Radiography

General description: The mission of the Richland Community College Radiography Program is to provide students with classroom, lab, and clinical experiences that enable them to achieve entry-level knowledge, skills, patient care, safety, and professional values needed to succeed in a Medical Imaging profession. The program prepares students to use ionizing radiation safely to produce images of the tissue, organs, bones, and vessels of the human body. Radiographers must have a thorough understanding of anatomy, radiographic procedures, image production, patient care, and radiation protection. Some of the program courses may not transfer to four-year institutions.

Unlike many academic and career and technical education programs at Richland, admission into the Radiography Program is selective and competitive. Admission to Richland Community College does not guarantee acceptance to the program.

Students must meet the minimum admission criteria to be eligible to apply. Once the criteria have been met, students are scored on a rubric based on academic achievements; and the students with the highest scores are offered conditional admission.

The Radiography Program follows the Health Professions' selective admissions process. Students use the online Pre-Advisement Plan on myRichland to submit an application during the designated application period. Applications are accepted December 15 – March 1. Late and out-of-district applicants are considered for the program when space is available. The Radiography Program admits to the summer semester.

Sample of job titles with this degree: To gain employment as a radiographer, most employers require certification of RT(R) by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT), and many states including Illinois have licensure. Once the RT(R) is obtained, graduates may work in hospitals, clinics, imaging centers, doctor's offices, and surgery centers as staff radiographers. Other opportunities for employment include computed tomography (CT), Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Interventional Radiology, and Cardiac Catheterization lab. With an additional year of schooling, registered radiographers may also become sonographers, radiation therapists, or nuclear medicine technologists. Opportunities in management, sales, and education are also available after obtaining a bachelor's degree.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a national increase of 12% from 2016 to 2026 for radiological technologists, faster than the average for all occupations. In Illinois the projected growth is 1.7%. In 2017, the Illinois median hourly wage was $30.37 per hour.

This is a career and technical education program.

Prerequisites to Apply:

1. Eligibility for ENGL 101 Composition I.
2. Eligibility for MATH 110 or "C" or better in Math 099.
3. Complete the Nelson Denny Reading Test with score of 120 or greater in reading comprehension only. .
4. Complete RADT 101 with a "C" or better. RADT 101 is offered in the fall and spring.
5. Meet ACT minimum subs scores and composite; Reading (15) Math (15) English (15) Science Reasoning (20) Composite (21) or SAT equivalent; OR complete all general education courses prior to beginning the program (BIOL 201, 202, ENGL 101, PHYS 100).
6. Have a "C" or better in all prerequisites and program courses and maintain a minimum 2.5 Program GPA. For admission, the Program GPA is calculated using the grades and credits earned in completed Radiography general education requirement plus RADT 101. Transfer and Richland credits are used in calculating the Program GPA.

Student Transfer from another Radiography Program:
Any student wishing to transfer into the program must apply for College admission and program admission. Transfer credits are evaluated and transfer of credit occurs through College policy. Such transfer shall be subject to the availability of an appropriate clinical placement, student admission procedures, and Program Director approval.

Degree Completion Program for RT (R) (ARRT):
Registered radiographers may be eligible for an associate's degree completion program if they meet the following:

1. Have five years' experience in radiography.
2. Hold a current ARRT registration AND IEMA Division of Nuclear Safety license.
3. Be a graduate of an accredited hospital-based or certificate radiography program.
4. Apply for admission to Richland Community College.
5. Submit transcripts from radiography program and any colleges attended to Richland Community College Student Records Office.

If all of the above are satisfied, students may apply for transfer credit without examination by completing the following:

1. Applying for degree completion to the Radiography Program Director.
2. Completing a minimum of eighteen credit hours of general education with a grade of "C" or better of which at least fifteen credit hours must be completed at Richland. English Composition I and Physics of the Modern World must be included.
3. Submitting an Application for Graduation.

Transfer credit for all core radiography courses is awarded when all of the above are satisfied. Transfer credit is not included in computing the student's GPA at Richland.

Licensure/certification:
After successful completion of all didactic and clinical competency requirements, students are eligible to seek certification from the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT). In addition to the educational standards, students must meet and agree to comply with the organization's ethical and character standards before sitting for the certification exam. Students wishing to practice within Illinois must also seek accreditation from the IEMA Division of Nuclear Safety.

Graduation Requirements: Radiography program students must also complete all of the following in order to graduate:

- Earn a grade of "C" or above in all program prerequisites and program courses.
- Maintain a minimum 2.5 Program GPA.
- Complete all lab competencies with minimum score of 84%.
- Complete all clinical proficiency exams required by the program.
- Meet standards of the ARRT/ASRT Code of Professional Ethics.
- Complete all clinical proficiency exams required by ARRT.
- Return film ID markers and film badge holder or make reimbursement.

Suggested Full-Time Course Sequence:

Summer Semester	Credit Hours
RADT 102	3
RADT 108	3
Fall Semester	
RADT 110	3
RADT 115	3.5
RADT 118	3
PHYS 100	4
Spring Semester	
RADT 120	3
RADT 125	4.5
RADT 128	3
BIOL 201	4
BIOL 201	4

Summer Semester	
RADT 155	3.5
Fall Semester	
RADT 215	4.5
RADT 218	3
RADT 219	3
BIOL 202	4
Spring Semester	
RADT 225	3.5
RADT 228	3
RADT 230	3
ENGL 101	3

Additional Program Information:

Admitted students with the minimum ACT/SAT sub scores may complete the Radiography general education courses in program. The general education courses must be completed with a "C" or better prior to or during the semester in which they are outlined. All AAS degrees include a required minimum of 15 general education credits.

Radiography Courses		Credit Hours	Radiography AAS 050B
BIOL 201	Human Anatomy & Physiology 1	4	X
BIOL 202	Haman Anatomy & Physiology 2	4	X
ENGL 101	Composition 1	3	X
PHYS 100	Physics of the Modern World	4	X
RADT 101	Introduction to Radiography	4	X
RADT 102	Radiologic Patient Care	3	X
RADT 108	Radiographic Procedures I	3	X
RADT 110	Principles of Radiography I	3	X
RADT 115	Radiography Clinical I	3.5	X
RADT 118	Radiographic Procedures II	3	X
RADT 120	Principles of Radiography II	3	X
RADT 125	Radiography Clinical II	4.5	X
RADT 126	Imaging Equipment	3	X
RADT 128	Radiographic Procedures III	3	X
RADT 155	Radiography Clinical III	3.5	X
RADT 215	Radiography Clinical IV	4.5	X
RADT 218	Radiographic Procedures IV	3	X
RADT 219	Radiation Protection & Radiobiology	3	X
RADT 225	Radiography Clinical V	3.5	X
RADT 228	Radiographic Image Analysis	3	X
RADT 230	Radiography Seminar	3	X
Total Hours			**68.5**