

# **Adult Cardiac Sonography**

**Revised for Summer 2021 Application**

The Dallas College School of Health Sciences offers a 60-credit hour curriculum leading to an Associate of Applied Sciences Degree in Adult Cardiac Sonography as well as a 37-credit hour Advanced Technical Certificate at the El Centro campus. This information packet contains application eligibility guidelines for both curriculum tracks for application to the Summer 2021 program only.

The Adult Cardiac Sonograph**y** Program prepares individuals to perform analysis of the heart for diagnosis of heart disease and evaluation of cardiac function through 2-D ultrasound images and Doppler flow analyses of the heart, measurement of blood flow velocities, calculation of data, and the use of up-to-date ultrasound imaging equipment. The program is accredited by the [Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs](https://www.caahep.org/) (CAAHEP 9355 – 113th St. N, #7709 Seminole, FL 33775 Phone: (727) 210-2350). Graduates of the Adult Cardiac Sonography Program are eligible to sit for either the RCS or RDCS board examinations once all other criteria required by each organization administering the examination are met.

Students are accepted into the Adult Cardiac Sonography program each June via a **competitive application and acceptance procedure** utilizing a point award system which ranks applicants on their grade point average on the Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses and successful completion of the five designated sections on the HESI A2 with minimum scores. After this initial ranking, selected students will complete additional steps toward a final point ranking system which includes the ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessment and the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Applicant Assessment.

**This information packet contains specific application guidelines and requirements. Submission of application materials verifies that an individual has 1) read the packet thoroughly, 2) obtained all necessary documents from designated website addresses, and 3) understood the policies and procedures for application and acceptance to the program.**

## Equal Educational Opportunity

Educational opportunities are offered by Dallas College without regard to race, color, age,

national origin, religion, sex, disability, or sexual orientation.

## EligibilitytoApplytoAlliedHealthAssociateDegreePrograms

In order to apply to the Summer 2021 Adult Cardiac Sonography program, an applicant must meet the conditions of one of the three [Application Eligibility Categories](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx), as well as meet other application requirements prior to the application deadline. The categories include:

* Category 1 Applicant – Completion of the six HPRS courses for the Health Professions Readiness Awards I and II.
* Category 2 Applicant – Documentation of a minimum of two (2) years employment as a healthcare worker with direct patient care experience within the last five (5) years by successful completion of the Prior Learning Assessment Portfolio, programmatic assessment exams, or course work demonstrating the skills/knowledge encompassing the content of the six HPRS courses.
* Category 3 Applicant – Documentation of a current professional credential in a healthcare profession as approved by the Adult Cardiac Sonography program coordinator.

**Note:**  Applicants with a Bachelor or Associate degree in areas such as Radiography, iratory Care, etc. may qualify to apply to the program through the Advanced Technical Certificate curriculum track. See page 4 for details.

## A. General Admission Requirements to the College

Applicants to the Adult Cardiac Sonography program must meet all [college admission requirements](https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/GeneralInfo/AdmissAssessAdvEnroll/require.cfm?loc=econ) as outlined in the official college catalog.

Applicants must have earned either a high school diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) in addition to complying with Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements before they will be eligible to apply to the program. Students should consult an academic advisor to determine their TSI status prior to application to the Adult Cardiac Sonography program.

All students applying or enrolled at a Dallas College campus are required to submit their Social Security number to the Registrar’s Office. Students who do not possess a Social Security number must complete a form obtained at the Registrar’s Office. For more information, consult a Registrar/Admissions Office at any Dallas College campus.

### Official College Transcripts

Prior to application to the Adult Cardiac Sonography program, potential applicants must have submitted ***official transcripts from all colleges and universities the applicant has attended whether the coursework is or is not relevant to the program application***. Transcripts from Dallas College campuses are not required.

The transcripts must be current with the **print date no earlier than three years** prior to the applicant’s anticipated admission to the program. If the official transcripts have not been submitted, the individual’s application will be voided.

Official transcripts must be sent electronically from the applicant’s previous colleges to [registrar-ecc@dcccd.edu](mailto:registrar-ecc@dcccd.edu). Transcripts sent by the applicant in pdf or other formats are not accepted. Transcripts may also be mailed from a college in a sealed envelope to Registrar-El Centro campus, 801 Main Street, Dallas, TX 75202-3604.

### Initial College Application, Advisement, and Enrollment

Students who are beginning college for the first time will follow the [Six Steps to Enrollment](https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/application/pages/default.aspx) which will guide them from applying the college system to placement testing, selecting a degree plan, contacting an academic advisor, and enrolling in basic courses.

A student who has not completed college coursework should request a general Associate Degree plan from the Academic Advisement Center as a starting point toward future application to a health occupations program. ***Note: Additional assessment testing in computer literacy and learning frameworks courses may be required for certain students.***

### Online Program Information Sessions

Potential applicants are required to view an online [Adult Cardiac Sonography information session](https://www.dallascollege.edu/health-packets-sessions) where the program, application procedures, and acceptance policies are discussed in detail. The information session must be viewed as a running Power Point and a link to a questionnaire will activate at the end of the presentation. Once the questionnaire is submitted, application forms will be emailed to the applicant within 1-2 business days.

**Potential applicants to the Adult Cardiac Sonography program are strongly encouraged to seek out “shadow” experiences such as visiting the El Centro imaging program classrooms and labs to observe students and the program environment. Email the following for more information:** [Hien.Pham@dcccd.edu](mailto:Hien.Pham@dcccd.edu)

## B. Application Requirements to the Adult Cardiac Sonography Program

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### Associate Degree Curriculum Track

Application to the Adult Cardiac Sonography program requires the following steps:

* Application and current admission to Dallas College.
* Viewing an online Adult Cardiac Sonography program information session.
* Meeting one of the three Application Eligibility categories (see page 1).
* Completion of the 26 credit hours of Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher.
* Completion of the HESI A2 test with a minimum score of 70 on each of the five required sections (Reading Comprehension, Mathematics, Grammar, Vocabulary/General Knowledge, and Anatomy/Physiology.
* Submission of complete documentation of a current physical exam, tuberculosis screening, required immunizations and CPR certification to Castle Branch.
* Submission of complete application materials including the signed Essential Requirements for the Cardiac Sonography Student document to the Health Occupations Admissions Office via email during a designated filing period.

Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course** | **Lec Hrs** | **Lab Hrs** | **Ext Hrs** | **Cont Hrs** | **Cr Hrs** |
| BIOL 2401\* Anatomy/Physiology I | 3 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 4 |
| BIOL 2402 Anatomy/Physiology II | 3 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 4 |
| ENGL 1301 Composition I | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| MATH 1314 College Algebra | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| PSYC 2301 General Psychology | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| SPCH 1311\*\* Intro to Speech Communication | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| DSAE 2303 Cardiovascular Concepts | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| Humanities Elective+ | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| Total Program Prerequisites: | 24 | 6 | 0 | 480 | 26 |

\* BIOL 1406 is a prerequisite course for BIOL 2401 and must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher within the last three years or a satisfactory score on the Biology CLEP exam.

\*\* SPCH 1315 – Public Speaking and SPCH 1321 – Business and Professional Communication are also accepted for the speech requirement.

++ Humanities/Fine Arts elective must be selected from the Humanity, Creativity, and Aesthetic Experience section of the general Associate Degree of Arts/Sciences degree plan. See the current catalog of a full list of accepted courses. **Suggested courses include: ARTS 1301, DANC 2303, DRAM 1310, HUMA 1315, MUSI 1306, PHIL 1301, PHIL 1304, selected ENGL literature courses at the 2000 level or higher, sophomore level foreign languages such as SPAN 2311.**

A minimum grade of “C” is required in each Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses.

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### Advanced Technical Certificate

Individuals who have earned a Bachelor or Associate Degree in a health care area **with direct patient care experience** may qualify to apply to the Adult Cardiac Sonography program for the Advanced Technical Certificate. See Category 3 on page 2 of this packet. Potential certificate applicants should submit their official transcripts, health care credentials and detailed work history to the Health Occupations Admissions office for evaluation and verification of application track.

Prior to applying to the Advanced Technical Certificate program, an individual must complete **DSAE 2303 – Cardiovascular Concepts with a minimum grade of “C” or higher and must submit official transcripts and other documentation indicating the completion of college level coursework in human anatomy, human physiology, college algebra, pharmacology, and pathophysiology or have coursework which includes that content.**

Applicants to the Advanced Technical Certificate directly compete with applicants who are pursuing the Associate Degree. Although a certificate applicant is not required to complete all the Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses, their transcripts will be evaluated for equivalent coursework to determine a similar grade point average calculation to that of an Associate Degree applicant. Therefore, a potential certificate applicant should request an educational plan which will indicate the coursework which will be considered for the grade point average calculation. See section C below for information on requesting an educational plan.

A certificate applicant may wish to complete some or all the Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses to increase their grade point average and competitiveness in the applicant pool.

Potential certificate applicants with qualifying degrees from colleges and universities outside the U.S. must have their degrees evaluated by a transcript evaluation agency. This must be a course by course evaluation and not merely a validation of the degree. See [Foreign Coursework Evaluation Information](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx)  for a list of evaluation agencies.

## C. Evaluation of Previous Coursework

Official transcripts are fully evaluated by the Dallas College Transcript Evaluation Center after a student has been enrolled for at least one regular semester. However, the Health Occupations Admissions Office at the El Centro campus also evaluates a student’s coursework and generates an Educational Plan for the student. The [Educational Plan](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=U1R-1i9z3EqUpEiI8tl9XR-JTZXG4gtGtI5xwkPieuFUOFdER1BQS1k5TU02R09FQTU0WFVDTEJQWSQlQCN0PWcu) is a preliminary, unofficial degree plan for advisement purposes and only reflects specific courses toward a health occupations program.

Educational Plans are optional and are not required for application to a health occupations program. are usually completed within 4-6 weeks. **The evaluation process is not completed during individual appointments or on an “as you wait” basis.** During peak times such as registration or after the close of the semester when faculty are unavailable, an evaluation may take longer to complete. Therefore, an Educational Plan should be requested at least one semester prior to a program application filing deadline if possible.

*The School of Health Sciences and the Health Occupations Admissions Office reserve the right to accept or reject any coursework completed at other colleges presented for transfer evaluation toward Health Occupations programs.*

### Determination of Application Eligibility Category

As part of the Educational Plan process, potential applicants should include additional documentation such as an employer/supervisor letter verifying direct patient care experience, a professional healthcare credential, etc. with the Educational Plan request form which will assist them in determining their Application Eligibility category. See page2 7-8 for examples of documents needed for Categories 2 and 3. Coursework for potential applicants completing the HPRS courses for Category 1 are automatically considered in the Educational Plan review process.

### Credit by Examination, CLEP, and Advanced Placement Credit

Credit through CLEP, High School Advanced Placement Exams and Credit by Examination may be awarded for a limited number of courses toward Health Occupations programs.

Advanced Placement (“AP”) credit for ENGL 1301 and MATH 1314 is acceptable if the credit appears on a college transcript as ENGL 1301 and MATH 1314 equivalency. A letter grade is not awarded for “AP” credit.

**Note: An applicant to the Adult Cardiac Sonography program may present credit by exam, CLEP, or “AP” credit for only one of the Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses. Credit will be acknowledged but not calculated with the grade point average.**

See detailed information regarding [Advanced Placement, CLEP, and Credit by Examination.](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx)

### Coursework from Foreign Universities

Only courses such as college algebra/calculus, human anatomy/physiology, chemistry, physics, and microbiology may be considered for transfer to Health Occupations program from colleges or universities outside the United States. **No other courses will be considered.** Microbiology, chemistry, and physics must be within the five-year time limit. [Foreign Coursework Evaluation](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) is a multi-step process which may take several weeks. **The student must be enrolled in credit classes at a Dallas College campus before the evaluation process can be initiated.**

## D. HESI A2 TEST

The [HESI A2](https://www.dallascollege.edu/hesi) test is a timed, computerized test which is usually completed in 3-4 hours. In addition to completing the Adult Cardiac Sonography prerequisite courses, all applicants to the Adult Cardiac Sonography program must also earn ***a minimum score of 70 or higher*** on the following sections of the HESI A2 test: **Reading Comprehension, Grammar, Vocabulary/General Knowledge, Math, and Anatomy/Physiology.**  Students must also complete the **Learning Styles and Personality Profile sections** and submit those results with their application materials. The Learning Styles and Personality Profile sections are not graded.

Please note the following important information regarding the HESI A2:

* Test scores are valid for **two years** from the date of testing to the application filing deadline date.
* Applicants may take the HESI A2 at any approved testing site including the assessment centers at El Centro and Northlake campuses. The approximate cost of the HESI test at the El Centro campus (Paramount Building) is $42.00.
* HESI A2 testing is also available online at a cost of approximately $59.00. Email [5tests@dcccd.edu](mailto:5tests@dcccd.edu) for instructions.
* **Applicants are responsible for securing their own testing appointment at the location of their choice.** The procedure for making testing appointments and payment varies among testing sites. **Applicants are responsible for submitting their score sheet with their program application materials.**
* HESI A2 testing appointments at the El Centro campus fill quickly. Applicants are encouraged to schedule their HESI A2 several weeks prior to an application filing deadline. ***Note:* Score sheets may not be available for download from the Elsevier website for 2-3 days. Do not assume that you will have your score sheet to submit with application materials if you test on the application deadline date.**
* The **HESI A2 Study Guide** is available at various bookstores including the Follett Bookstores at El Centro and Northlake campuses. A **HESI A2 Prep** course is periodically offered by the El Centro Continuing Education Division. Contact that office at 214-860-2147 for dates and times of the prep course.
* **There is no limit on the number of times an applicant may take the HESI A2 test for application to the Adult Cardiac Sonography program.** If the applicant desires to retake the HESI A2, **ALL FIVE SECTIONS** must be retaken. Only one score sheet should be submitted with scores of 70 or higher on each of the five required sections. Scores on individual test sections which are printed on separate score sheets cannot be combined. If more than one score sheet is submitted, the scores from the latest HESI testing attempt will be considered the official scores. It is not necessary to repeat the Learning Styles and Personality Profile sections on retests. The printout of these sections can be submitted from any testing attempt.
* Before retesting, the applicant is encouraged to review the study guide and/or enroll in the HESI A2 prep course to prepare for the retest opportunity.

See [HESI A2](https://www.dallascollege.edu/HESI) for more information.

## E. Castle Branch

Applicants to the Adult Cardiac Sonography program are required to have a current physical examination, specific immunizations, a tuberculosis screening, and BLS (Basic Life Support) CPR certification. The School of Health Sciences utilizes Castle Branch, a medical record management company, to verify these requirements. Applicants submit this documentation directly to Castle Branch which will verify whether the records are complete.

***Important Note: Some of the immunizations require multiple doses on a specific timeline over several months. Therefore, potential applicants to this program should begin their immunizations at least six to seven months prior to the application deadline.***

Castle Branch must receive this documentation and verify that the applicant’s records are complete **no later than the application filing deadline.** Please be aware that it can take **up to 4 weeks** to complete the verification process. Failure to submit this documentation and be complete with these requirements on the date of the application deadline will result in disqualification of the applicant. Applicants must be aware that the documentation required by Castle Branch must be kept current throughout the application process and (if accepted to a program) during their participation in the program. It is the responsibility of the applicant to assure that your health records are current. **Note: Additional proof of immunizations including titers may be required by hospital clinical sites.**

For more information on Castle Branch and this process, see [Immunization Requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx).

If the applicant has personal healthcare coverage at the time of application, that documentation may also be submitted to Castle Branch. If accepted to the program, the applicant must submit proof of coverage to Castle Branch prior to attending clinical practicum. For more information, see item 8 on page 20 of this packet.

## F. Adult Cardiac Sonography Application Materials Submission – June 2021 Selection Process

**Important: Read the following instructions carefully.**

After verifying their Application Eligibility Category, completing the Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses, the five designated sections of the HESI A2 test, and uploading the required physical exam, immunization and CPR certification documentation to Castle Branch, the student is ready to submit their application materials. I**ncomplete application materials will be disqualified.**

The application materials must be scanned and emailed to [ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu](mailto:ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu) as pdf documents by the application filing deadline.

Application materials must include the following to be considered complete and valid:

1. **Documentation of Application Eligibility**
   1. ***Category 1 Applicant*** – Completion of the six HPRS courses will be verified on official transcripts and/or the advising report.
   2. ***Category 2 Applicant*** – The following documentation must be submitted with application materials:
      1. **Official letter from your place of employment** on original healthcare facility letterhead with the ink signature of your supervisor verifying your employment position, specific duties, and employment dates (minimum 2 years of direct patient care experience within the last 5 years)

***And***

* + 1. **A photocopy of the Non-traditional Equivalent Credit Assessment form** signed by the HPRS Coordinator and Division Dean if credit for one or more HPRS courses was awarded through the prior Learning Assessment Portfolio process ***or*** if credit was awarded through a programmatic assessment exam. (See page 1 for details.)
    2. If an applicant under Category 2 enrolled and completed one or more HPRS courses through traditional enrollment, the coursework will be verified on official transcripts and/or the advising report.
  1. ***Category 3 Applicant*** – The following documentation must be submitted with application materials:
     1. **Photocopy of a *current* professional healthcare credential** such as a nursing license, ARRT radiography registry, CST surgical technology certification, RCIS cardiac catheterization technologist registry, etc.

***And***

* + 1. **Official transcript or other official document** authenticating the completion of the qualifying degree or certificate.

1. A completed **Adult Cardiac Sonography program application form and the signed Statement of Students’ Responsibility form.**
2. The **HESI A2 score sheet** indicating achievement of **a minimum score of 70 or higher on each of the five required sections and the Learning Styles/Personality Profile results.**

1. The signed Essential Requirements for the Cardiac Sonography Student form.
2. If a member of Phi Theta Kappa, include a photocopy of your official Phi Theta Kappa membership card/certificate. Note: Submitting the PTK number or any other statement of membership is not accepted.

**Note: Applicants are solely responsible for ensuring that their current official transcripts from all previously attended colleges and universities (excluding Dallas Colleges) are submitted to a Registrar/Admissions Office at a Dallas College campus prior to applying to an El Centro health occupations program. Official transcripts must have a print date no earlier than three years of anticipated entry to a health occupations program.**

**Submitting incomplete application materials will disqualify the application and the student will not be considered further in the application process. Students are advised to retain a photocopy of all materials submitted as their application and to Castle Branch.**

**Important: Once application materials are emailed to the health occupations admissions office, additional materials cannot be added in later emails.**

## G. Application Filing Period

The official filing period for the June 2021 selection process to the Adult Cardiac Sonography program is:

**October 1 – December 31, 2020**

**Complete application materials must be emailed to** [**ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu**](mailto:ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu) **by the application filing deadline. Application materials are not accepted in person or by conventional mail.** Early submission of an application during a specific filing period does not influence ranking for admission.

## H. Preliminary Applicant Ranking

After December 31, 2020, application materials are evaluated for completion and a preliminary ranking process will take place. The top thirty (30) ranked applicants will be invited to complete the ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessment and the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Applicant Assessment which are the next steps in the application process.

The preliminary ranking process is outlined below:

1. Applicants are listed by grade point average (GPA) on the Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses from highest (4.00) to lowest (3.00) to initially rank applicants. (A minimum 3.00 GPA is required on the prerequisite courses for application.)
2. When two or more applicants have the same GPA on the Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses, the combined GPA on BIOL 2401 and BIOL 2402 will be listed from highest (4.00) to lowest (3.00) to break the tie.
3. When two or more applicants have the same GPA on the Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses and the same combined GPA on BIOL 2401 and BIOl 2402, the HESI A2 score on the Reading Comprehension section will be used to break the tie.

The table below illustrates the preliminary ranking process for a sample group of qualified applicants for the Adult Cardiac Sonography program:

### Example of Preliminary Ranking Process

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | GPA on the Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses | Combined GPA on BIOL 2401 and  BIOL 2402 | HESI A2  Reading Comprehension Score |
| Applicant #1 | 4.00 | 4.00 | 90.18 |
| Applicant #2 | 4.00 | 4.00 | 81.23 |
| Applicant #3 | 4.00 | 3.50 | 77.57 |
| Applicant #4 | 3.77 | 3.00 | 92.31 |
| Applicant #5 | 3.54 | 4.00 | 94.62 |
| Applicant #6 | 3.54 | 4.00 | 86.76 |

If only five qualified applicants were invited to complete the additional Assessments as the next step in the selection process, applicants 1 through 5 would progress to the next step.

The thirty (30) highest ranking applicants in the initial ranking process move on to the next step of the application process. All other applicants are notified that they will be not be considered further in the current application process.

Applicants who are not among the thirty (30) moving on to the next step in the application process may improve their ranking for the next filing period by 1) repeating one or more of the Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses to earn a higher GPA; or 2) repeating one or both BIOL 2401 and BIOL 2402 to earn a higher combined score; or 3) repeating the HESI A2 test and earning higher than 70% on the Reading Comprehension and other five required sections.

The decision to repeat a course successfully completed with a grade of “C” or higher in order to improve an applicant’s competitiveness in the ranking process rests solely with the applicant. The last grade earned on a repeated course will be the grade of record. Applicants may also consult an academic advisor for assistance.

**Selection for the ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessment and Diagnostic Medical Sonography Applicant Assessment is a competitive process. Submission of complete application materials, nor successful completion of the Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses nor earning a 70 or higher on the five sections of the HESI A2 is a guarantee that an individual will be invited to complete the additional Assessments.**

## I. ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessments/DMS Applicant Assessment

The top thirty (30) applicants on the preliminary ranked list will be contacted by the Health Occupations Admissions Office with specific instructions on progressing to the next step in the application process which involves completion of the ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessment and the DMS Applicant Assessment. The cost of the ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessment is $32.00. There is no charge for the DMS Applicant Assessment. If an applicant is not selected for the Cardiac Sonography program and reapplies, the DMS Applicant Assessment must be repeated.

***Note: The ACT Work Keys and DMS Applicant Assessments must be completed at the Paramount Testing Center. ACT Work Keys from other locations are not accepted for application to the Cardiac Sonography program. An applicant may attempt the ACT Work Keys and DMS Applicant Assessment one time within a 12-month time period.***

### ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessment

The ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessment is a job skills assessment tool that determines an individual’s compatibility with specific careers. Questions are based on work-related interests, values, attitudes and behaviors and are compared with those of individuals employed in that field. The assessment will take approximately 90 minutes to complete. Results of the ACT WorkKeys Fit and Talent Assessments are sent to the Health Occupations Admissions Office directly from the Paramount Testing Center.

### DMS Applicant Assessment

The DMS Applicant Assessment is an online, written interview. Applicants should be prepared to respond to interview type questions in an essay format. Seventy-five (75) minutes is allowed for this timed assessment.

## J. Final Points Calculation

Once the thirty applicants have completed the ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessment and DMSO Applicant Assessment, each applicant will undergo a final ranking via the point system outlined below (255.5 maximum points possible including bonus points):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Point Award Criteria** | **Potential points per criteria** |
| **Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Cumulative GPA**  **(3.00 minimum required)**  3.00 – 3.24 = 10 points  3.25 – 3.49 = 20 points  3.50 – 3.74 = 30 points  3.75 – 3.99 = 40 points  4.00 = 50 points | 50 points |
| **DSAE 2303**  Grade of A = 10 points Grade of B = 5 points Grade of C = 1 point | 10 points |
| **HESI A2 Test – Points awarded for each of the following section**  **Reading Comprehension, Math, Grammar, Vocabulary/General Knowledge,**  **And Anatomy/Physiology**  70 – 79 = 2 points  80 – 85 = 4 points  86 – 89 = 6 points  90 – 95 = 8 points  96 – 100 = 10 points | 50 points |
| **ACT Work Keys Talent Assessment - Points are awarded for criteria such as:**  Work Discipline Carefulness Goodwill Savvy  Managerial Potential Cooperation Influence Sociability  Teamwork Creativity Optimism Stability  Customer Service Discipline Order Striving  **Fit Assessment**  **Index for Specific Occupations – Points are awarded for each occupation below:**  Diagnostic Medical Sonographers  Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians    **Interest Scales – Points are awarded for each criterion below:**  Business Operations  Technical  Science and Technology  Arts  Social Service  **Points Key**  90+ = 2.5 points  80 – 89 = 2 points  70 – 79 = 1.5 points  60 – 69 = 1 points  50 – 59 = .5 point  Below 50 = 0 points | 57.5 points |
| **Diagnostic Medical Sonography Applicant Assessment** | 80 points |
| **Maximum Total Points** | 247.5 points |

## K. Bonus Points

Additional bonus points will be added to the final point total for the following:

Applying only to Adult Cardiac Sonography during current filing period 2 points

Completion of SCIT 1420 – Physics for Allied Health 2 points

Completion of DMSO 1110 – Intro. to Diagnostic Medical Sonography 2 points

Phi Theta Kappa membership (submit certificate/card with application) 2 points

## L. Final Ranking

After the points for all applicants are calculated and any bonus points are awarded, a final ranked list is generated with the following tie breakers. Please refer to the table below.

### Example of Final Ranking of Qualified Applicants

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Total Points including possible Bonus Points** | **First Tie Breaker**  ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessments score for Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Cardiovascular Technologies & Technicians | **Second Tie Breaker**  Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Cumulative GPA |
| Applicant #1 | 255.5 points | 5 | 4.00 |
| Applicant #2 | 232 points | 4 | 4.00 |
| Applicant #3 | 232 points | 3 | 4.00 |
| Applicant #4 | 207 points | 5 | 3.89 |
| Applicant #5 | 195 points | 3 | 3.75 |
| Applicant #6 | 195 points | 3 | 3.69 |

If only 5 students were being selected for the Adult Cardiac Sonography program, Applicants #1 through #5 would be offered a space in the class.

Applicant #1 had the highest ranking with 255.5 total points including 2 bonus points for applying only to the Adult Cardiac Sonography program, 2 points for completion of SCIT 1420, 2 points for completion of DMSO 1110, and 2 point for Phi Theta Kappa membership.

Applicants #2 and #3 both had a total of 232 including bonus points; however, Applicant #2 had a higher score on the ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessments which broke the tie.

Applicants #5 and #6 both had a total of 195 points and the same score on the ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessments; however, Applicant #5 had a higher cumulative GPA on the Adult Cardiac Sonography Core Curriculum which broke the tie between them.

## M. Notification of Acceptance

Individuals who receive an acceptance email are required to return a confirmation form within a specified timeframe to verify their space in the class. Failure to return the confirmation form by the specified date or failure to attend the scheduled preregistration/orientation seminar for the accepted class will result in forfeiture of their space in that class. **Notification emails are sent by April 1st.**

**Note:** Applications materials submitted during an official filing period are not “held over” to the next year’s official filing period. Students who are not selected for admission to the program or students who decline their acceptance may reapply again during the next year’s filing period to be considered for a future admission opportunity.

## Curriculum – Adult Cardiac Sonography Technology Associate Degree

## June 2021 Admission

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Prerequisite Courses \*** | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Ext Hrs | Cont Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| BIOL 2401 Anatomy/Physiology I | 3 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 4 |
| BIOL 2402 Anatomy/Physiology II | 3 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 4 |
| ENGL 1301 Composition I | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| MATH 1314 College Algebra | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| PSYC 2301 General Psychology | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| SPCH 1311 Intro to Speech Communication | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| DSAE 2303 Cardiovascular Concepts | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| Humanities Elective | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| Total Program Prerequisites | 24 | 6 | 0 | 480 | 26 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Semester I – Summer (9 weeks)** | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Ext Hrs | Cont Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| DMSO 2343 Advanced Ultrasound Physics | 3 | 1 | 0 | 64 | 2 |
| DSAE 1203 Intro to Echocardiographic Techniques | 1 | 2 | 0 | 48 | 2 |
| DSAE 1270 Intro to Echocardiographic Evaluation | 2 | 0 | 0 | 32 | 1 |
| DSAE 1164 Practicum – Diagnostic Med. Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician | 0 | 0 | 10 | 160 | 1 |
| Total | 6 | 3 | 10 | 304 | 8 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Semester II - Fall** | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Ext Hrs | Cont Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| DSAE 2404 Echocardiographic Eval. of Pathology I | 3 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 4 |
| DSAE 2335 Advanced Echocardiography | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| DSAE 2660 Clinical – Diagnostic Med. Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician | 0 | 0 | 30 | 480 | 6 |
| Total | 6 | 3 | 30 | 624 | 13 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Semester III – Spring** | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Ext Hrs | Cont Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| DSAE 2437 Echocardiographic Eval. of Pathology II | 3 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 4 |
| DSAE 2355 Echo. Professionalism/Registry Review | 3 | 1 | 0 | 64 | 3 |
| DSAE 2661\*\* Clinical – Diagnostic Med. Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician | 0 | 0 | 30 | 480 | 6 |
| Total | 6 | 4 | 30 | 640 | 13 |
| **Total Program Hours** | 42 | 16 | 70 | 2048 | 60 |

\* See the footnotes on the bottom of page 3

\*\* DSAE 2661 – Clinical – Diagnostic Medical Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician contain the Capstone experience in the Adult Cardiac Sonography Associate Degree program.

## Curriculum – Cardiac Sonography – Advanced Technical Certificate

## June 2021 Admission

**Prerequisites:**  Certificate applicants must have completed DSAE 2303 and have documented equivalent college level coursework in human anatomy/physiology, college level algebra, pharmacology, and pathophysiology.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Prerequisite Course** | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Ext Hrs | Cont Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| DSAE 2303 Cardiovascular Concepts  ***And equivalent coursework in:***   * Anatomy & Physiology (e.g. BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402) * College level algebra (e.g. MATH 1314) * Pharmacology (e.g. HPRS 2300) * Pathophysiology (e.g. HPRS 2201) | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Semester I – Summer (9 weeks)** | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Ext Hrs | Cont Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| DMSO 2343 Advanced Ultrasound Physics | 3 | 1 | 0 | 64 | 3 |
| DSAE 1203 Intro to Echocardiographic Techniques | 1 | 2 | 0 | 48 | 2 |
| DSAE 1270 Intro to Echocardiographic Evaluation | 2 | 0 | 0 | 32 | 2 |
| DSAE 1164 Practicum – Diagnostic Med. Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician | 0 | 0 | 10 | 160 | 1 |
| Total | 6 | 3 | 10 | 304 | 8 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Semester II – Fall** | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Ext Hrs | Cont Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| DSAE 2404 Echocardiographic Eval. of Pathology I | 3 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 4 |
| DSAE 2335 Advanced Echocardiography | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| DSAE 2660 Clinical – Diagnostic Med. Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician | 0 | 0 | 30 | 48 | 6 |
| Total | 6 | 3 | 30 | 624 | 13 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Semester III – Spring** | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Ext Hrs | Cont Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| DSAE 2437 Echocardiographic Eval. of Pathology II | 3 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 4 |
| DSAE 2355 Echo. Professionalism/Registry Review | 3 | 1 | 0 | 64 | 3 |
| DSAE 2661\*\* Clinical – Diagnostic Med. Sonography/ Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician | 0 | 0 | 30 | 480 | 6 |
| Total | 6 | 4 | 30 | 640 | 13 |
| **Total Program Hours** | 21 | 10 | 70 | 1616 | 37 |

[\*\* DSAE 2661 – Clinical – Diagnostic Medical Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician contains the Capstone experience in the Adult Cardiac Sonography Advanced Technical Certificate program.

## Estimated Expenses – Associate Degree Curriculum Track \*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County Texas Resident | Out of State/ Country Resident |
| **ADULT CARDIAC SONOGRAPHY PREREQUISITE COURSES** |  |  |  |
| Tuition/Textbooks (26 cr. hrs.) \*\* | $ 2,054.00 | $ 3,510.00 | $ 5,200.00 |
| HESI A2 Test | 42.00 | 42.00 | 42.00 |
| Castle Branch | 25.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 |
| ACT Work Keys Assessments | 32.00 | 32.00 | 32.00 |
| Physical Exam and Immunizations + | 225.00 | 225.00 | 225.00 |
| CPR Certification\*\* | 65.00 | 65.00 | 65.00 |
| Total | $ 2,443.00 | $ 3,899.00 | $ 5,589.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Adult Cardiac Sonography Program**  **Semester I (Summer)** |  |  |  |
| Tuition/Textbooks (8 cr. hrs.) | $ 632.00 | $ 1,080.00 | $ 1,600.00 |
| Uniforms/Lab Coats (2 each) | 210.00 | 210.00 | 210.00 |
| Shoes | 60.00 | 60.00 | 60.00 |
| Background Check and Drug Screen | 86.00 | 86.00 | 86.00 |
| Total | $ 988.00 | $ 1,436.00 | $ 1,956.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Semester II (Fall)** |  |  |  |
| Tuition (13 credit hours) | $ 1,027.00 | $ 1,755.00 | $ 2,600.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Semester III (Spring)** |  |  |  |
| Tuition (13 credit hours) | $ 1,027.00 | $ 1,755.00 | $ 2,600.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL ESTIMATED PROGRAM EXPENSE** | **$ 5,485.00** | **$ 8,845.00** | **$ 12,745.00** |

\* This estimate does not include tuition and textbooks for the six HPRS courses required in Application Eligibility Category 1 which is approximately $1,027.00 for a Dallas County resident.

\*\* Tuition now includes textbook costs. A [Tuition Payment Plan](https://www.dallascollege.edu/paying-for-college/payments/Pages/payment-plans-UNPUB.aspx) option is available in fall and spring semesters.

+ Estimated cost of a physical exam, immunizations and CPR certification.

## Estimated Expenses – Advanced Technical Certificate Curriculum Track

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County Texas Resident | Out of State/ Country Resident |
| **ADULT CARDIAC SONOGRAPHY PREREQUISITE COURSES** |  |  |  |
| Tuition/Textbooks (3 cr. hrs.) \* | $ 237.00 | $ 405.00 | $ 600.00 |
| HESI A2 Test | 42.00 | 42.00 | 42.00 |
| Castle Branch | 25.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 |
| ACT Work Keys Assessments | 32.00 | 32.00 | 32.00 |
| Physical Exam and Immunizations\*\* | 225.00 | 225.00 | 225.00 |
| CPR Certification\*\* | 65.00 | 65.00 | 65.00 |
| Total | $ 626.00 | $ 794.00 | $ 989.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Adult Cardiac Sonography Program**  **Semester I (Summer)** |  |  |  |
| Tuition/Textbooks (8 cr. hrs.) | $ 632.00 | $ 1,080.00 | $ 1,600.00 |
| Uniforms/Lab Coats (2 each) | 210.00 | 210.00 | 210.00 |
| Shoes | 60.00 | 60.00 | 60.00 |
| Background Check and Drug Screen | 86.00 | 86.00 | 86.00 |
| Total | $ 988.00 | $ 1,436.00 | $ 1,956.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Semester II (Fall)** |  |  |  |
| Tuition (13 credit hours) | $ 1,027.00 | $ 1,755.00 | $ 2,600.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Semester III (Spring)** |  |  |  |
| Tuition (13 credit hours) | $ 1,027.00 | $ 1,755.00 | $ 2,600.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Total estimated program expense** | **$ 3,668.00** | **$ 5,740.70** | **$ 8,145.00** |

\* Tuition now includes textbook costs. A [Tuition Payment Plan](https://www.dallascollege.edu/paying-for-college/payments/Pages/payment-plans-UNPUB.aspx) option is available in fall and spring semesters.

\*\* Estimated cost of a physical exam, immunizations and CPR certification.

Other costs to consider: Personal health care insurance coverage, transportation and parking fees at the El Centro campus and hospital clinical sites.

## General Information

1. The Adult Cardiac Sonography program accepts 10\* students annually for their Summer (June) class. Many of the Adult Cardiac Sonography program courses are conducted in an online format; however, the program coordinator has the prerogative to require on-campus classroom activities. Therefore, the program should be considered full-time program with day and evening classes.

\* The School of Health Sciences reserves the right to make changes in program enrollment capacity.

2. The following information regarding the Adult Cardiac Sonography program is intended to provide potential applicants with insights into the challenges that are inherent to the field of adult cardiac sonography and insure that applicants have a realistic understanding of this health care profession as their possible career choice.

**Professional Considerations for the Field of Adult Cardiac Sonography**

The Adult Cardiac Sonography student:

* Must be physically able to care for patients which will involve lifting and transferring patients, reaching across patients while scanning, standing for long periods of time, and moving heavy equipment for some distance in the hospital setting.
* Should expect clinical experiences which are centered on older or elderly patients; the student must be comfortable with the prospect of working around critically ill patients and those on ventilators.
* Will be exposed to body fluids and patients with infectious diseases (protective and precautionary procedures will be employed).
* May have high stress clinical experiences involving life and death situations and the student may be involved in resuscitation.
* Must have good spatial perception from a two-dimensional TV monitor including color differences and the ability to hear subtle Doppler signals.
* Should recognize that this profession is considered essential personnel and may require a graduate from the program to work evening and weekend shifts and be available on-call.

3. Students who must be absent from clinical experience due to a physical or mental illness, surgery, or pregnancy will be required to obtain a ***written physician release*** before returning to the clinical setting. A maximum of two days of clinical experience can be missed in a semester. The student will be dropped from the course if absences exceed the two clinical day limit. Students anticipating surgery or delivery of a baby and who will require a longer recuperation period before a physician release can be obtained are urged to wait to apply to the program.

4. Many of the Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite Courses, including many of the HPRS courses in one of the Application Eligibility Categories are offered online. See the presentation [Getting Ready for Online Learning](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/online-learning/getready/pages/default.aspx) to see if you are a good candidate for online learning.

5. Students are responsible for obtaining their own living accommodations. It is also necessary for students to consider transportation costs to the college, as well as hospitals throughout the Metroplex. Clinical rotations vary among select hospitals. Any parking fees at the El Centro campus and/or the hospital clinical site are the responsibility of the student.

6. Applicants to the health occupations programs at the El Centro campus must submit physical examination and immunization documentation to Castle Branch no later than the program application deadline. Download more information at [Physical Exam and Immunization Requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx).

The physical examination must be on the **official physical form** and must have been documented no earlier than 12 months prior to the application deadline. The specific immunizations and screenings are indicated on the health form. **Note: Additional proof of immunizations including titers may be required by hospital clinical sites.**

7. All applicants must be certified in BLS – Basic Life Support CPR certification as designated by the **American Heart Association** and a photocopy of the front and back of the card must be submitted to Castle Branch no later than the program application deadline. The CPR certification must not expire prior to the anticipated program start date and must not expire during a semester when enrolled in the program. CPR classes are available through the Continuing Education Office at the El Centro campus, the American Heart Association, various hospitals, independent instructors, etc. **Online CPR certification classes must include an in-person skills check off on a manikin. Totally online CPR certification classes including those offered by the Red Cross are not valid for application to health occupations programs.**

8. Proof of current personal healthcare insurance coverage is required for all health occupations students, **If documentation of coverage is not submitted to Castle Branch with immunization records, proof of coverage must be submitted by the first day of the semester if a student is accepted to the program.** Students must secure their own coverage and the insurance policy must cover the student at any hospital facility. Information on college student policies and rates can be found at <https://www.healthcare.gov/>.

9. Clinical opportunities may be limited for students without Social Security numbers. If accepted to the program, a student must contact the El Centro Multicultural Center Office (Room P-140, telephone 214-860-2090) concerning their eligibility to obtain a Social Security number before graduation from the program for future employment opportunities.

10. *Criminal Background Check / Drug Screening*

All students enrolled in Health Occupations programs are required by the Dallas/Fort Worth Hospital Council member facilities to undergo a [Criminal Background Check and Drug Screen](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) prior to beginning their clinical experience. Students are responsible for all charges incurred (approximately $86.00) for these screenings. **This procedure is conducted *after* a student has been accepted to their respective program.**

Results of these screenings are forwarded to the School of Health Sciences for review and verification that a student is eligible to attend clinical rotation. All background check and drug screening results become the property of the School of Health Sciences and will not be released to the student or any other third party.

A clinical affiliate/facility reserves the right to remove a student from the facility for suspicion of substance use or abuse including alcohol. The clinical affiliate/facility reserves the right to request that a student submit to a repeat drug screening at the student’s expense on the same day that the student is removed from the clinical facility. Failure to comply will result in the student’s immediate expulsion from the clinical facility. Furthermore, regardless of testing or testing results, a clinical affiliate/facility reserves the right to expel a student from their facility.

***Note: Should a student who has been accepted to a Health Occupations program be prohibited from attending a clinical rotation experience due to findings of a criminal background check and/or drug screening, the student may be dismissed from the Health Occupations program.***

11. Students who are enrolled in 6 credit hours or more during a fall or spring semester and 3 credit hours or more during a summer semester are entitled to a free [DART Go-Pass](https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/dart-gopass/pages/default.aspx) for that semester. DART passes are available two weeks after the semester begins.

12. Individuals who were first-time college freshman students in Fall 2007 or after are subject to the guidelines of section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code which prohibits a student from dropping more than six (6) college level credit courses during their entire undergraduate career. See [Six Drop Rule](https://econnect.dcccd.edu/DroppingFacts.jsp) for more information.

13. Clinical assignments for the Adult Cardiac Sonography program vary from semester to semester including but not limited to the list below:

Baylor Scott and White Heart and Vascular

Cardiovascular Consultants – Grapevine

Heart Consultants of North Texas

Heart Place – Richardson

Medical City – Arlington

Medical City – Dallas

Medical City – Denton

Medical City – Lewisville

Medical City – Ft. Worth

Parkland Hospital and Health System

Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital – Dallas

Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital – Denton

UTSW University Hospital – Clements campus

UTSW University Hospital – Clinical Heart Center

14. Dallas College charges a higher tuition rate for courses in which a student registers for the third or more times. The [Third Attempt Policy](https://www.dallascollege.edu/paying-for-college/cost-tuition/third-course-attempt/pages/default.aspx?utm_source=shortcut+url&utm_medium=redirect&utm_campaign=financial+aid&utm_term=thirdcourseattempt) includes courses taken at any of the Dallas College campuses since the Fall 2002 semester. Developmental courses are not considered in this policy.

15. A student may apply to more than one El Centro Health Occupations program during a given filing period. However, if the student receives an acceptance letter to a specific program, confirms their intent to enter that program, and registers for program courses, their application to any other Health Occupations program that may share that filing period will be null and void.

Further, an individual accepted for admission and currently enrolled in an El Centro Health Occupations program may not apply or be considered for admission selection for another El Centro Health Occupations program unless their current program of study will complete before the second program curriculum begins.

Note: An individual cannot earn both the Associate Degree and the Advanced Technical Certificate in this program.

16. Financial Aid: Students should apply for [financial aid](https://www.dallascollege.edu/paying-for-college/financial-aid/Pages/default.aspx) well in advance of program application.

17. Students who are accepted to the Adult Cardiac Sonography program who reside in Collin or Tarrant Counties may qualify for the “Dallas Resident” tuition rate.

18. Please contact the individuals below for assistance (physical addresses):

Lynn Schluns, BS, RDMS, RVT

Interim Program Coordinator

Adult Cardiac Sonography

El Centro campus/Paramount

301 North Market

Dallas, TX 75202

Telephone: 972-860-5053

E-Mail: [LSchluns@dcccd.edu](mailto:LSchluns@dcccd.edu)

Ariel Smith, Adult Cardiac Admissions

Health Occupations Admissions Office

El Centro campus/Paramount

301 North Market Street

Dallas, TX 75202

Telephone: 972-860-5003

Email: [Ansmith@dcccd.edu](mailto:Ansmith@dcccd.edu)

**Official transcripts should be mailed directly to: Electronic transcripts must be sent to:**

Registrar – El Centro campus [Registrar-ECC@dcccd.edu](mailto:Registrar-ECC@dcccd.edu)

801 Main Street

Dallas, TX 75202-3604

**Program information packets are revised September 1st of each year and at other times throughout the academic year as necessary. Program guidelines are subject to change. Students are responsible for insuring they have the latest program information packet:**

[**Adult Cardiac Sonography information packet/information session**](https://www.dallascollege.edu/health-packets-sessions)

**Visit the** [**Adult Cardiac Sonography**](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/cardiac-sonography/pages/default.aspx) **webpage.**

**Like us on** [**Facebook.**](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ECC.AlliedHealthandNursing)

We would appreciate your comments on our customer service by completing a brief [survey](https://dcccdnlc.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ey8GuYYCjHZTAwJ).

## Essential Requirements for the Cardiac Sonography Student

**Applicants to the Cardiac Sonography program are required to read the Essential Requirements for the Cardiac Sonography Student, sign the document as an acknowledgement that they understand this information, and submit the document with their application materials.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_**

Successful completion of the Adult Cardiac Sonography Program requires the acquisition of general knowledge and basic skills needed to perform safely and adequately as a Cardiac Sonographer.

Faculty in the Adult Cardiac Sonography Program have a responsibility for the welfare of the patients treated or otherwise affected by students enrolled in the Adult Cardiac Sonography Program, as well as for the welfare of students enrolling in the program. In order to fulfill this responsibility, the program has set forth the following minimum essential requirements that must be met, with or without reasonable accommodation, in order to participate in the program and graduate. The Adult Cardiac Sonography Program, as part of the El Centro campus of Dallas College, is committed to the principle of equal opportunity. The program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, disability, and disabled veteran or Vietnam era veteran status.

Admission and retention decisions for the program students are based not only on prior satisfactory academic achievement, but also on non-academic factors which serve to ensure that the candidate can complete the essential requirements of the program for graduation. Essential requirements, as distinguished from academic standards, refer to those cognitive, physical, and behavioral abilities that are necessary for satisfactory completion of all aspects of the curriculum and for the development of professional attributes required of all students at graduation.

The program curriculum requires essential abilities in information acquisition. The student must have the ability to master information presented in the course work in the form of lectures, written material, and projected images. Additionally, the student must have the cognitive abilities necessary to master relevant content in basic science and clinical courses based on industry standards for entry level technologists.

The student must be able to safely and accurately perform all aspects of the role the Adult Cardiac Sonographer performs in the health care system. The student must have sufficient upper and lower body coordination to safely handle equipment used in the cardiology field, as well as assist in transferring and transporting patients and performing CPR. The student must have fine manual dexterity to manipulate transducers and other equipment. The student must also possess the integrity and strength in their upper extremities (including neck, arms, elbows, wrists, hands and fingers) in order to sustain a pinch &/or palmer grip on a transducer and sustain a repetitive and prolonged pressure on a transducer in contact with a patient’s chest or other body region. The student must have the visual acuity to observe the ECG/hemodynamic monitor CRT screens at a distance and distinguish the red, blue and other color palettes presented in Color Doppler signals. The student must have hearing acute enough to clearly distinguish vocal commands in a noisy environment and in which the speakers’ mouths may be covered with masks and be capable of distinguishing the pitch variations of audible Doppler signals. The student must have touch discrimination to discern veins in order to perform venipuncture.

The student must be able and willing to work with blood and with organisms that may be infectious. The student must be willing and able to work in environments where the possibility of contact with communicable disease and patient bodily fluids exists. He/she must assume the risk of exposure to ionizing radiation; that risk is minimal, however, if the student observes proper radiation safety precautions.

The student must possess the emotional stability required for full utilization of his/her intellectual abilities. He/she must be able to work accurately and safely under stress, e.g., work under time constraints; read and record numbers accurately; perform repetitive tasks; concentrate in distracting situations; and make subjective evaluations and decisions where mistake may have a high impact on patient care. He/she must be able to adapt to changing environments and be able to prioritize tasks.

The student must have the capability to quickly comprehend and absorb urgent and/or complex verbal directions and instructions and have the critical thinking capability to accurately, efficiently and effectively follow through on these directions in what could be very loud, stressful and/or urgent situations.

The student must be able to communicate effectively in written and spoken English in order to transmit information to members of the health care team. The appropriate communication may also rely on the student’s ability to make a correct judgment in seeking supervisory help and consultation in a timely manner.

The student must possess attributes that include integrity, responsibility, and tolerance. He/she must show respect for self and others, work independently as well as with others, and project an image of professionalism.

These technical standards identify many of the requirements for admission, retention, and graduation of applicants and students respectively. Graduates are expected to be qualified to enter the field of Adult Cardiac Sonography. It is therefore the responsibility of the student with disabilities to request those accommodations that he/she feels are reasonable and are needed to execute the essential requirements described.

The student’s successful completion of the Adult Cardiac Sonography Program depends on his/her ability to carry the subject matter from one experience to another. What is learned in class and/or clinical one day must be incorporated into the performance in class and/or clinical in future situations.

Common threads that run through the entire Adult Cardiac Sonography Program include:

1. Aseptic technique
2. Medical terminology
3. Knowledge of pharmacology with math skills
4. Knowledge of anatomy and physiology
5. Knowledge of electrocardiograms
6. Knowledge of hemodynamics
7. Awareness of psychological and physiological aspects of noninvasive cardiovascular care
8. Legal and ethical aspects
9. Proper documentation
10. Cardiology procedures skills
11. Safety precautions
12. Communication skills

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

I understand the expectations of a Cardiac Sonography student by reading and acknowledging the aforementioned information. I further understand that I must sign this document and submit it with my application materials.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature Date

## Adult Cardiac Sonography Checklist – Associate Degree Curriculum

This checklist is provided to assist you in following the steps to prepare for program application. It is not part of the application materials which are emailed to [ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu](mailto:ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu).

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Download an [Adult Cardiac Sonography information packet and view the online information session](https://www.dallascollege.edu/health-packets-sessions).

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete an application for college admission and consult an academic advisor as needed for TSI counseling, placement testing, etc.; complete any developmental courses as may be prescribed from test scores.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Submit official transcripts from all previously attended colleges and universities to the El Centro Registrar’s Office or the Registrar/Admissions Office at any other Dallas College campus.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ If needed, request an Educational Plan from the Health Occupations Admissions Office for evaluation of transferred course work taken at other colleges that applies to the Adult Cardiac Sonography Degree Plan.

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Meet one of three [Application Eligibility Categories](https://dcccd.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) in order to qualify to apply to the program.

6. \_\_\_\_\_ Enroll and complete the following Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite courses with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher:

\_\_\_\_\_ ENGL 1301 \_\_\_\_\_ DSAE 2303 \_\_\_\_\_ SPCH 1311 or 1315 or 1321

\_\_\_\_\_ BIOL 2401 \_\_\_\_\_ MATH 1314 or 1414 \_\_\_\_\_ Humanities elective

\_\_\_\_\_ BIOL 2402 \_\_\_\_\_ PSYC 2301

7. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete the HESI A2, scoring a minimum of 70% on all five required sections of the test **and** completing the Learning Styles and Personality Profile sections of the test.

8. \_\_\_\_\_ Download the [Physical Exam form and Immunization requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx)  from the Castle Branch website; see a physician or healthcare clinic for a physical examination, immunizations, TB screening, etc., and obtain BLS CPR certification. Submit physical exam form, immunizations, TB screening documentation, and photocopy of front and back of CPR card to Castle Branch prior to application filing deadline.

9. \_\_\_\_\_ Compile the following complete application materials:

\_\_\_\_ Supporting documentation if applying under Application Eligibility Category 2 or 3. (See guidelines on page 7-8).

\_\_\_\_ Completed Adult Cardiac Sonography Application and Students’ Statement of Responsibility forms

\_\_\_\_ Official HESI A2 score sheet indicating minimum score of 70% on each of the five required sections of the test ***and*** Personality Profile and Learning Styles section results.

\_\_\_\_ Signed Essential Requirements for the Cardiac Sonography Student form

\_\_\_\_ Photocopy of your official Phi Theta Kapp membership card/certificate (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Copies of any educational plans, request for course substitution forms, HPRS portfolio credit confirmation forms, etc. if applicable.

10. Email all materials in item 9 to [ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu](mailto:ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu) by the December 31, 2020 application filing deadline.

11. The top 30 ranked applicants will be notified regarding the ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessments for the next step in the application process.

12. Ranking of applicants is completed and notification emails are sent by April 1st.

## Adult Cardiac Sonography Checklist: Advanced Technical Certificate Curriculum

This checklist is provided to assist you in following the steps to prepare for program application. It is not part of the application materials which are emailed to [ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu](mailto:ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu).

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Download an [Adult Cardiac Sonography information packet and view the online information session](https://www.dallascollege.edu/health-packets-sessions).

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete an application for college admission and consult an academic advisor as needed for TSI counseling, placement testing, etc.; complete any developmental courses as may be prescribed from test scores.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Submit official transcripts from all previously attended colleges and universities to the El Centro Registrar’s Office or the Registrar/Admissions Office at any other Dallas College campus.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Verify eligibility to apply for the Advanced Technical Certificate by submitting an Educational Plan request to the Health Occupations Admissions Office with documentation of healthcare degree including coursework in human anatomy and physiology, physics, college level algebra, pharmacology, pathophysiology, and ECG monitoring.

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Enroll and complete the following Adult Cardiac Sonography Prerequisite course with a minimum grade of “C” or higher (see +footnote on page 3):

\_\_\_\_\_ DSAE 2303

6. \_\_\_\_\_ Certificate applicants may also choose to enroll in or repeat the following courses which will be compared to those completed by Associate Degree applicants for a similar GPA for ranking:

\_\_\_\_\_ ENGL 1301 \_\_\_\_\_ DSAE 2303 \_\_\_\_\_ SPCH 1311 or 1315 or 1321

\_\_\_\_\_ BIOL 2401 \_\_\_\_\_ MATH 1314 or 1414 \_\_\_\_\_ Humanities elective \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ BIOL 2402 \_\_\_\_\_ PSYC 2301

7. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete the HESI A2, scoring a minimum of 70% on all five required sections of the test **and** completing the Learning Styles and Personality Profile sections of the test.

8. \_\_\_\_\_ Download the [Physical Exam and Immunization requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx) from the Castle Branch website; see a physician or healthcare clinic for a physical examination, immunizations, TB screening, etc., and obtain BLS CPR certification. Submit physical exam form, immunizations, TB screening documentation, and photocopy of front and back of CPR card to Castle Branch prior to application filing deadline.

9. \_\_\_\_\_ Compile the following materials as your complete application packet:

\_\_\_\_ Completed Adult Cardiac Sonography Application and Students’ Statement of Responsibility forms (available after viewing the online information session).

\_\_\_\_ Official HESI A2 score sheet indicating minimum score of 70% on each of the five required sections of the test ***and*** Personality Profile and Learning Styles section results.

\_\_\_\_ Signed Essential Requirements for the Cardiac Sonography Student form

\_\_\_\_ Photocopy of your official Phi Theta Kappa membership card/certificate (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Copies of any educational plans, request for course substitution forms, etc. if applicable.

10. \_\_\_\_\_ Email all materials in item 9 to [ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu](mailto:ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu) by the December 31, 2020 application filing deadline.

11. The top 30 ranked applicants will be notified regarding the ACT Work Keys Fit and Talent Assessments for the next step in the application process.

12. Ranking of applicants is completed and notification emails are sent by April 1st.