

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MR)

Advanced Technical Certificate

Candidates must hold an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree or higher in Radiography, Sonography, Vascular Sonography, Nuclear Medicine or Radiation Therapy. Additionally, applicants must possess current certification through the American Registry for Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) in one of the above disciplines or through the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS).

Program Overview

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MR) utilizes a magnetic field and computer-generated radio waves to create high-resolution images of organs and tissues within the body. The purpose of the MRI ATC Program is to educate and train registered imaging technologists in all aspects of MRI, preparing them to become competent candidates for the ARRT post-primary certification.

The program combines hybrid didactic instruction with onsite clinical rotations, enabling students to apply theoretical knowledge in real-world settings. This advanced health professions certification integrates work-based learning experiences that support the synthesis of new concepts, reinforce prior knowledge, and promote proficiency in performing MRI examinations.

Program Details

The program totals 30 semester credit hours and is designed to be completed over three semesters. Admission is only offered during the Spring term.

1st Term (Spring)

- RADR 2340 – Sectional Anatomy (***Online***)
- MRIT 2330 – Principles of MRI (***Lecture: Online; Lab: In-person***)
- MRIT 1471 – MRI Procedures (***Lecture: Online; Lab: In-person***)
- MRIT 2460 – Practicum I (***20-hours/week***)

2nd Term (Summer)

- MRIT 2334 – MRI Equipment & Methodology (***Online***)
- MRIT 2355 – Magnetic Resonance Imaging & Physics (***Online***)
- MRIT 2266 – Practicum II (***20-hours/week***)

3rd Term (Fall)

- MRIT 2274 – MRI Pathology (***Online***)
- MRIT 2375 – MRI Technology Seminar (***Online***)
- MRIT 2367 – Practicum III (***24-hours/week***)

Application Requirements

To be considered for admission into the program, applicants must meet the following criteria and submit all required documentation by the published deadline:

1. College Admission

Be fully admitted to San Jacinto College prior to submitting a program application.

2. Transcripts

If you are a transfer student, submit official college transcripts to Enrollment Services for evaluation. Transcripts must include all program courses associated with your ARRT certification.

3. Gather Required Documents (to be uploaded with your application)

- Official transcripts from all colleges attended, including SJC
- ARRT or ARDMS Certification (must include number & expiration)
- [Verification of Imaging Technologist Experience Form](#) (**applicants must have at least 6 months of radiologic clinical experience within 5 years of program start**)
- What-If/Degree Evaluation for Advanced Technology Cert (degree) in Med Rad-Magnetic Res Imag ATC

4. Complete Application Form

Submit the official program application online, along with all required documents, during the designated application period.

Application Period (Spring Enrollment Only)

Applications must be submitted online during the designated period: **September 1st through October 15th**. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Post-Acceptance Clinical Requirements

All accepted applicants must upload the following documentation to the clinical management system prior to starting the program. Note: additional clinical requirements may be mandated by individual sites.

- Drug/Alcohol Screening
- Criminal Background Check
- Physical Examination (must use the SJC Medical Imaging form)
- Positive MMR, Hepatitis B, & Varicella Titers
- Documentation of Any Communicable Diseases
- Hepatitis C Test
- Annual TB Screening
- Seasonal Flu Vaccine
- Proof of Health Insurance
- AHA CPR-BLS

Approximate Program Costs

- Tuition: \$2,490 in-district (\$83/SCH) OR \$4,320 out-of-district (\$144/SCH)
- Books and/or Supplies: \$350
- Clinical Management Systems: \$260

MRI Safety Protocols

The magnetic field generated by a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) system is extremely powerful and can attract ferromagnetic objects with significant force, potentially resulting in serious injury or death. MRI safety risks include, but are not limited to, retained metal fragments from previous metal work and implanted medical devices containing a battery or power source, such as pain pumps, insulin pumps, battery-powered hearing aids, and pacemakers. Due to these safety concerns, all students must undergo comprehensive MRI safety screening prior to participation in the MRI Program.

Pre-Enrollment Screening

Students selected for admission to the MRI Program are required to attend a mandatory pre-enrollment session prior to program entry. During this session, students receive formal instruction on magnetic resonance safety and complete the Magnetic Resonance Safety Screening Form. Student responses are reviewed by a San Jacinto College Medical Imaging faculty member registered in Magnetic Resonance Imaging through the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT). Students will sign the form and acknowledge their understanding of the potential hazards of MRI.

Students with Identified Contraindications

Students identified as having possible contraindications to MRI exposure based on the Magnetic Resonance Safety Screening Form are not permitted to enter any MRI areas or departments prior to additional screening at assigned clinical education centers. Before beginning each assigned clinical rotation, the student must be screened on-site by the clinical education center's MRI technologist in accordance with facility-specific MRI safety policies. The form must be signed by the screening technologist and returned to the Program Director. This screening is required at every clinical site prior to entering MRI Zones III or IV.

Ongoing Safety Requirements

All MRI program students will be required to:

- Complete the MRI Safety Screening Form and sign a written acknowledgment of the potential hazards associated with MRI environments prior to program admission.
- Complete the MRI Safety Module within the clinical orientation curriculum and achieve a 100% score on the associated MRI safety assessment quiz prior to entering any clinical MRI setting.
- Complete on-site screening by MRI technologist at assigned clinical education center prior to starting clinical rotation (Students identified with contraindications to MRI exposure).
- Notify program officials of any changes in Medical History and resubmit Magnetic Resonance Safety Screening Form.

Contraindications and Program Eligibility

Students with MRI contraindications, including, but not limited to, retained metal fragments from previous metal work or implanted devices containing a battery or power source (e.g., pain pumps, insulin pumps, battery-powered hearing aids, pacemakers)—may be restricted from entering MRI environments. In such cases, students may be unable to complete the clinical requirements of the MRI Program, which may prevent successful program completion.

Questions

Questions related to MRI safety should be submitted to: MagneticResonanceImagingAAS@sjcd.edu.