

DMS APPLICATION GUIDE & INSTRUCTIONS

“Virtual Career Shadowing” Via the Internet; Interviewing & Volunteering Opportunities

I. Apply

- a. Set up an account through WorkDay. Go to this website and create an account:
<https://www.northampton.edu/admissions/getting-started.htm>
- b. Review the “Virtual Shadowing” websites listed below. Take notes, do research about ultrasound and the profession of sonography.
- c. Complete the Career Assessment Form (CAF) found here: [DMS Website Overview](#)
 - i. Applicants should complete the CAF using their own words. Cutting and pasting from the internet is unacceptable.
 - ii. The CAF should be uploaded to Workday **before February 1, 2025.**
- d. A select number of applicants will interviewed. The interview process takes place in March. Applicants will be notified if they are chosen for an interview. See below for *Interview Tips*.
- e. Read this entire document for information about *volunteering in the sonography scan lab* and other valuable information about the DMS program.
- f. All decisions about acceptance are in Workday. **Be sure to check your NCC STUDENT EMAIL regularly regarding your application status.**

II. Choose a Sonography Concentration

- a. NCC Offers four sonography concentration tracks: Cardiac, Vascular, Abdominal-Vascular and Abdominal-OB/Gyn.
- b. Applicants are expected to research and know which concentration area they would like to pursue.
 - i. Use the resources suggested below to learn about sonography specialty areas

III. Explore the profession of Sonography through “Virtual Shadowing” and other sonography resources to review prior to completing the CAF

- a. Upon completion of your “Virtual Shadowing,” you should be able to do the following:
 - Make an informed career choice.
 - Answer the focus questions on the CAF.
 - Converse about the ever-changing and dynamic field of diagnostic medical sonography.
 - Feel more confident about going into the interview.

IV. Virtual Shadowing: Diagnostic Medical Sonography Occupational Videos

- a. [Video: Ultrasound Career Pathways](#)
- b. [Video: Echocardiographers - Behind the Scenes](#)
- c. [Video: Careers in Vascular Ultrasound \(a little older video but very relevant\)](#)
- d. [Video: US Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Information for Sonography Career](#)
- e. [Video: ARDMS Real Talk Sonography Intro - Sonographers discuss their careers](#)
- f. [Video: ARDMS Real Talk Sonography Episode One - Sonographers discuss their careers](#)
- g. [Video: ARDMS Real Talk Sonography Episode Two - Sonographers discuss their careers](#)
- h. [Video: ARDMS Real Talk Sonography Episode Three - Sonographers discuss their careers](#)
- i. [Video: ARDMS Real Talk Sonography Episode Four - Sonographers discuss their careers](#)

V. Virtual Shadowing: Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (SDMS) Information:

- a. [SDMS Sonography Career Information and Video](#)
- b. [Scope of Practice and Clinical Standards for the Diagnostic Medical Sonographer](#)
- c. [SDMS Code of Ethics for Sonographers](#)

VI. Virtual Shadowing: DMS Program Educational Standards and Accreditation

- a. CAAHEP – Commission On Accreditation Of Allied Health Educational Programs
[FAQs for Applicants Web Page](#)
- b. JRC-DMS – Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography [JRC-DMS Website](#)

VII. Virtual Shadowing – Obtaining Credentials

- a. ARDMS – American Registry Of Diagnostic Medical Sonography
[ARDMS - Careers in Sonography](#)

VIII. Virtual Shadowing - Vascular Sonography Resources

- a. [Video: Careers in Vascular Ultrasound \(a little older video but very relevant\)](#)
- b. [Society for Vascular Ultrasound \(SVU\) Careers in Vascular Ultrasound Web page](#)

IX. Virtual Shadowing - Cardiac Sonography Resources

- a. [Video: Echocardiographers - Behind the Scenes](#)
- b. [How to Become a Cardiac Sonographer | Indeed.com](#)
- c. [Article - Cardiac Ultrasound](#)
- d. [American Society of Echocardiography Web page](#)
- e. [Article: Professional Education, Training and Role of the Cardiac Sonographer in Different Countries](#)
- f. [Cardiac Sonographer FAQs \(asecho.org\)](#)
- g. [Article: Guidelines for Cardiac Sonographer Education](#)

PREPARING FOR THE DMS ADMISSION INTERVIEW

I. The Interview

- a. Applicants will need to be prepared to answer questions about the field of sonography. The interview may cover the following:
 - i. The mental and physical requirements necessary to be a sonographer
 - ii. In-depth questions about diagnostic medical sonography
 - iii. Why they have made sonography their career choice
 - iv. The level of initiative and motivation to pursue the profession of sonography of the candidate

II. Tips to be a more competitive applicant

- a. Research ultrasound and the profession of sonography using the Virtual Shadowing resources.
- b. Contact a hospital to shadow a sonographer. St. Luke's University Health Network offers short term observation opportunities. [Click Here St. Luke's Observer Interest Form](#)
- c. Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- d. Contact NCC's Career Services for interview tips [NCC Career Services Web Page](#); email careerservices@northampton.edu
- e. Complete your application and all the associated paperwork prior to the deadline date, **February 1, 2025**.
- f. If passing a general education course with a C or better, don't withdraw from the course. When there is a perceived pattern in withdrawal from general education courses to increase one's GPA, it tends to raise concerns for the Acceptance Committee in the DMS Program.

NOTE: If you have applied previously, you will need to submit an updated CAF and resubmit application in Workday. Be sure to submit all documents. Incomplete applications will be rejected.

AN ADDITIONAL RESOURCE – JOIN US FOR A LAB SESSION:

All interested applicants are invited to volunteer to be a model in one of our scanning labs. This volunteer opportunity affords the applicant a chance to talk to our students and get a first-hand view of the skills needed to become a sonographer.

As a volunteer it is understood that the scanning lab is conducted in a teaching environment and in no way constitutes a diagnostic examination. A signed release form will be required for all volunteers. Volunteers for the obstetric lab must meet additional requirements* to be scanned. (*A previous normal OB anatomy scan of the existing pregnancy and a note from the OB physician stating the pregnant person may volunteer for the lab.)

Volunteering for a scanning lab is not a program admission requirement.

Call the DMS program secretary, Jackie Bare at 610-861-5390 between 8 AM and 3 PM, M-F to sign up. Our scanning labs are located on the Bethlehem Campus in Penn Hall. A college map is available at [NCC Bethlehem Campus Map](#)

COMPETIVENESS:

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is highly competitive. Strive to achieve the highest overall grade point average (GPA) possible. Acceptance into the program is based on academics, the CAF and the interview. 60% of the total point system is based on academics, 10% is on **CAF** (evaluated using a rubric), and 30% comes from the interview (evaluated using a rubric).

*** Meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission into the Sonography Program.**

Primary consideration is given to applicants who have completed:

- College Algebra, Human Anatomy I & II with a B or better the first time a course is taken
- The general education courses that apply to the program