

COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY

Technical Certificate



Program and Career Description:

Computed Tomography (CT) Technologists are Radiologic Technologists with specialized training who use a rotating x-ray unit and sophisticated computers to obtain detailed, cross-sectional images of patient anatomy. The images can demonstrate tissue, bones, organs, and blood vessels. The CT technologist prepares images for use by physicians in diagnosing medical conditions. CT imaging can also be used with biopsies, treatment planning, or interventional procedures. The CT technologist is responsible for imaging, patient care, equipment operation, and safety for both patients and personnel.

Salary Information:

2013 National Base Annual Compensation (Mean): \$63,545
2013 Tennessee Full Time Compensation (Mean): \$54,901

Career and salary information taken from www.bls.gov. Check out this web site for additional information about education requirements and preferred work styles and abilities for these careers. Salaries are not guaranteed.

How long is the certificate?

Students enrolled in the Computed Tomography (CT) Technical Certificate will be full-time, 16 semester credit hours, for one semester. The certificate includes online didactic courses and clinical requirements completed at a variety of clinical affiliates. Clinical assignments are made through agreements between Columbia State, the proposed affiliate, and the individual student.

What does the certificate provide?

- Online didactic instruction and clinical competency development.
- Supervised practical experience in approved clinical facilities.
- Clinical procedure volume and variety which meets/exceeds American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) exam eligibility requirements.
- Life-long learning experiences applicable to ARRT continuing education requirements for primary discipline renewal.

www.columbiastate.edu/radiologic-technology

Opportunities

Columbia State's Computed Tomography certificate prepares the post-graduate registered technologist to use specialized equipment to visualize cross-sectional anatomical structures and aid physicians in the demonstration of pathologies and disease processes. The certificate is a specialty for ARRT registered radiographers, Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) nuclear medicine technologists or radiation therapists. Academic and clinical studies prepare technologists to provide patient care and perform studies utilizing imaging equipment, professional communication and quality assurance in scheduled and emergency procedures. Completers may be eligible to sit for the ARRT post-primary certification exam in Computed Tomography. Examples of places CT Technologists may find employment include trauma centers, hospitals, clinics, urgent care centers, mobile imaging services, commercial sales or applications.



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Admission Process

- Applicants must meet all college general requirements for admission as a degree-seeking student as stated in the catalog.
- In addition to completing the application process for admission to Columbia State, students seeking admission to the Computed Tomography Certificate must also submit the Computed Tomography Certificate application by July 1. Applications will be accepted between April 15 and July 1 annually. Applications received after July 1 may be considered if space remains in the class.
- Applicants must be graduates of an accredited Radiologic Technology or Nuclear Medicine program and eligible for or certified/registered by the ARRT or NMTCB. **Transcripts and copies of certification are required.**
- Admission to the program is not guaranteed. Class size is limited. The class will be filled with candidates on a first qualified (all requirements completed), first admitted basis.

Students enrolling in the clinical course (RAD 230) must submit documentation of the following to the division's Health Records Clerk prior to the first day of the semester:

- Evidence of good health by returning a completed Physical Examination form. Required forms will be provided to students upon the offer of a seat in the class.
- Students must provide a current negative 2-step TB skin test and/or chest x-ray
- Evidence of Immunizations/Immunity for:
 - Rubella (positive titer)
 - Rubeola (positive titer)
 - Varicella zoster (chicken pox) (documentation of two doses OR positive titer)
 - Completed Hepatitis B Vaccine series or titer
 - Tetanus/diphtheria booster within the past ten years
- Current Basic Cardiac Life Support (BCLS) for the healthcare professional
- Malpractice insurance is required for the clinical component. A group policy is available. The fee for the required group policy is assessed as part of tuition/fees.
- Criminal Background check clearance by clinical site.
- A negative 10-panel drug screen is required

Advanced Standing

Radiologic Technologists credentialed by the ARRT who have independently performed whole-body computed tomography an equivalent of one year full-time within the past three years may qualify for advanced standing for the clinical education component. Competence in the performance of computed tomography of the head, neck, spine, chest, abdomen, pelvis and musculoskeletal system must be documented.

Required Courses

RAD 210	Computed Tomography Patient Management	4 hours
RAD 220	Computed Tomography Physics	4 hours
RAD 230	Computed Tomography Clinic	8 hours

Requirements for Graduation include:

- Total certificate hours must be at least 16
- earning 25% of total program credits in residence at Columbia State
- GPA of at least 2.0 in courses required for the certificate.
- Earn a minimum of "C" in required courses.

For more information contact:

radtech@columbiastate.edu

or

Health Sciences Division office

931.540.2600 or 931.540.2599

**Detailed information is also available via
www.columbiastate.edu/radiologic-technology**

For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program and other important information, please visit our web site at <http://www.columbiastate.edu/IR/Gainful%20Employment/Tomography/gedt.html>