can help you arrange job shadowing

- If you have scheduled job shadowing: be on time, observe appropriately, and ask professional questions of the technologists

- Take the job shadow form with you to have signed for each job shadow shift you complete

- Include signed letters of completion with your application

- **Make copies of these letters for your records**

Essays

- Essays have a word limit of 1000 words each.
- Prompt 1:
  - Reflecting on your personal experience and impressions after job shadowing, what did you see or experience regarding the actual work of a Radiologic Technologist that attracts you to this profession? Draw on your experiences during job shadowing or what you learned watching the job shadowing alternative videos.
- Prompt 2:
  - What skills or personality traits do you possess, relating to your experience and learned information from your job shadow experience, that speaks to how Radiology Technology and specifically admission into the program at Community College of Denver could be a future profession for you? Specifically, discuss what personal traits you possess that make Radiologic Technology a good fit for you as a career. Discuss why CCD is the best option for you to start your Radiologic Technology career.

Structured letters of reference

- Download the structured letter of reference form from the CCD RTE website
  - [Structured Reference Form](#)
- Two *professional* references are required
  - from employers, instructors, or other professionals
  - *These are NOT personal references*
- Letters should be in a sealed envelope with the signature of the reference provider across the envelope flap
- **Can be mailed to or dropped off at**:
  Center of Health Sciences
  1070 Alton Way
  Denver, CO 80230
  Attn: Radiologic Technology Program
- Please include the name of the persons who will submit references in your application or on your resume

What to expect after you apply

What happens after you apply

- We will review each application we receive – this program is **not** first come, first serve

- Each *complete* application will be entered into a grading rubric based on 100 possible points

- The first 70 points are calculated as follows
  - GPA for prerequisite courses = up to 30 points
  - Healthcare and customer service experience = up to 15 points
  - Structured reference letters = up to 10 points
  - Job shadowing/essay responses = up to 10 points
  - RTE 1001 taken at CCD = 5 points

Interviews

- 40-45 of the top scoring candidates will be contacted to schedule an interview in mid to late April

- Interviews take place in late April or early May on Lowry campus

- Interviews will be with 2 to 3 RTE program instructors

- Interviews follow their own rubric and have a total of 30 points possible

- Interview points are added to the application points for a total of 100 points possible

- *After* the interview process is complete, 5 additional "bonus" points will be added for candidates who have successfully taken PHY 1105*this applies to the application cycle from Dec. 1, 2023 – Feb. 15, 2024 only

Tips for your interview

- Be on time
- Dress professionally
- Demonstrate communication skills through verbal and non-verbal communication
- Answer questions thoroughly
- Research the school and explain *why* CCD is the best program for you

After the interviews

- Program invitations to approximately 30 candidates will be sent out early to mid May
  - A timely response is required to accept your spot
- Alternate spots will be offered to 5 prospective students
  - We typically do accept some, if not all our alternates by the time the program starts
- Every applicant will receive an email regardless of whether they are invited to interview
  - General feedback is included in this email. If more personal feedback is requested, we are happy to supply more information.

Once you've been accepted

Program start

- The program starts in August of the same year as program acceptance
- If not already completed, register for RTE 1001 during the summer semester between acceptance and program start
- Attend a mandatory orientation in late June
  - This is to get the clinical paperwork process started and initiate background checks and drug screening
- Pass a mandatory 10-year background check and drug screen
- Note: Alternates are asked to go through all of the paperwork process also to ensure they are prepared to step into a spot in the program if it becomes available

Background and drug screen info

- Background checks and drug screening is not specifically required for CCD, however, all our clinical affiliates require this process.

- THC will show up in the drug screening – while marijuana is legal in Colorado and some other states, it is not federally legalized. It **will** disqualify you from this program.

- The ARRT has ethical standards, and a complete list of disqualifying offenses can be found HERE
  - The ARRT offers an ethics review process and can choose to dismiss some past legal situations. You can find information on the ethics review HERE.

- Background checks and drug screening are required and are at the student's expense.

Disqualifying offenses

- Any conviction, plea of guilty or no contest, or deferred adjudication of the following criminal offenses (felony or misdemeanor) appearing on a criminal background check will disqualify an applicant for admission to a CCCS Health Sciences Program.

- There is no declining this background check – it is a requirement for all clinical internships.

I. Crimes of violence (assault, sexual offenses, arson, kidnapping, murder, any crime against an at-risk adult or juvenile, etc.) as defined in section 18-1.3-406 C.R.S. in the 10 years immediately preceding the submittal of an application.

II. Any offenses involving unlawful sexual behavior – same time limit as above.

III. Any crime, the underlying basis of which has been found by the court on the record to include an act of domestic violence, as defined in section 18-6-800.3 C.R.S. in the 7 years immediately preceding the submittal of an application.

IV. Any crime of child abuse, as defined in section 18-6-401 C.R.S. – same time limit as above.

V. Any crime related to the sale, possession, distribution, or transfer of narcotics or controlled substances – same time limit as in III.

VI. Crimes of theft – felony has a 7-year limit; misdemeanor has a 5-year limit

VII. Any offense of sexual assault on a client by a psychotherapist, as defined in section 18-3-405.5 C.R.S. in the 7 years immediately preceding the submittal of an application

VIII. Crimes of morbid turpitude (prostitution, public lewdness/exposure, etc.) same time limit as above.

IX. Registered sex offenders – no time limit

X. Any offense in another state, the elements of which are substantially similar to the elements of any of the above offenses.

XI. More than 1 DUI in the 7 years immediately preceding the submittal of application

Students who have successfully completed the terms of their deferred adjudication agreement might not be disqualified.

Subject to review by the ARRT – an ARRT Ethics Review may be required.

Degree award and certification

- You will graduate from this program with an Associate of Applied Sciences degree

- Upon completion, you will be eligible to take the ARRT certification exam
  - 200-question professionally proctored exam

- Upon passing the ARRT certification exam, you will be a Registered Radiologic Technologist
  - ARRT registration is recognized both nationally and internationally

- For more information, check out ARRT.org

Post primary certifications

- Computed Tomography (CT)
  - Offered at CCD
- Magnetic Resonance (MR)
  - Offered at CCD
- Mammography
  - Offered at CCD
- Bone densitometry
- Breast sonography
- Vascular and cardiac interventional
- Visit the www.arrt.org for more credentialing options

Reference websites

- ARRT.org – American Registry of Radiologic Technologists; certification organization

- ASRT.org – American Society of Radiologic Technologists; national professional organization

- JRCERT.org – Joint Review Committee for Education of Radiologic Technology; educational accrediting body

- CCD.edu – college website; Academic Pathways – Health Sciences, Radiologic Technology