Cleveland Clinic
School of Health Professions

Mercy Diagnostic Medical Sonography Admissions/Enrollment

2027-2028 Academic Year

Application Process

The Mercy Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program begins accepting applications January 1. The application deadline each year is April 1 to be considered for the Summer Semester start date. Please select 'Summer 2027' in the 'Anticipated Starting Semester' field of the application.

Please note, if the application window of the Mercy Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is closed it will not appear in the 'Program of Interest' list within the application. Applicants will only be able to submit their application when the application window is open.

Technical Standards

To be successful in the Mercy Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program, applicants and current students must meet the following technical standards with or without reasonable accommodation.

Required Skills and Abilities

- Strong organizational skills
- Effective verbal communication skills
- Interpersonal and professional interaction skills
- Customer service and customer-relations skills
- Mathematical competency
- Analytical and problem-solving skills
- Ability to read and comprehend written instructions
- Ability to receive, interpret, and respond appropriately to instructions in clinical settings

Mental and Emotional Requirements

- Manage stress effectively
- Make timely and appropriate decisions under pressure
- Prioritize and manage multiple responsibilities simultaneously
- Function safely and effectively in confined or crowded work areas

Physical Requirements

- Medium Work**:** Exert up to 50-lbs. force occasionally, and/or up to 20 lbs. frequently, and/or up to 10 lbs. constantly
- Ability to perform work in a stationary position for extended periods
- Ability to travel through the hospital system
- Ability to perform repetitive tasks/motions
- Ability to distinguish colors
- Ability to detect anatomy and pathology on the ultrasound screen
- Ability to respond to alarms, telephone, normal speaking voice
- Ability to operate sonography equipment

Requirements

To be eligible to enroll in the Mercy Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program, applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Hold a Bachelor's degree in any field **or** Associate's degree from an accredited institution in a healthcare field with direct patient care
2. Complete the following prerequisite coursework with a minimum grade of "C" or higher from an accredited institution:
    - General Physics or DMS Physics-based course
    - English, a Public Speaking/Communications Course, or a Major Specific Composition Course
    - Medical Terminology
    - Human Disease *(Minimum 3 semester credits or 4 quarter credits)*
    - College-level Algebra or any higher-level mathematics course (e.g. Trigonometry, Calculus, etc.) or math-based Statistics
    - Human Anatomy and Physiology I *(Minimum 3 semester credits or 4 quarter credits)*
    - Human Anatomy and Physiology II, or Human Structure & Function, or Human Biology *(Minimum 3 semester credits or 4 quarter credits)*
3. Achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5
4. Maintain current American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support (BLS) certification (*please see Conditional Admittance section if you do not currently have a BLS certification).*

When an applicant repeats a prerequisite course, the program will consider the grade earned in the most recent attempt for admission and GPA calculations. For example, if a student initially earns a "C" and later earns an "F" in the same course, the program will use the "F" as the official grade for admissions/evaluation purposes.

When scoring the application if there is more than one course that could meet a prerequisite, the most recent course will be used for scoring.

Conditional Admittance

Applicants who have not completed all prerequisite courses by the application deadline but are actively enrolled in them at the time of application, may still apply to the program. Applicants must provide documentation confirming enrollment in all prerequisite courses at the time of application.

To remain eligible for the program, applicants must successfully complete all prerequisites and must submit an updated official transcript before the first day of the program demonstrating:

- A minimum grade of “C” or higher
- Achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5
    - General Physics or DMS Physics-based course
    - English, a Public Speaking/Communications Course, or a Major Specific Composition Course
    - Medical Terminology
    - Human Disease
    - College-level Algebra or any higher-level mathematics course (e.g. Trigonometry, Calculus, etc.) or math-based Statistics
    - Human Anatomy and Physiology I
    - Human Anatomy and Physiology II, or Human Structure & Function, or Human Biology

American Heart Association (AHA) BLS certification is required for enrollment into the program but will not be asked for at the time of application. Once officially accepted into the program, you will be prompted to upload your certificate to the Campus Cafe applicant portal prior to the start of the program. Training from the following provider(s) is accepted:

- American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support

Failure to complete and submit valid certification before the first day of the program will render the applicant ineligible to begin the program.

If you have questions, please contact the Registrar at SOHPRegistrar@ccf.org for clarification.

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Admission Documents and Requirements

An applicant is required to complete the following items after submitting their initial application in Campus Cafe in order for their application to be considered. Please note that documents marked with an asterisk (*) are **not** considered during the evaluation of applications and will **not** affect an applicant's eligibility or admission decision. They are required, however, for administrative purposes. To begin, please select 'Summer 2027' in the 'Anticipated Starting Semester' field of the application.

1. Submit your non-refundable $20.00 application fee payment in Momentus and upload a copy of your payment confirmation to your applicant portal in Campus Cafe.*
2. Upload a copy of your current American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support certification to your applicant portal in Campus Cafe.**
3. Complete a prerequisite course completion form and upload the completed form to your applicant portal in Campus Cafe (Prerequisite course completion form found on the Admissions webpage).
4. If the applicant's native language is not English, official scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the Duolingo English Test (DET) are required. Applicants must meet one of the following minimum score requirements:

    1. **TOEFL (Original Scoring):**
    Minimum overall score of 75, with writing and speaking scores of at least 17 each, or

    2. **TOEFL (New Scoring):**
    Minimum overall score of 3.5, with a writing score of at least 4 and a speaking score of at least 3, or

    3. **Duolingo English Test (DET):**
    Minimum overall score of 105

    - If applicable, complete the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or Duolingo English Test (DET) and upload a copy of your results to your applicant portal in Campus Cafe.

    - The English Proficiency exam cannot be waived based on prior learning or work experience. This policy ensures that all students meet the same standardized language requirements, which supports academic success and helps maintain fairness and consistency in the admissions process.

5. Request two completed reference forms from the two individuals you have selected as references. Reference forms are required to be submitted by the selected reference via email to MercyDMSProgram@ccf.org. The completed forms will be uploaded to your applicant portal by program administration (Reference form found on the Admissions webpage).

6. Request official academic transcripts. You are required to submit official transcripts from every school you have attended. High school transcripts are not required. Once received, the transcripts will be uploaded to your applicant portal by program administration.
    - Domestic transcripts can be submitted through one of two methods:
        1. Electronic (preferred): request delivery to MercyDMSProgram@ccf.org
        2. By mail (all paper transcripts must be submitted in an official sealed envelope):

           Cleveland Clinic Mercy Hospital
           Mercy Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program
           Attention: Susan Bielanski
           1320 Mercy Drive NW
           Canton, OH 44708

    - International transcripts must be evaluated by World Education Services (WES) on a course-by-course basis. Evaluations are a required component since they determine how your academics are graded compared to the U.S. education system. Be sure to follow the steps below to secure your credential evaluation:

        1. Applicants can create a WES account by visiting: https://applications.wes.org/createaccount/login/login
        2. Select the course-by-course evaluation option to ensure that your evaluation meets our requirements for admission review.
        3. To ensure that Cleveland Clinic receives an official copy of your evaluation, select ”Cleveland Clinic” from the drop-down on the “Select Recipient” page.

7. Applicants who plan to complete one or more prerequisite courses after submitting their application but before the program begins must provide proof of

course registration upon receiving a conditional offer of admission. To do so, applicants are required to contact the Registrar at SOHPRegistrar@ccf.org to request that the prerequisite field requirement be added to their Campus Café applicant portal. Additional details are outlined in the Conditional Admittance section.

**The BLS certification is an admissions document that is required to be completed prior to the beginning of the program. Please see the "Conditional Admittance" section for more information.

Enrollment Documents and Requirements

If an applicant is accepted into the program the following items are required in order to enroll in the program. Please review the health requirements before submitting your documentation.

1. Complete and sign an Enrollment Agreement in Campus Cafe via DocuSign.
2. Upload your negative tuberculosis (TB) test documentation to your applicant portal in Campus Cafe. The TB test must be completed within 12 months prior to the start of the program.
3. Upload your immunization documentation for chicken pox (varicella) or positive titer to your applicant portal in Campus Cafe.
4. Upload your immunization documentation for measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) to your applicant portal in Campus Cafe.
5. Upload your positive hepatitis B vaccination/titer or completed waiver to your applicant portal in Campus Café (Hepatitis B vaccination/titer waiver found on the Admissions webpage).
6. Upload your tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap) booster documentation to your applicant portal in Campus Cafe. The booster is required within the past 10 years.
7. Influenza immunization documentation is required during flu season (November 1 through March 31). The applicant is required to upload documentation to the applicant portal in Campus Cafe if completing their application during flu season or will be required to obtain and submit documentation when the vaccination becomes available.
8. Complete the required onboarding tasks in SilkRoad. Onboarding will include a background check. Additional information will be provided following completion of the above items.

If accepted contingent upon successful completion of prerequisite coursework, submit your official transcript showing completion of all prerequisites once they are available after the completion of spring semester. See “Conditional Admittance” section for more information.

Interview and Acceptance Procedure

All applicants interviewed for admission will be informed of the Committee's decision to accept or deny admission.

Interview scores are based on two portions.

- Application score (based on courses taken, grades, GPA)
- Panel interview, which evaluates the effectiveness of communication skills, critical thinking, and initiative of each applicant. This interview will have an average score of panel members on a set of pre-determined questions, which are the same for all applicants, and asked in the same order for all applicants.

When applicants demonstrate equivalent qualifications and interview performance, reference forms may be reviewed and used as a factor in admissions decisions.

The following items are recommended but not required for admission into the program. While they may contribute points to an applicant’s overall score, they will not carry more weight than the interview and primary application components.

- Courses that can receive points if taken in addition to required courses:
    - Medical Ethics
    - Medical courses related to an Allied Health occupation
    - Additional Communications/Speech or English equivalent courses
    - Additional Human Anatomy, Biology, or Human Structure & Functions courses
    - Additional Statistics, Algebra or higher-level Math courses
- Applicants will also receive more points if they have a Bachelor’s degree or higher.
- Applicants who have experience in a health care-related setting will also receive more points. This may include paid or volunteer roles in clinical, administrative, community health, or other environments that demonstrate familiarity with health care systems, patient care, services, or populations.

Final class selection will be made by approximately April 30 of each year.