



# ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT St. Philip's College

**FAQs: The following are some Frequently Asked Questions about the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program:**

**How often does the program start?**

The program starts 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 and clinical rotations  
Graduation: May, semester 5

**Is the program an online program?**

No, the program is not an online program.

**Are classes available on weekend or evenings?**

Currently, classes are offered during the day. The program does not foresee offering weekend or evening courses in the near future.

**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 the student plans to work only minimally, if at all, while enrolled in the program. There is a great deal of new information to be learned and mastered; therefore a considerable amount of study time is required for all classes and in all semesters. All students are encouraged to have alternate financial plans to support their educational endeavors without planning on fulltime employment during the two years.

**Can I apply anytime?**

Only applications mailed between February 1st and April 15<sup>th</sup> are considered.

**What constitutes an invalid application?**

An invalid application is any application mailed outside of the application window (February 1<sup>st</sup> – April 15<sup>th</sup>) and/or missing any application requirements. Invalid applications are not eligible for consideration.

**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. The selection committee only reviews documents that are included in the application packet.

**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.

**What is the job market for sonographers?**

According to the US Dept. of Labor, the occupational demand for Diagnostic Medical Sonographers is projected to increase by 26% by 2024. Texas has the 2nd highest employment level of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers in the nation.

**What is the cost per semester for this program?**

Please refer to the college's tuition and fee schedule page. Please note on the tuition schedule there is a special tuition fee of \$700 per semester for students enrolled in some of the Healthcare Science programs.

**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.

**How can I further my education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography?**

There are several colleges and universities that offer relative degrees and courses.