

Merritt College
Radiologic Science Program
[Radiologic Science \(merritt.edu\)](http://merritt.edu)

For a comprehensive understanding of the program, we encourage you to explore our website.

General Information: The purpose of the Merritt College Radiologic Science Program is to prepare qualified practitioners for competency in the art and science of medical imaging. Radiologic Technologists manipulate sophisticated technical equipment and computers to obtain detailed images of the human body. These images assist physicians in the diagnosis of injury and disease in the clinical environment. Radiologic Technologists work in hospitals, clinics, imaging centers, and physician's offices. A successful and competent Radiologic Technologist is one who works well as a team member, thinks critically, solves problems creatively, possesses strong technical skills, and cares for patients with sensitivity and compassion. The technologist must be flexible and able to work with patients from diverse cultural backgrounds with various needs, abilities, injuries, and disease processes. The program's student learning outcomes focus on developing these important qualities and skills in program graduates.

Upon completion of the program graduates will be able to:

1. Produce diagnostic quality medical images in a competent, safe, and compassionate manner for all basic radiography examinations in a hospital work environment.
2. Communicate effectively with patients by taking appropriate histories, giving clear instructions, and providing information as needed.
3. Communicate in a professional manner with hospital staff, instructors, and peers.
4. Exercise critical thinking and problem-solving skills by adapting radiologic procedures to individual patient needs and conditions.
5. Establish and maintain satisfactory professional relationships with other members of the health care team.
6. Function as an effective health care team member by providing services in a manner that complements those performed by other team members.
7. Demonstrate a commitment to professional development.

The **Associate of science (AS) degree and the Certificate in Radiologic Science** will be awarded upon satisfactory completion of the Prerequisite requirements, the General Education requirements, and the Major course requirements.

- The certificate-only option is available only to those who have already earned an associate degree or higher.

All students must submit a petition for either a certificate or the associate degree (or both) to Admissions and Records by the deadline for summer graduation to officially complete the program and qualify for the licensing exam and for employment.

The program curriculum encompasses clinical internships at multiple hospitals in the East Bay area. It is a non-stop, two-year program. Prospective students should be ready to dedicate approximately 36 hours per week during the day for two consecutive years, including summers. After successfully finishing the necessary Radiologic Science courses and meeting the associate degree requirements of Merritt College or its equivalent, students become eligible to apply for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists examination. This exam is a prerequisite for licensure and practice in California. Once they complete the program and secure the California certificate, graduates are eligible for jobs as Radiologic Technologists. They can perform a broad range of patient radiographic procedures in various settings such as hospitals, clinics, medical offices, and imaging centers.

The program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology, 20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 2850, Chicago, IL 60606-3182 (www.jrcert.org), and the California Department of Public Health, Radiologic Health Branch, MS 7610, PO Box 997414, Sacramento, CA 95899-7414 (<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/Pages/RadiologicHealthBranch.aspx>).

Enrollment

The program will not be accepting any applications in Spring 2024 and Spring 2025. In Spring 2023, the program received applications from sixty (60) students. The applicants from Spring 2023 will be given priority for acceptance before any new applications are considered. The upcoming class will commence the program on August 21, 2023, and conclude on August 15, 2025.

The program will resume accepting new applications starting from Spring 2026, and from then on, new applications will be accepted annually from February 15 to April 15.

All courses that are considered for enrollment must be finalized before the application deadline. All necessary documents must be submitted by April 15 of the application year. Please note that due to the high volume of applications, eligible students typically wait 1-3 years before they are admitted into the program.

A. Eligibility Requirements:

1. Applicants must have completed high school, passed the GED test, or its equivalent, and be able to provide proof of the same.
2. All prerequisite courses must be completed before applying, with a minimum grade of “C” in each course and an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher.
3. All general education requirements for the associate degree must be met. Students who already hold an associate degree or a higher degree satisfy this requirement. Due to the large number of applicants, those who have not fulfilled this requirement will not be admitted to the program.
4. Students are required to obtain medical clearance at their own cost and provide proof of immunity to diseases such as hepatitis, diphtheria, tetanus, polio, rubeola, rubella, mumps, and chickenpox before enrolling in the program. The Covid-19 vaccine is strongly recommended and many of our clinical sites require it for clinical education placement. A negative Tuberculosis screen (either a PPD skin test or Chest X-ray) is also a prerequisite for enrollment in the program. Accepted students will receive instructions for this process, which must be completed before the program begins.
5. Prior to enrollment, students must undergo a drug screen and background check at their own expense. Students with a history of illegal substance abuse and/or felony convictions, including abuse or fraud, may be barred from participating in clinical education and from taking the ARRT licensing examination. Other offenses may also lead to exclusion from clinical education (at the discretion of the clinical affiliate) and/or the licensing examination. Students with such histories must complete a pre-application review with the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (www.arrt.org, 651-687-0048 ext. 580). Students who fail to obtain a provisional clearance with the ARRT will not be allowed to join the program.

B. Application Procedures:

After finishing the prerequisite and General Education courses, applicants should:

1. Arrange an appointment with the Radiologic Science application evaluator during the application period, which runs from March 15 to April 15. This can be done by contacting the Allied Health program assistant in room S343 of the Science Building or by emailing wkarim@peralta.edu.
2. Bring the following documents to the appointment with the application evaluator:
 - a. Two official, unopened transcripts from all colleges attended outside the Peralta Community College District.
 - b. A copy of high school transcripts or proof of high school completion, such as a copy of the diploma or GED certificate or equivalent.
3. Once eligibility is verified, the application evaluator will fill out a “Permit to Apply” form and provide the student with an application.
4. Applicants are responsible for submitting the application, proof of high school completion or GED, and required transcripts from all colleges attended to the application evaluator or to the Allied Health Office in room S343 of the Science Building on the Merritt Campus, 12500 Campus Drive, Oakland, CA 94619, by the April 15 deadline. Applications will not be considered for students who have not completed all prerequisite courses and/or all General Education requirements by the application deadline.

5. The evaluator will submit the completed application packet directly to the Radiologic Science Program. The packet includes:
 - a. "Permit to Apply" and verification of prerequisite and General Education courses.
 - b. Completed Radiologic Science Program Application.
 - c. Two official transcripts from all colleges attended outside the Peralta Community Colleges.
 - d. Proof of high school completion or GED.
6. Incomplete application packets will not be considered.

Post-Admission Requirement:

Before the start of the program, students are required to clear a drug test, background verification, medical examination, and a CPR class. They must also provide evidence of immunity to infectious diseases, all at their own cost. Detailed instructions for fulfilling these requirements will be provided to students upon their acceptance into the program.

Prerequisite Requirements

Before applying to the program, students must have successfully completed four prerequisite courses, each with a grade of "C" or higher. Furthermore, the average GPA for these four prerequisite courses must be at least 2.5. The prerequisites are as follows:

A. Survey of Radiologic Science, RADSC 1A: This course is mandatory and cannot be waived under any circumstances. It must be taken at Merritt College to be considered valid.

B. Intermediate Algebra, Math 203 or higher: An equivalent course can be taken at other colleges.

C. Anatomy and Physiology: This must be a two-semester course, totaling a minimum of 8 units, and must include a lab component. An equivalent course can be taken at other colleges.

At Merritt College, there are two qualifying options:

- Bio 20A AND 20B (5 units each, 10 units total)
- Bio 2 AND Bio 4 (5 units each, 10 units total)

Additional Eligibility Requirement:

All general education requirements for the associate degree must be fulfilled. Students who already hold an associate degree or a higher degree satisfy this requirement.

Highly Recommended Preparation

Computer Proficiency Expectations

Students joining the program should be proficient in using Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, email and internet navigation. Those who lack these skills should refer to point #1 below.

Additional Recommendations

The following specific courses and experiences are suggested as preparatory for the program. Although they are not mandatory for enrollment, completing these courses before entering the program may enhance the chances of successful program completion.

Recommended Coursework:

1. **Introduction to Computer Information Systems (CIS 1 at Merritt)** or an equivalent course(s). The course or a combination of courses should lead to proficiency in the use of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint presentation software, internet navigation, and email.
2. **Higher Mathematics** (such as College Algebra, Pre-Calculus, or Calculus).
3. **Physics** courses such as Introduction to Physics, General Physics, or Physics of Radiation and/or Electromagnetism.
4. **Medical Terminology.**
5. **Professional or Business Communications.**
6. For students who are not highly proficient in spoken and written English, English as Second Language **ESL courses** are strongly recommended.

The suggested coursework might fulfill some of the General Education requirements. It is advisable for students to consult with a counselor at Merritt College for proper planning.

Recommended Experiences as an Employee or Volunteer:

1. Prior work experience in a healthcare setting, ideally with direct patient care.
 2. Experience in customer service, particularly involving in-person interaction and communication with the public.
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Student Selection Process

If the number of eligible applicants surpasses the number of available spots in the program, a lottery system will be employed for student selection. For detailed information about the student selection process for a specific application period, you can refer to the “Program Status Statement” on the Radiologic Science website. The program typically admits around 24 students each year, depending on the number of clinical placements available at partner sites. All applicants will be informed about their acceptance status.

Degree Major/Certificate Requirements

<u>FIRST YEAR</u>			<u>UNITS</u>
First Semester (Fall)	RADSC 1B	Introduction to Radiologic Science (Lecture)	2
	RADSC 1C	Introduction to Rad. Science (Clinical Education)	2.5
	RADSC 2A	Radiographic Physics I	2
	RADSC 3A	Positioning I	4
	RADSC 5A	Patient Care I	3
Second Semester (Spring)	RADSC 2B	Radiographic Physics II	4
	RADSC 3B	Positioning II	4
	RADSC 9A	Clinical Experience I (16 hours per week)	4
Third Semester (Summer)	RADSC 4A	Radiation Protection	2
	RADSC 4B	Radiobiology	2
	RADSC 10A	Seminars in Radiologic Science I	1.5
	RADSC 9B	Clinical Experience II (24 hours per week)	4
 <u>SECOND YEAR</u>			
Fourth Semester (Fall)	RADSC 2C	Computer/Digital Applications for Medical Imaging	4
	RADSC 5B	Patient Care II	3
	RADSC 9C	Clinical Experience III (24 hours per week)	6
Fifth Semester (Spring)	RADSC 6	Quality Management/Fluoroscopy	2.5
	RADSC 7	Advanced Imaging Procedures	3
	RADSC 8	Sectional Anatomy & Radiographic Pathology	4
	RADSC 9D	Clinical Experience IV (24 hours per week)	6
Sixth Semester (Summer)	RADSC 10B	Seminars in Radiologic Science II	1.5
	RADSC 9E	Clinical Experience V (36 hours per week)	6
<i>TOTAL UNITS</i>			<i>71</i>

For more information, visit our website at [Radiologic Science \(merritt.edu\)](http://Radiologic Science (merritt.edu))

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