

SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE (STI)
CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGY – CARDIAC ULTRASOUND
TECHNICAL STANDARDS

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 Cardiac Sonographers and Technologists.

Cardiac Sonographers/Technologists

Cardiac Sonographers/Technologists perform noninvasive tests using ultrasound instrumentation, such as Doppler ultrasound. The ultrasound instrumentation transmits high-frequency sound waves (called echocardiograms) to examine the heart chambers, valves, and vessels. Cardiac Sonographers/Technologists also may perform electrocardiographs (EKGs.) To take a basic EKG, which traces electrical impulses transmitted by the heart, technicians attach electrodes to the patient's chest, arms, and legs and then manipulate switches on an EKG machine to obtain a reading. This test is done before most kinds of surgery or as a part of a routine physical examination, especially on persons who have reached middle age or who have a history of cardiovascular problems. Hours are generally daytime hours with some weekends, holidays and call time is expected for emergency procedures. Cardiac Sonographers may work within a hospital/clinic setting or on a mobile unit. They must be able to explain procedures to the patient prior to testing, and able to explain preliminary test results to physicians following procedures. Most hospitals/clinics will require a registry from credentialing agencies such as Cardiovascular Credentialing International and/or American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers.

Cardiac Sonographers/Technologists are expected to have the ability to:

- regularly talk and hear
- regularly sit; reach with hands and arms; use hands and fingers to handle and feel
- regularly communicate effectively via speech, reading, and writing
- 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
- frequently stand, walk, kneel, bend/stoop, squat
- frequently see images from monitors; distinguish multiple shades of grey and colors
- routinely able to discern small numbers and gauges on medical equipment in dimly lit conditions; extreme attention to detail
- frequently distinguish audible (Doppler) sounds
- occasionally lift and/or move or use pushing/pulling force up to 75 pounds
- occasionally reach above shoulder level

*Source: www.bls.gov 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 Cardiac Sonographers and Technologists. I understand that this information is general in nature and that actual conditions and job duties may vary.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____