



PIEDMONT
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Medical Sonography Program

ADMISSIONS POLICY*

Subject to Minor Changes



Diagnostic Medical Sonography is a selective and competitive admissions two-year Associate Degree program. Clinical facilities, faculty, equipment resources as well as accreditation standards limit the program to enrolling 12 students every fall semester. All applicants must meet minimum requirements to be eligible to apply. Please note, however, that meeting minimum requirements by completing all prerequisite work does not guarantee admission.

- Complete PCC Admissions Application**, including current Residency Determination Status (RDS).
Reapply if you have not taken classes the last two semesters.

- Submit transcripts**
High School or GED
All Universities or Colleges where program related courses were completed
Submit electronically to admissions@piedmontcc.edu

- Meet Minimum English and Math Requirements**
Any parts of the criteria below can be combined to meet the requirements. ***Official transcripts and/or test scores are required.***
 - An Associate’s Degree or higher **OR**
 - An unweighted U.S. High School GPA of 2.8 or higher or NC Community College Adult High School (AHS) unweighted GPA of 2.8 or higher **OR**
 - High School Career and College Ready Graduate (CCRG) Enhanced English IV score of 80 or higher on Tiers I and II **AND**
 - High School CCRG Math score of 80 or higher on Tiers I and II OR Math 3 End of Course (EOC) score of 4 or higher **OR**
 - Completion of **English Composition I or higher** (or its equivalent) **and college level Statistics or higher** (or its equivalent) with a grade of “C” or better at a regionally accredited college **OR**
 - Successful completion of developmental or transitional English and Math classes at a North Carolina Community College (only) that would allow direct placement into ENG-111 and MAT-152 **without concurrent pre- or co-requisites OR**
 - Completion of an NCDAP, Accuplacer (Classic, not Next Gen.), RISE, or COMPASS Placement Test with English and Math placement into ENG-111 and MAT-152 without pre- or co-requisites.

- Completion of the TEAS test (see information on page 3)**
Scores expire 2 years from the date taken.
Achieve a minimum score of 59%.
Request that ATI send official score report to PCC

- Submit Medical Sonography Program Application**
Deadline to apply is April 1, 2025
Students must have all required transcripts and TEAS test completed prior to submitting this application. ****When your application is reviewed, it will be based on documents in your account at the time of the review. Please submit all required documents before applying to the program****

ATI TEAS (Version 7) Content Information

The TEAS measures basic essential skills in the academic content area domains of reading, math, science, English, and language use. The objectives assessed are relevant to measure entry-level academic readiness of prospective PCC nursing students. The TEAS is a 209-minute timed assessment that features 170 questions (20 pre-test questions are unscored). The questions may be formatted as multiple choice, multiple select, fill in the blank, hot spot, or ordered response. The chart below shows the time limits and number/percentage of test questions by respective content area.

Content Area	Number of Questions	% of Test Questions	Section Time Limit
Reading	45	26%	55 minutes
Math	38	23%	57 minutes
Science	50	29%	60 minutes
English & Language Use	37	22%	37 minutes
TOTAL	150	100%	209 minutes

Specific Content Covered (# of questions)

Reading: Key ideas and details (15), Craft and structure (9), Integration of knowledge and ideas (15)

Math: Numbers and algebra (18), Measurement and data (16)

Science: Human anatomy and physiology (18), Biology (9), Chemistry (8), Scientific reasoning (9)

English and Language Use: Conventions of standard English (12), Knowledge of language, Using language and Vocabulary to express ideas in writing (10)

Admissions Test Pricing

- The TEAS will be administered on the PCC campus on the dates and times posted on the PCC Nursing and ATI websites. Use this [link](#) for details on how to register for the TEAS.
 - Cost: \$87
- The TEAS may also be taken online with remote (at-home) proctoring by ATI.
 - Cost: for \$120
- If an applicant has taken the TEAS (Version 7) in the six months preceding the admissions application deadline, they may purchase a TEAS Transcript Credit and have their TEAS transcript sent to Piedmont CC NC ADN for admissions consideration.
 - Cost: \$29.99 (See this [link](#) for more information about TEAS transcripts.)

Admissions Test Preparatory Resources

To maximize their overall and content area scores, applicants are recommended to review, study, and prepare to take the TEAS. There are several resources available to students, including a study guide from the creators of the exam, which can be found [here](#). There is also a mobile app available [here](#) with free and premium versions that include more than 2,300 practice questions. It may also be helpful for applicants to review [these](#) prep tips before taking the exam.

Scheduling an Exam

1. All applicants preparing to take the TEAS test must create an ATI account prior to their scheduled test date. Applicants may create an account by visiting ATI's [website](#), selecting the "Create Account" tab, and following the instructions on the screen.
2. Account creation will require a username, password, contact information, date of birth, address, telephone number, etc. Applicants will then be asked to select a particular school. Please select "*Piedmont CC NC ADN*". Applicants only need to fill in the required (*) fields and are encouraged to check the "*Non-degree seeking*" box.
3. After creating an account, the applicant will see the "Welcome to ATI" sign-in page where they can select the option to "*Register for TEAS before using ATI*".
4. On the "TEAS Registration" page, the applicant can choose the "*Through my institution or testing center*" to test at the PCC campus or "*ATI (remote proctored by ATI)*" if the remote proctoring is desired. The applicant will then select the "*Register*" button for either "In-Person Proctored by an Institution" if taking the exam face-to-face on the PCC campus or "TEAS Online Proctored by ATI" if remote proctoring is desired.
5. On the next screen, the applicant will need to search the state and city and will then have the option to select a testing time and location.
6. There is a testing fee required to finalize registration that can be paid with a credit or debit card.
7. After purchase, applicants will receive detailed instruction of where to report, the time of testing, and expectations of what to bring on the day of the exam. Applicants are strongly advised to fulfill these expectations, or they will not be able to take the test at their scheduled time.

Applicants only need to register with ATI once. Applicants will need to bring their username and password, with a government-issued picture ID to the testing center on the day of the scheduled test. Applicants will NOT be allowed to take the test without a reservation appointment. Registration is limited to 20 persons per session. Note: Applicants should schedule their testing date early enough to allow time for a retake of the test, if desired or necessary.

Disability Accommodations

Applicants who wish to have disability testing accommodations must have testing accommodations approved and documented by the PCC Disability Services Counselor (336.322.2243 or accessibility@piedmontcc.edu) **prior to the test date**. It is important that the applicant contact the PCC Director of Sonography or the Dean, Health & Public Safety prior to scheduling the TEAS test to ensure the necessary accommodations can be provided on the day of their test.

Day of Testing Information

Applicants must report to the designated testing site at least 15 minutes prior to their confirmed reservation time. Applicants who fail to arrive by their designated reservation time will not be allowed to test, as no late entries will be allowed in the testing center. All applicants must show a government-issued ID to take the exam.

Refund/Reschedule Policy

ATI does not offer refunds for cancellations or rescheduled exams. Applicants, who schedule their original exam through ATI Testing, can modify their exam date and/or exam time. There is a \$15 charge for each time an exam is rescheduled. Other restrictions may apply and can be found [here](#).

After the Test: Students will have access to test results immediately after they complete the TEAS exam. **To be considered for the Medical Sonography program, a student must meet the minimum score requirements on the TEAS of 59 for the total score (see Individual Performance Profile).** Therefore, students whose test scores meet the minimum score requirements and are on file at PCC by the deadline, may apply to the program.

SELECTION PROCESS

A maximum of 12 students will be selected for the Sonography program. The point system is used as an objective means for evaluating Medical Sonography applicants. **ALL documentation needed for points MUST be completed and on file prior to the application deadline (April 1, 2025). Points will not be awarded for documentation received after the application deadline.** If students are currently or were previously enrolled in another college, it is their responsibility to ensure that the official, final transcript is received by PCC prior to the application deadline.

Admission to all educational programs offered by Piedmont Community College is made without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status or other irrelevant factors.

NOTE: Depending on the health science program, neither federal law, nor North Carolina law permits undocumented individuals or those with DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) classification to receive professional licenses. See 8 U.S.C. § 1621(a) and (c)(1)(A). This does not prevent a DACA student from enrolling in a Health Science program but will prohibit the student from receiving a professional license. If there are any questions about eligibility for professional licensure, please refer to the professional organization's website.

POINT SYSTEM

See attached "Point Count Worksheet" for point values.

Section A: Non- Coursework (Note: not a minimum requirement – only used for point count)

Applicants who have a Bachelor's Degree or Associate Degree from an accredited institution will receive ten (10) points.

Additional points can be earned for one of the following: Applicants who possess a current certification or industry recognized credential in CNA, EMT, paramedic, imaging field graduate or equivalent (must have proof of successful program completion and/or active registry on file at PCC prior to application deadline) will receive twenty (20) points.

Section B: College Coursework (Note: not a minimum requirement- used for point count and to satisfy program General Education coursework)

College Level Classes

College courses completed prior to the application deadline with a grade of "C" or better will earn the applicant points. Points will also be awarded for credit earned based on AP (Advanced Placement; see *College Board* website for score/grade look-up chart) and/or CLEP examinations (50-59 = "C"; 60-69 = "B"; ≥70 = "A").

Note: Courses completed in the spring semester (after application deadline) will not earn points.

Note: Students who have questions or concerns regarding transfer credits from other colleges and/or universities must address and resolve their concerns prior to the end of the application period (please contact the registrar at PCC).

Section C: TEAS Scores

Points are awarded for total scores on the TEAS exam for a maximum of 20 points. TEAS tests are valid for three years prior to the application deadline.

Students should only apply to the Sonography program once they have completed the TEAS test and met cut off score requirements. If they have taken the test more than once, they need to make ensure that all official score reports have been sent to PCC.

Applying to Multiple Programs: If accepted into multiple health science programs at PCC, students are required to commit to the program of choice by the deadline stated in the program decision email sent by the Office of Admissions. Failure to do so in writing (i.e., via response form) will result in the loss of the seat. Once a student accepts their seat and attends the orientation, they finalize their commitment to the Medical Sonography program and will no longer be considered for seats in other programs, unless granted prior approval by the Director of the other program, and/or Dean, Health & Public Safety. Any questions or concerns should be addressed to the Office of Admissions.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

All Medical Sonography applicants will receive notification via PCC email of their status for the upcoming program year. **The top twelve (12) students who are selected will be notified of conditional acceptance and must then complete the following:**

1. Return Intent Letter

An intent letter will be included with the acceptance letter. Failure to return the Intent Letter by the deadline will forfeit the student's slot in the program.

2. Attend Mandatory Orientation

Date for the orientation will be sent with the acceptance letter.

3. Medical Reports

All completed health/medical reports must be received by the specified date noted in materials provided at program orientation.

4. Program Handbook

Students are required to read the Medical Sonography Program Student Policy Manual online prior to attending the new student orientation. Policies will be discussed during the orientation and students will have an opportunity to ask questions. Students will sign a statement to verify they have read the policy manual.

5. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) – BLS for Healthcare Providers (HCP) – 2 Year

Students must also submit documentation of current two-year CPR certification in American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers (infant, child and adult). No online courses accepted. Details will be provided at the orientation.

6. Criminal Background Check/ Drug Screening/ Immunization Tracker

Students with a criminal record may be ineligible for clinical education and may not be approved to take certification exams by the credentialing agency.

A twelve (12)-panel urine drug screen and criminal background check is mandatory. Drug screens cannot be completed prior to the Medical Sonography Orientation. **Information will be given to students by the director at the orientation. Any drug screens completed prior to the orientation will not be accepted. In addition to the initial drug screening, at their discretion, clinical sites may require an additional drug screening and/or a criminal background check prior to allowing students into the clinical setting** (if required, any associated fees will be the responsibility of the student). Testing positive on the drug screening, or evidence of tampering with a specimen, will disqualify a student in participation from the clinical assignment. In addition, certain criminal activity, as evident by a criminal background check, may also disqualify a student from clinical participation. Please be aware that failure to participate in a clinical assignment based on either the drug screening or criminal background check will result in dismissal from the Medical Sonography Program. For further information, students should see the [Drug Free College and Substance Abuse Policy](#).

Students are required to have all immunization records current prior to beginning clinical education. After acceptance into the program, students will be instructed on how to set up their background and immunization tracker. A drug screen and criminal background check will be completed annually.

PHYSICAL AND COGNITIVE EXPECTATIONS OF A STUDENT SONOGRAPHER

Medical Sonography is a practiced discipline with cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor performance requirements. For purposes of Medical Sonography program compliance with the 1990 Americans with Disability Act, a qualified individual with a disability is one who, with or without reasonable accommodation or modification, meets the essential eligibility requirements for participation in the Medical Sonography program.

Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at PCC provides reasonable accommodations to otherwise qualified students with disabilities, as long as such disabilities, determined on a case-by-case basis, do not preclude the student from meeting the qualifications considered essential to the program. The essential functions (Technical Standards) are listed below.

REQUIRED TECHNICAL STANDARDS

	Criterion	Definition of Standard	Example(s) of Standard
1	Critical Thinking	Skills that demonstrate the use of judgment and problem-solving needed to prioritize responses and interventions that maintain safety and provide care for patients.	Including the use of scientific and evidence-based knowledge regarding alterations in health, to guide actions which promote safety and maintain patient-centered care. Skill development includes reading and comprehending relevant information in textbooks, medical records, and other forms of data.
2	Mobility/Motor Skills	Maintenance of physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces. Gross and fine motor skills sufficient to provide safe and effective patient care.	Including but not limited to flexibility for bending and squatting, sufficient dexterity and strength to perform skills such as donning sterile gloves, transferring and assisting patients with physical limitations and manipulating patient equipment including wheelchairs, stretchers, and ultrasound equipment. Range of motion to sufficiently reach across a stretcher or exam table. Ability to manipulate ultrasound transducer with one hand while other hand controls ultrasound machine functions.

3	Tactile Skills	Sense of touch sufficient to perform a physical examination and to detect movement.	Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention. Manipulate patient properly to complete each sonographic exam (e.g., ability to palpate a breast lump, feel for a pulse, properly mark areas on the body for drainage).
4	Auditory Skills	Hearing sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.	Detect patient monitor alarms. Respond to patients in need while they are turned in the opposite direction. Respond to emergency codes throughout the hospital. Gather information about patient's health history
5	Visual Skills	Vision sufficient for observation and assessment necessary to provide care.	Ability to distinguish and colors and shades of gray correctly. Operate ultrasound equipment in a dimly lit room while watching images on a monitor. Distinguish normal from abnormal anatomy.
6	Communication Skills	Use of therapeutic communication that fosters collaboration with the patient, family, and members of the interdisciplinary healthcare team.	Including written and speaking skills sufficient to explain exams to patient and/or family. Write reports and verbally explain all findings to providers.
7	Interpersonal Skills	Ability to work well with others using active listening and cooperation.	Including the ability to interact with individuals, families and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds and the establishment of positive relationships with patients, families, peers, agency staff members and faculty.
8	Behavioral Skills	The ability to adapt to changing environments and work-related challenges while maintaining composure in stressful situations. The ability to consistently demonstrate professional behaviors in attitude, communication, and work ethic while adhering to professional boundaries.	Including behavior that demonstrates respect of self and others, and behavior that demonstrates initiative, cooperation, and professionalism. Performance of duties that adhere to ethical and legal standards and promote a positive image of professional nursing. Performs duties within scope of practice.

Students who feel they need accommodations should contact the Student Accessibility Office by emailing accessibility@Piedmontcc.edu

Note: Students selected for the Medical Sonography Program must be aware that traveling outside of Person and Caswell counties is necessary for clinical education. Some clinical sites may be over 50 miles away. Travel is required during all five semesters of the program. Students must provide their own reliable transportation to clinical sites.

PROGRESSION POLICY

PCC uses a ten-point grading scale. Health science programs may have grading policies that align with accreditation standards and ensure success in the profession. **Students must earn a “B” or higher in SON courses to progress in the program. For general education courses students must score a “C” or higher.**

Grading Policy for SON Program courses

A	Excellent	90-100
B	Good	80-89
C	Average	70-79
D	Poor	60-69

Students admitted to the Medical Sonography Program must have achieved a grade of “C” or better in any general education courses taken prior to admission. **Students who have received a grade of “D” or “F” in any general education courses will be ineligible for admission until the grade has been replaced with a grade of “C” or better.**

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The Financial Aid office monitors a policy that is based on federal regulations that establishes a maximum time frame for completion of a program of 150 percent of the published length of an educational program. This means that as a student majoring in Pre-Medical Sonography or another Health Science program, the student will need to pay careful attention to the number of hours attempted prior to actual admission into the program of choice. Depending on the number of hours attempted prior to admission into a Health Science program, a student may not be eligible for financial aid for the entirety of the program after they have been admitted.

To make sure students understand this policy and plan in order to use their financial benefits in a wise and timely manner, students are encouraged to consult with the staff of the PCC Financial Aid office located in E Building on the Person Campus and K Building on the Caswell Campus.

The Piedmont Community College Foundation supports student education opportunities through program support and scholarships. All students are encouraged to apply to scholarships if eligible. For more information, please visit the [Foundation](#) website.

Estimated Expenses for Medical Sonography Program*
PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Before Fall Registration	Cost	Summer Semester	Cost
Uniforms (3 sets plus lab coat)	\$160.00	In-state Tuition & Fees	\$900.00
Shoes (clinical)	100.00	Out-of-state Tuition & Fees	2,820.00
Health Physical & Immunizations	Varies	ARDMS SPI Registry Exam Fee	200.00
CPR certification (2 year)	Varies	Mileage to school and clinical sites	Varies
Verified Credentials Fee	110.00		
		Fall Semester 2	Cost
Fall Semester 1		In-state Tuition & Fees	979.00
In-state Tuition & Fees	1,374.00	Out-of-state Tuition & Fees	3091.00
Out-of-state Tuition & Fees	4,446.00	Textbooks	150.00
Textbooks	800.00	Mileage to school and clinical sites	Varies
Mileage to school and clinical sites	Varies	In-state Tuition & Fees	979.00
Student Memberships to professional organizations (optional)	55.00	Out-of-state Tuition & Fees	3091.00
Drug screen and Criminal background re-check	60.00	ARDMS specialty registry exam (60 days prior to graduation)	250.00
		Textbooks	100.00
Spring Semester 1		NCUS Membership (January)	15.00
In-state Tuition & Fees	1,137.00	Mileage to school and clinical sites	Varies
Out-of-state Tuition & Fees	3,633.00	NCUS Meeting (estimated cost)	380.00
Textbooks	150.00	ARDMS Specialty Examination Fee	250.00
Mileage to school and clinical sites	Varies		
NCUS Meeting (OPTIONAL for 1 st year students)	380.00		
Physics Registry exam cost (SPI exam)	225.00		

*Tuition costs & fees may vary based on NC Legislative changes and PCC Board of Trustees fees approval.

Medical Sonography Projected Schedule of Course Offerings

Prior to Admission

BIO 163	Basic Anat & Phys	5
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Fall Semester	Course Name	Credit Hrs.
ENG 111	Writing & Inquiry	3
PHY XXX	Physics Elective	4
SON 110	Intro to Sonography	3
SON 111	Sonographic Physics	4
SON 130	Abdominal Sonography	2
Semester Totals:		16

Spring Semester	Course Name	Credit Hrs.
MAT XXX	Mathematics Elective	3-4
SON 120	SON Clinical Education I	5
SON 131	Abdominal Sonography I	2
SON 140	Gynecological Sonography	2
SON 250	Vascular Sonography	2
Semester Totals:		14-15

Summer Semester	Course Name	Credit Hrs.
SON 121	SON Clinical Education II	5
SON 241	Obstetrical Sonography I	2
Semester Totals:		7

Fall Semester	Course Name	Credit Hrs.
XXX	Humanities/Fine Arts Elective	3
PSY 150	Intro to Psychology	3
SON 220	SON Clinical Education III	8
SON 242	Obstetrical Sonography II	2
Semester Totals:		16

Spring Semester	Course Name	Credit Hrs.
XXX	Communications Elective	3
SON 221	SON Clinical Education IV	8
SON 225	Case Studies	1
SON 289	Sonographic Topics	2
Semester Totals:		14
Total Program:		73-74

MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY POINT SHEET

Note: All documentation considered for points must be submitted to the PCC Admissions Office by the application deadline of April 1. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure all documentation has been submitted.

SECTION A: NON-COURSEWORK

Education in a Patient Care Field – (20pts) _____
 CNA, CMA, EMT or equivalent; must have proof of
 successful completion of the course/program

Bachelor's or Associate Degree from accredited (10pts) _____
 institution

SECTION B: COLLEGE COURSEWORK

Courses required prior to or during the program as outlined in the college catalog and using the PCC 10-point grading scale. Points apply if taken prior to the application deadline.

*BIO 163 OR A (10pts) _____
 B (5pts) _____

*BIO 168 Anatomy/Physiology I

AND

*BIO 169 Anatomy/Physiology II

A (10pts) _____
 B (5pts) _____

PHY 151 OR PHY 110/110A

***Only the first attempt with a letter grade of "B" or better in A&P classes will be considered for the point count.**

ENG 111 Writing & Inquiry (Expository Writing) A (5pts) _____
 B (3pts) _____
 C (1pts) _____

COM 120 Interpersonal Communications A (5pts) _____
 OR COM 231 Public Speaking B (3pts) _____
 OR ENG 112 Writing & Res in the Disc C (1pts) _____

PSY 150 General Psychology A (5pts) _____
 B (3pts) _____
 C (1pts) _____

Humanities/Fine Arts Elective A (5pts) _____
 B (3pts) _____
 C (1pts) _____

MAT 152 Statistical Methods I A (5pts) _____
OR B (3pts) _____
 MAT 171 Precalculus Algebra **OR** higher C (1pts) _____

SECTION C: TEAS SCORE

Points awarded for Total Score:	Score
≥90% = 25 points	_____
76-89% = 15 points	_____
66-75% = 10 points	_____
59-65% = 5 points	_____

The minimum cutoff score is 59% overall on the TEAS.

SUMMATION OF POINT TOTALS (100 total points possible)

Section A	_____
Section B	_____
Section C	_____
Grand Total	_____

This point count sheet is reviewed each year and is subject to change.
 Created November 2024