

SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE (STI) DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY PROGRAM

To assist in making a decision about pursuing this program, the following is a general overview of the physical requirements, working conditions and job duties of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers.

Diagnostic Medical Sonographers use specialized equipment to create images of structures inside the human body to help physicians to make medical diagnosis. The process involves placing a small device called a transducer against the patient's skin near the body area to be imaged. It sends high frequency sound waves into the body that bounce off internal structures. Sonography is usually performed in small, dark exam rooms, at patient bedsides, in emergency rooms, or operating rooms. Sonographers may be required to work various shifts to provide 24 hour coverage, including early morning, day, evening, and night shifts. Shifts may be 8, 10, or 12 hours in length. Some facilities will also require sonographers to be on call. Sonographers must be able to tolerate physical and emotional stress and continue to function effectively and compassionately with the sick and injured. The Sonographer must be able to conceptualize and comprehend multi-dimensional relationships of anatomic structures and their appearance on a two-dimensional screen. Most facilities will require sonographers to be registered with the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS).

Sonographers are expected to have the ability to:

- regularly talk and hear
- regularly stand, walk, sit, use hands and fingers to handle and feel
- regularly distinguish audible sounds
- regularly distinguish multiple shades of gray and colors
- regularly possess fine finger dexterity and good "hand-eye" coordination
- regularly use high degree of hand-eye coordination to manipulate equipment, while simultaneously inputting data into a machine or working with a patient
- routinely able to discern small numbers and gauges on medical equipment in dimly lit conditions; extreme attention to detail
- routinely lift and/or move or use pushing/pulling force up to 60 pounds
- routinely have full use of both hands, wrists and shoulders
- frequently bend/stoop, kneel and squat
- frequently assist patients on and off exam tables
- frequently communicate effectively via speech, reading, and writing

*Source: www.sdms.org and local job descriptions

By signing below, I am acknowledging I have read the above information and understand the general physical requirements, working conditions and job duties typically associated with Diagnostic Medical Sonographers. I understand that this information is general in nature and that actual conditions and job duties may vary.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____