



ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT

St. Philip's College

FAQs:

The program is the **only CAAHEP-accredited program in the greater San Antonio area** and the **only** Diagnostic Medical Sonography program that allows students to **sit for the ARDMS Abdomen and/or OB registry exams 60 days prior to graduation.**

How often does the program start? The program starts only once a year, in the fall.

How long is the program?

After completing the prerequisites courses, the program is 5 semesters/ 21 months in length.

Semesters 1 (fall) and 2 (spring)	16 weeks each, didactic lectures and labs
Semester 3 (summer)	8 weeks, clinical rotation
Semesters 4 (fall) & 5 (spring):	16 weeks each, didactic lectures and labs <u>and</u> clinical rotations
Graduation: May, semester 5	

Is the program an online program?

No, the program is not an online program. The majority of classes, with the exception of DMSO 2351 and DMSO 2230, are conducted face-to-face.

Are classes available on weekend or evenings?

Didactic courses are offered during the **day**. The program does not anticipate offering evening or weekend didactic courses in the near future. **Evening and weekend** attendance is frequently required during the **clinical** portion of the program.

Can the program be completed on a part-time basis?

No. All courses must be taken in sequence and can be taken only in the semester listed.

How much can I work while enrolled in the program?

It is strongly recommended that students plan to work only minimally, if at all, while enrolled in the program. The program courses are rigorous and challenging, and a considerable amount of self-study time is required throughout all semesters. Upon entering the program, all students are encouraged to develop a sound financial plan to support their educational endeavors, with the understanding that employment during the two years of the program may not be feasible.

Can I apply anytime? Only applications mailed between January 1st and March 31st are considered.

What constitutes an invalid application?

An invalid application is any application mailed outside of the application window (January 1st – March 31st) and/or **missing any** application requirements. **Invalid applications are not eligible for consideration.**

I'm a transfer student. What do I need to do?

Transfer students must first apply to the college at <https://www.alamo.edu/spc/admissions/> and must submit their official transcripts for **credit evaluation**. This step must be completed **before applying to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program**.

Do I have to provide a transcript from St. Philip's College with my application if I have taken all my prerequisites there?

Yes. The applicant is responsible for submitting official paper copies of transcripts from all higher institutions attended, including transcripts from Alamo Colleges District colleges.

Can I apply with academic prerequisites still in progress or complete the prerequisites while in the program?

No, **all academic prerequisites must be completed prior applying to the program.**

Physical and Mental Demands of the Profession

Diagnostic Medical Sonography is considered a **physically and mentally demanding profession**. To perform the duties required in this field, students must, at **all** times, be able to meet the **technical and mental demands of the profession**, which include, but are not limited to: pushing, pulling, and lifting for prolonged periods of time, sufficient hearing and vision, effective communication and the ability to work under stress, maintaining professionalism in all situations, tolerating and appropriately responding to constructive criticism, providing compassionate care to patients. Students who have **concerns** about their ability to meet these requirements are encouraged to consult the Disability Services Department (<https://www.alamo.edu/spc/experience-spc/current-students/safe-space/student-accessibility-services/>) for information on potential **reasonable accommodations**.

What is the cost per semester for this program?

For detailed information on tuition and fees, please refer to the college's tuition and fee schedule: <https://www.alamo.edu/spc/admissions/pay-for-college/tuition-and-fees/>.

Please note that there is a **special tuition fee per semester, per credit hour**, for students enrolled in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program.

Will I need transportation?

Yes. Starting the third semester, the student will be assigned to a clinical site in or surrounding San Antonio. It is the student's responsibility to ensure they have reliable transportation.