



Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences

Echocardiography Program



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences (MCSHS) Echocardiography program prepares students to function as independent cardiac sonographers after 21 months of dedicated training. Echocardiography refers to the use of high frequency sound waves to assess cardiovascular anatomy, function and blood flow. A cardiovascular sonographer who is trained in the field of echocardiography performs the exam, working closely with patients throughout the procedure. Cardiac sonographers

operate sophisticated equipment that collects reflected echoes and Doppler signals from structures within the heart and blood flowing through the heart. Two-dimensional or three-dimensional images are generated from reflected echoes within the heart and Doppler profiles are generated from red blood cells flowing through the heart. Cardiac sonographers analyze the collected information and present the findings to physicians trained in echocardiography to aid in the diagnosis of various heart diseases and conditions.

PROGRAM DETAILS



21

Month program



Rochester | Minnesota Campus
Arizona | Phoenix Campus

Items within this content were created prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and do not demonstrate proper pandemic protocols. Please follow all recommended CDC guidelines for masking and social distancing.

PROGRAM ADMISSIONS AND DEGREE OPTIONS

The MCSHS Echocardiography Program accepts up to 14 students between the two campuses. You must submit your application and all supporting documentation between November 1 and January 15, and classes begin in August.

There are three options for students applying to the MCSHS Echocardiography program:

- 1 Certificate option – Students who have earned an associate degree or higher and have completed the prerequisite coursework may apply through MCSHS for the certificate option.
- 2 BSHP option – This option is for students in Rochester, Minnesota who wish to earn the Bachelor of Science in Health Professions (BSHP) degree from the University of Minnesota Rochester (UMR). To apply, complete the UMR application for admission. BSHP students are jointly admitted to UMR and MCSHS and do not need a separate application for admission to MCSHS.
- 3 Other Bachelor Degree Options - This option is for students in Rochester or Arizona who wish to earn a Bachelor degree from Saint Mary's University, University of Wisconsin River Falls, or Arizona State University. To apply, complete the MCSHS application for admission after completing the prerequisite courses outlined per the University.



CURRICULUM

Students participate in didactic courses, scanning labs and supervised clinical experiences that are integrated throughout the 21-month training program. Didactic lectures are offered in a blended learning format using recorded lectures, interactive activities and face-to-face discussion sessions. Face-to-face sessions are presented over an interactive video conferencing system so learners at off-site campuses may participate in classroom discussion. Scanning labs provide the ability to practice technical components of the profession on fellow classmates in a simulated and supervised environment before applying concepts to actual patients. Students will participate in supervised clinical experiences performing various exams on actual patients and will be exposed to a variety of cardiac pathologies.

Hours of attendance - Students are in attendance no more than 40 hours per week. Generally, all face-to-face classroom sessions, supervised scanning labs and clinical rotations

are held Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. A detailed schedule is developed for each term to determine actual hours of attendance. Occasionally, students are expected to attend evening seminars and weekend conferences to supplement learning. Advance notice and compensation time is provided to prevent students from attending more than 40 hours per week.

APPLICATION

Employment of cardiac sonographers is expected to grow at a rate much faster than average over the next decade. This predicted job growth will occur as the population ages, because the elderly have a higher incidence of cardiovascular diseases.

Please visit our website to find out more information on

- Admission Requirements
- Application Process
- Curriculum
- Faculty
- Program Contacts
- Tuition and Financial Aid