

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL IMAGING-RADIOLOGY

# Student Handbook



2010-2011

**2010 – 2011  
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## **I. Introduction/Welcome**

Welcome to the Diagnostic Medical Imaging-Radiology program. The faculty and staff wish you success in the pursuit of your educational goals.

The Austin Community College Diagnostic Medical Imaging-Radiology Student Handbook has been compiled by the faculty to provide information pertinent to students enrolled in the Diagnostic Medical Imaging-Radiology program.

The purpose of this handbook is to detail policies and procedures specific to this program. The handbook has been constructed as a supplement to the Austin Community College Student Handbook and serves to bridge the overriding policies of the College with the policies specific to this program. The policies and procedures set forth in this handbook are designed to support the success of the student.

A copy of the Austin Community College Student Handbook is available at each campus's administrative offices or may be downloaded from the ACC website at: [www.austincc.edu/handbook/](http://www.austincc.edu/handbook/).

The Diagnostic Medical Imaging-Radiology program is just one of the programs within the Division of Health Sciences. The Health Sciences Division is comprised of the following programs: Associate Degree Nursing, Licensed Vocational Nursing, Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Medical Imaging (DMI – Radiology), Emergency Medical Services, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Physical Therapist Assistant, Medical Coding, Medical Laboratory Technology, Surgical Technology, Pharmacy Technician, and Sonography. The Division of Health Sciences is committed to providing quality educational programs for the purpose of developing successful healthcare professionals. Developing caring, competent healthcare professionals prepared for diverse contemporary practice requires interactions with patients and patient services, thereby resulting in an educational environment with unique characteristics and requirements.

The Health Sciences programs prohibit discrimination. Access to its programs or activities shall not be limited on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or disability.

## **II. Health Sciences Division Policies and Procedures**

The Austin Community College Health Science Division Policies and Procedures have been compiled by the Health Sciences faculty to provide information pertinent to all students in the Health Science programs.

These policies and procedures should be used as a supplement to the Austin Community College Student Handbook and the program specific student handbook.

The Health Sciences programs prohibit discrimination. Access to its programs or activities shall not be limited on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or disability

We wish you success in the pursuit of your educational goals.

## Policies and Procedures

Students enrolled in ACC Health Sciences programs are expected to agree to and abide by the Student Discipline Policy and Student Rights and Responsibilities regulations as outlined in the ACC Student Handbook.

### ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic integrity is an essential component of professional behavior in Health Sciences programs. Any documented incidences of academic dishonesty may result in an academic penalty up to withdrawal from the specific program.

ACC Health Sciences programs follow the college's general policies on academic integrity as set forth in the ACC Student Handbook. A copy of the student handbook is available at each campus's administrative offices, or may be downloaded from the ACC website at: <http://www.austincc.edu/handbook>

Academic work submitted by students shall be the result of their own thought, research or self-expression. For purposes of these regulations, academic work is defined as, but not limited to exams and quizzes, whether taken electronically or on paper; projects, either individual or group; papers; classroom presentations; and homework. When students borrow ideas, wording or organization from another source, they shall reference that information in an appropriate manner.

Definition:

Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

- Cheating on an exam or quiz by bringing information to the testing area (no use of cell phones or PDA's for calculation, approved calculators allowed); talking to another student during the test; looking at another student's test during the examination; or removal of privacy screen on computer.
- Plagiarizing - when students borrow ideas, wording or organization from another source, they shall reference that information in an appropriate manner.
- Unauthorized collaboration/collusion with another in preparing outside work for fulfillment of course requirements.
- Unauthorized entry into test banks or examinations.
- Assisting others in academic dishonesty.
- Sharing the details of an examination/competency check-off with other students.
- Having a copy of the examination outside the time and place of test administration or review.

## **PROGRAM PROGRESSION**

In order to successfully progress through Health Science programs, the student must:

- Complete pre-requisite courses before progressing in the program.
- Be enrolled in co-requisite courses at the same time.
  - a. Withdrawal from any co-requisite course prior to the college official withdrawal date will result in withdrawal from all other co-requisite courses regardless of the current grade in the course.
  - b. Students who fail a co-requisite course are required to retake all co-requisite courses upon readmission.
- Achieve a minimum grade of "C" in all health science courses.
- Satisfactorily meet course objectives.

## **STUDENT COMPLAINT PROCEDURE**

Health science programs follow the college's policies for student complaints as set forth in the ACC Student Handbook. A copy of the student handbook is available at each campus's administrative offices, or may be downloaded from the ACC website at:

<http://www.austincc.edu/handbook>

The purpose of the student complaint procedure is to ensure students due process in the resolution of a complaint. Student complaints may include (but are not limited to) issues regarding classroom instruction or other college services and offices as well as discrimination based on race, color, gender, religion, age, national origin, disability or sexual orientation. This procedure does not apply to student disputes about course grades which are resolved under the supervision of the appropriate instructors and instructional administrators. The program will not retaliate against the student as a result of filing a complaint

### ***Sexual and/or Racial Harassment Complaints***

If a Health Science student has a complaint regarding sexual or racial harassment then the student should refer to the ACC Student Handbook for the policy and procedure related to sexual and racial harassment. <http://www.austincc.edu/handbook/policies3.php#sexual>.

## **GRADE CHANGE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

ACC Health science programs follow the college's policies on grade change as set forth in the ACC Student Handbook. A copy of the student handbook is available at each campus's administrative offices, or may be downloaded from the ACC website at:

<http://www.austincc.edu/handbook>.

### ***Assignment of Grades***

The instructor teaching the course shall assign grades. The instructor will provide information to the students at the beginning of the semester regarding the course, including the guidelines for grading. If the student has questions about a grading policy and/or a specific grade, the student must raise the question while enrolled in the course. If the student is unable to resolve the questions or objections with the instructor, the student is to make an appointment with the department chair to discuss the matter or, if the instructor is the department chair, with the dean.

### ***Grade Change Appeal***

If a student believes that an error has been made in the assignment of a grade, he or she should follow the "Procedures to Resolve Grade Disputes" on the ACC website at: <http://www.austincc.edu/handbook/policies2.php>.

## Clinical/Practicum Policies

### PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR

Faculty of Austin Community College and the Health Sciences Programs have an academic, legal and ethical responsibility to protect members of the public and of the health care community from unsafe or unprofessional practices. Health Science students, while representing Austin Community College at any clinical agency, must conduct themselves in an ethical, professional, and safe manner. Students are expected to assume responsibility for their actions and will be held accountable for them. Students will abide by ACC and clinical agency policies during each clinical experience.

Failure to adhere to program specific policies related to professional behavior or safe clinical practice may result in the use of the Progressive Discipline Policy outlined in the (Program) Student Handbook.

### PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Students must remember that the information concerning patients is confidential. Students are required to adhere to legal and ethical standards as established by regulatory agencies and professional standards. Failure to comply with the above is cause for immediate dismissal from the program.

### SAFE/UNSAFE CLINICAL/PRACTICUM PRACTICES

The Health Sciences Programs identify safety as a basic human need. A safety need can be identified as physical, biological, and/or emotional in nature. Safe practices are a requirement of each program.

Unsafe clinical/practicum practice shall be deemed to be behavior demonstrated by the student which threatens or violates the physical, biological, or emotional safety of the patient, caregiver, students, staff or self. Unsafe or unprofessional clinical/practicum practice may result in implementation of the Progressive Discipline Policy outlined in the (Program) Student Handbook.

The following examples serve as guides to these unsafe behaviors, but are not to be considered all-inclusive.

**Physical Safety:** Unsafe behaviors include but are not limited to:

- inappropriate use of side rails, wheelchairs, other equipment
- lack of proper protection of the patient which potentiates falls, lacerations, burns, new or further injury
- failure to correctly identify patient(s) prior to initiating care

- failure to perform pre-procedure safety checks of equipment, invasive devices or patient status

**Biological Safety:** Unsafe behaviors include but are not limited to:

- failure to recognize violations in aseptic technique
- improper medication administration techniques/choices
- performing actions without appropriate supervision
- failure to seek help when needed
- attending clinical while ill
- failure to properly identify patient(s) prior to treatments

**Emotional Safety:** Unsafe behaviors include but are not limited to:

- threatening or making a patient, caregiver, or bystander fearful
- providing inappropriate or incorrect information
- performing actions without appropriate supervision
- failure to seek help when needed, unstable emotional behaviors

**Unprofessional Practice:** Unprofessional behaviors include but are not limited to:

- Verbal or non-verbal language, actions, or voice inflections which compromise rapport and working relations with patients, family members, staff, or physicians, may potentially compromise contractual agreements and/or working relations with clinical affiliates, or constitute violations of legal/ethical standards
- Behavior which interferes with or disrupts teaching/learning experiences
- Using or being under the influence of any drug or alcohol that may alter judgment and interfere with safe performance in the clinical or classroom setting
- Breach of confidentiality in any form
- Falsifying data in a patient health record
- Misrepresenting care given, clinical errors, or any action related to the clinical experience
- Recording, taping, taking pictures in the clinical setting without expressed consent
- Leaving the clinical area without notification of faculty and clinical staff or supervisor

## Progressive Discipline

Faculty are committed to assisting students to be successful in the program. Therefore, Health Science students who are not meeting courses objectives in class, clinical/practicum or lab will be apprised of their performance status using the progressive discipline process.

### **Step 1: Warning**

The instructor provides the student with a verbal warning or written feedback as to their status. The instructor counsels the student regarding criteria for successful completion of the course and makes recommendations for improvement. Recommendations may include but are not limited to - utilization of peer study groups, tutors, computer-assisted instruction, seeking assistance from ACC counselors.

At the discretion of the instructor and depending on the situation, this step may be skipped and a conference done.

### **Step 2: Conference**

The student meets with the instructor in a formal conference to review the performance deficit. A written Health Science Conference Report will identify specific course/program objectives not met and a remediation plan/contract, including deadlines for completion, to assist the student to correct the deficit and remain in the program and be successful.

If at any time the student does not comply with all terms outlined in the conference report, the student may be placed on probation or withdrawn from the program

### **Step 3: Probation**

Probation action is implemented for:

- Unsatisfactory clinical performance
- Unsatisfactory clinical attendance and punctuality
- Inability to maintain physical and mental health necessary to function in the program
- Unethical, unprofessional behavior, and/or unsafe clinical practice
- Refusal to participate with a procedure
- Unsafe or unprofessional clinical practice that compromises patient or staff safety

- Behavior which compromises clinical affiliations
- Failure to comply with all terms outlined in the conference report

Probation is a trial period in which the student must improve or be withdrawn from the program.

The student meets with the instructor and department chair. An ACC counselor may be asked to assist in representing the student. The student and faculty will review and sign a Health Science Probation Report explicitly stating expectations that must be followed during the probationary period and signed.

#### **Step 4: Withdrawal**

If at any time during the probation period, the student fails to meet any of the conditions of the probation contract, the student may be withdrawn from the program. Accordingly, if at the end of the probation period the student has not met the criteria for satisfactory performance outlined in the probation contract, the student will be withdrawn from the program.

A student who is placed on probation for unsafe or unprofessional conduct will be withdrawn from the program for subsequent safety or professional conduct violations at any time during the program. (If the occurrence is past the official college date for withdrawal from a course, the student will receive a performance grade of "F" or "U" as applicable.)

Some situations do not allow for the progressive discipline process due to the severity of nature or the timing of their occurrence. Incidents of this nature may require the student to be immediately placed on probation or withdrawn from the program. Examples of these include, but are not limited to:

- Violations of patient confidentiality
- Academic dishonesty
- Falsification of documentation
- Unprofessional behavior that seriously jeopardizes patient, student staff, or preceptor safety
- Unprofessional behavior that seriously jeopardizes clinical affiliations.
- NOTE: If the occurrence is past the official college date for withdrawal from a course, the student will receive a performance grade of "F" or "U" as applicable.

- <http://www.austincc.edu/admrule/1.06.003.htm>
- <http://www.austincc.edu/admrule/4.01.002.htm>

## Health and Safety Information

### PROFESSIONAL RISKS

Interactions with patients in the health care system carry inherent risks to both the patient and caregiver, including, but not limited to, communicable diseases. In the curriculum, students will be given information regarding known risks for various diseases and measures to decrease these risks.

All students are expected to provide appropriate care to all assigned patients in any setting. These assignments may include patients with medical diagnoses of tuberculosis; hepatitis A, B, or C; AIDS; or other infectious diseases. Students are expected to implement standard precautions and appropriate barrier protection in the care of all assigned patients.

### HEALTH INSURANCE

The College does not provide personal health insurance coverage for students. All Health Sciences students are encouraged to carry some type of personal health insurance. Information about health insurance is available at: [www.austincc.edu/ehs/Insurance](http://www.austincc.edu/ehs/Insurance) under Optional Student Health Insurance. Should medical care be required, it will be the responsibility of the student to assume responsibility for all costs of treatment/medical care unless it is an accident covered under the accident insurance policy described below.

### ACCIDENTS/EXPOSURE

***Medical Professional Liability Insurance***--Medical professional liability insurance is required for each Health Science student enrolled in a clinical course with patient contact. This insurance is purchased automatically through Austin Community College registration fees collected each semester.

***Accident Insurance***--Student accident insurance coverage is required for students participating in certain college sponsored laboratory/clinical activities. The maximum medical benefit is \$10,000 per student with a \$25.00 deductible. The student is responsible for the \$25.00 deductible. For covered classes, the student pays an insurance fee at the time of registration. Student Accident Insurance pays benefits for specific losses from accidents only. Benefits are not paid for loss due to sickness.

The student accident policy provides insurance coverage only while participating in specified laboratory/clinical classes. It does not extend to accidents involving automobiles and incidents outside the laboratory/clinical/classroom. For the most updated information, see [www.austincc.edu/ehs/Insurance](http://www.austincc.edu/ehs/Insurance).

## ACCIDENT PROCEDURES

1. Provide first aid for the student sufficient to get the situation under control.
2. If the accident occurs on campus, campus police are notified.
3. If the accident occurs in the clinical area, faculty responsible for the course in which the student is injured must be notified immediately of the incident.
4. If it appears that a physician should see the student, he or she may chose to see his/her own physician, go to a minor emergency center, or be transported to a hospital. The student can pay the bill at the time of treatment or assign benefits and request reimbursement from ACC's insurance company.
5. The injured student will use the designated claim form. All components of the claim form must be completed. The completed form must contain the signatures of (1) the faculty/supervisor, and (2) the student/claimant and submission of an itemized medical bill before reimbursement will be made. Reimbursement requests along with completed claim form should be sent to:

**Austin Community College**  
**Risk Management Department**  
9101 Tuscany Way  
Austin, TX 78754  
Phone: 223-1015      Fax: 223-1035

6. The student submits a copy of the completed insurance form and HIPAA release form to the Assistant Dean of Health Sciences immediately after the incident.
7. The Faculty submits TWO copies of the Supervisor's Injury and Illness Analysis and Prevention Report; one copy to the Department Chair and one copy to the Assistant Dean of Health Sciences within 48 hours of the event.
8. The Assistant Dean of Health Sciences will communicate the official notification of the claim to the Risk Management Department who confirms insurance coverage with the carrier and medical provider.

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FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN PUBLISHED COURSE MATERIALS and on the web

<http://www3.austincc.edu/it/eforms/frontpage.php?ID=RIIN.004>

<http://www3.austincc.edu/it/eforms/frontpage.php?ID=RIIN.003>

## **EXPOSURE RESPONSE**

Students and faculty members who experience an exposure to any potentially infectious materials (needle stick, mucous membrane, or non-intact skin) or airborne inhalation require specific follow-up. It is the responsibility of the individual to initiate appropriate first aid and to report the incident as soon as possible (preferably within one hour) to their immediate supervisor or instructor. It is the responsibility of the clinical instructor or supervisor to ensure that the appropriate steps have been taken to provide for the safety of the student. It is the responsibility of the Department Chair to assist the faculty member following an exposure to the student or employee. Faculty will ensure that copies of the Exposure procedures and appropriate forms will be made available to the students prior to their first clinical experience.

## **ENVIRONMENT OF CARE**

Austin Community College Health Science Students and faculty will follow procedures outlined in the Seton Safe Environment of Care (EOC) and the St. David's Mandatory Education Module designed by Seton and St. David's and adapted for the use at ACC in order to educate students and faculty in procedures mandated by health care facilities. All of the Seton and St. David's health organizations, in which we are affiliated, have agreed to the use of these procedures in order to educate students and faculty prior to their clinical rotations in those facilities.

The purpose of the test is to understand the safety and regulatory requirements related to patient care presented in the Seton Safe EOC Manual and St. David's Mandatory Education Module. The scope of these tests includes general safety, hazardous materials and waste, medical equipment, security, emergency preparedness, life safety and building construction, utility systems and social environment. These tests are primarily multiple-choice with some short answers questions. These exams require the student to self-remediate. The students will not be able to move forward until they have correctly answered each question.

These exams are available at: <http://www.austincc.edu/health/dmt.php> or on departmental home pages. Specific instructions about how to access the test will be given to students by their instructor. When students have completed the test, they will be required to make a copy for themselves and electronically mail a copy to their program. These files must be kept, so that the College can prove compliance with the health care facilities' accreditation requirements.

## **HIPAA**

The Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act (HIPAA) Act requires that all protected health information be kept private and secure by all persons that handle, or have access to, that information (see HIPAA Compliance Manual at <http://www.austincc.edu/hipaa/manual.php>). Since health sciences students, faculty, instructors, and staff use protected health information as part of the educational process

(i.e. access to client health data to provide care and use of de-identified health data for educational assignments such as case studies and care plans), all health science students must complete an online training module on an annual basis to remain in compliance with HIPAA regulations. Students are not allowed to enter the clinical settings/fieldwork until this training has been completed. Any violations of HIPAA regulations will result in disciplinary actions up to and including withdrawal from the program depending on the severity of the violation. ACC Website: <http://www.austincc.edu/hipaa/training/>

## **WORKPLACE VIOLENCE**

Students who are assigned a clinical or practicum experience in a Seton Family of Hospitals facility are required to complete the **Safety Module for Non-Employees: Workplace Violence Module** (<http://www.austincc.edu/health/dmt.php>)

## **STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY**

Students who are assigned a clinical or practicum experience in a St. David's Healthcare Partnership facility will be required to sign a Statement of Responsibility form. (<http://www.austincc.edu/health/dmt.php>)

## **SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY**

The well-being of patients and clients cared for by our students is of primary concern in all Health Sciences programs and a carefully designed and administered drug and alcohol misuse procedure can reduce accidents. Therefore, the Health Sciences Department has adopted a substance abuse testing program wherein a student who is participating in clinical courses will be tested for drugs when there is reasonable suspicion that the student is under the influence of alcohol and/or illegal drugs, i.e., drugs which are controlled substances under federal law which are not being used under the supervision of a licensed health care professional, or otherwise in accordance with the law.

Students will be asked to submit to drug screening by their ACC clinical instructor at the expense of the college in the following circumstances:

1. Observable indication of actual use or impairment such as slurred speech, lack of coordination, incoherency, marijuana or alcohol odors.
2. Possession of drugs, apparent paraphernalia or alcoholic beverages.
3. Detailed, factual and persistent reports of misuse by multiple colleagues.
4. Abnormal or erratic behaviors such as sudden outbursts, mood swings, hostility or unusual anxiety that suggests possible drug use or alcohol misuse.
5. Involvement in suspicious accidents.
6. Apparent lapses in judgment or memory.
7. Unusual lethargy.

## Testing Procedure

1. Document student's behavior. Confer with department chair. If a department chair is the faculty member concerned about the student's behavior or if the department chair is unavailable, the conference will be with the dean or dean's designee.
2. If a student denies being under the influence of unauthorized substances, a request for a drug screen will be initiated.
  - a. The student will sign a consent to undergo drug screening.\*
  - b. If the student refuses to consent to drug screening, the student will be immediately dismissed from the program.
3. Institute a Request for Drug Screen. Provide verbal and written instructions for the testing procedure, including time frames for the test.
4. Arrange for transportation directly to a designated testing center by taxi accompanied by a Health Sciences representative.
5. After the drug screen specimen has been obtained the student will be transported by taxi back to the point of origin or home.
6. Student is excluded from all clinical activities pending results of the drug screen.
7. Drug screen findings will be interpreted by the designated testing center within 24-48 hours.
8. Results will be sent to the Dean of Health Sciences where they will be kept in a confidential, locked file. Results of the drug screen will be released to the department chair on a need to know basis only. Records may be released only to the student or the decision-maker in a lawsuit, grievance or other legal proceeding against the College or its agents arising out of the positive drug test.
9. All positive drug screens will be reviewed by an independent Medical Review Officer. During the review process, the student will have the opportunity to:
  - a. Explain the cause of the positive drug screen.
  - b. Provide the name of the physician authorizing any prescription medications. The Medical Review Officer will contact the attending physician for verification. If verification is obtained, the student will be placed on probation. Any subsequent evidence of substance abuse will result in a

recommendation that the student be dismissed from the program. The student may appeal the recommendation using the Student Complaint Procedure in the ACC Student Handbook.

10. If drug screen is positive and unexplained or unverified via the Medical Review Officer, the student will be:
    - a. Dismissed from the program and
    - b. Reported to the state licensing agency, if applicable.
  11. A student who tests positive will be referred to a community resource for evaluation by the ACC counselor at the student's expense.
  12. If the drug screen is negative, the student will be immediately reinstated in clinical by the department chair and will be provided opportunity to make up assignments. The student will be subject to all other objectives related to safe behavior and care of clients.
  13. Readmission to the program is based on program admission policies.
- \* Please refer to the Consent for Drug Screening form located in the Appendices section at the end of this handbook.

NOTE: Some clinical affiliates may require a preliminary drug screening prior to actual clinical practice in their facility.

### **PRE PLACEMENT DRUG SCREENING (IF APPLICABLE)**

**Rationale:** Health care providers are entrusted with the health, safety, and welfare of patients/clients. The safety and welfare of patients/clients cared for by our students is of primary concern in all Health Sciences programs and the clinical agencies that provide essential clinical experiences for the students. Clinical rotations are an essential component of Health Sciences programs and the College must meet the contractual obligations contained in affiliation agreements.

**Scope:** ACC currently does not require drug screening as part of the admission process. Clinical agencies can establish more stringent standards for meeting clinical requirements than those imposed as part of the admission process, if they so desire, to ensure compliance with JCAHO standards and agency regulations pertaining to human resource management. This may include (but is not limited to) additional background checks and/or pre-placement drug screening.

**Clinical Placement:**

- **Clinical placements will be made by the program based on the learning objectives of the students; once a placement has been made, students cannot select out of that placement because of the drug screen.**

**Process for Drug Screening:** The following process is to be followed when a clinical agency requires a drug screen prior to placement.

1. Faculty will notify the student of the requirement for a drug screen and the timelines to be in compliance with the clinical agency and provide all necessary consent forms.
  - The student must complete the drug screen within the timelines provided by the program. A drug screen outside that timeline will have to be re-submitted at an additional expense to the student.
2. Program will provide the student with a list of approved vendors to perform the drug screening.
  - **Student must pay the cost of the drug screening.**
    - Cost is non-refundable
  - Program will designate what level of drug screen is required.
  - Results from any company or government entity other than those designated by Health Sciences will not be accepted.
  - Unless specifically directed, clinical agencies will not conduct the drug screen; they must be performed by approved vendor.
  - For clinical sites that do conduct the drug screening, students must sign an authorization for the clinical site to release positive results to the Compliance Coordinator, the Executive Dean or their designee.
3. Student will sign a HIPAA release giving the lab performing the test permission to provide results to the Executive Dean or the Health Sciences Compliance Coordinator.
4. Student will sign a release giving permission for ACC to release the results of a negative drug screen to the requesting clinical agency if required.
5. **Refusal to consent to the drug screening will result in the student being withdrawn from the program.**

6. Drug screen findings will be interpreted by the designated testing center within 24-48 hours.
7. Results will be sent to the Dean of Health Sciences and/or the Compliance Coordinator where they will be kept in a confidential, locked file. Negative results of the drug screen will be released only to the student or the requesting clinical agency.
8. Verification of a negative drug screen will be provided to the indicated clinical affiliate.
9. All positive drug screens will be reviewed by an independent Medical Review Officer, provided by the vendor. There will be an additional charge if review by the Medical Review Officer is required and the student is responsible for all costs related to this review.

If after review by the Medical Review Officer, there is not a valid medical explanation for the positive screen, the test results will stand.

(If the student refuses/fails to pay for costs associated with the Medical Review, the test results will stand).

- Any appeal right based on a positive screen is solely among the applicant, the Medical Review Officer and the vendor.

### **Period of Validity**

- Drug screening will generally be honored for the time the student is in the program unless there is a break in enrollment, defined as being out for one full semester. However, students may be required to test on a more frequent basis depending on the requirements of the clinical rotation site in which they are placed to meet their learning objectives.

### **Positive Drug Screen**

- A positive drug screen is any instance in which a drug screening report shows a positive test for one or more of the drugs on the panel.
- Any student with a positive drug screen will not be given placement in any clinical facility and will be withdrawn from the program.

## **Confidentiality of Records**

- Drug screening reports and all records pertaining to the results are considered confidential information with restricted access. The results and records are subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations.

## **Readmission**

- Any student withdrawn for a positive drug screen will not be eligible for readmission for a minimum of twelve months from the date of withdrawal.
- If accepted for readmission, the student must provide a negative drug test and satisfactory documentation of successful drug counseling and treatment, at the expense of the student.

## **CRIMINAL BACKGROUND**

Successful completion of a criminal background check is required for admission and continuation in all Health Sciences Programs. Criminal background requirements are found at <http://www.austincc.edu/health/background.php>

Background checks will be honored for the duration of the student's enrollment in the clinical program if the participating student has not had a break in the enrollment at the college/school. A break in enrollment is defined as nonattendance of one full semester or more.

Once accepted into the program, it is the student's responsibility to immediately notify the Health Sciences Compliance Coordinator in writing of any subsequent changes in criminal history that occur after the admission background check has been completed. Failure to do so may result in immediate withdrawal from the program.

Additionally,

- Successful completion of a criminal background check for a Health Sciences Program does not ensure eligibility for licensure or future employment.
- Clinical agencies can establish more stringent standards, if they so desire, to meet regulatory requirements for their facility.
- Clinical agencies can conduct additional background checks at their discretion.
- If a student is found to be ineligible for clinical placement any time during the program, the student is unable to meet clinical learning objectives and will be withdrawn pending resolution of the situation.

## **EMERGENCY INSTRUCTIONS**

Austin Community College District has procedures in place to help ensure the safety of students during an emergency. Emergency instruction signs are posted in each campus classroom. They indicate evacuation routes, outside rally locations, and indoor shelter-in-place areas. Administrators-in-charge and emergency evacuation coordinators are designated in all facilities to assist students and staff in an emergency. See the ACC Student Handbook or <http://www.austincc.edu/handbook/emergency.php>.

### ***General Emergencies***

To reach the ACC Police Department dial 222 from any campus phone or 223.7999 from any cell phone, pay phone, or off campus. The ACC Police Department can better determine the student's location and will notify the local police and fire departments.

### ***Medical Emergencies***

In the case of severe bleeding, breathing problems, or chest pains, call 911. For other medical emergencies, contact the ACC Police Department by dialing 222 from any campus phone or 223.7999 from any cell phone, pay phone, or off-campus phone.

### ***Severe Weather/Outdoor Hazards***

In cases of severe weather or other dangerous conditions outdoors, students will be directed to shelter-in-place areas inside the building. Do not go outside or move to another building. Do not use elevators. Upon being alerted by a public address system, alarm, or campus administrator, students will move immediately to shelter-in-place areas indicated on the emergency signs posted in each classroom. Shelter-in-place areas are located in the lowest floor possible of the building, in the center of the building, and away from glass.

### ***Fire***

Upon hearing a continuous alarm or verbal warning, students should evacuate the building immediately and move to the fire evacuation rally location indicated on the emergency signs posted in each classroom. Do not run. Do not use elevators.

1. Leave the building through the nearest exit.
2. Take personal belongs if they are in the same room.
3. Close all doors behind you. Do not lock them.
4. Report to fire evacuation rally location. You must be accounted for at rally location.
5. Students and staff will be permitted to re-enter the building when the administrator-in-charge or emergency evacuation coordinator gives a verbal "all clear" signal.

### ***Gunman on Campus***

Students or staff who see an armed person or receive information that an armed person is on campus should take the following steps.

1. Contact the ACC Police Dispatch by dialing 222 from any campus phone or 223.7999 from any cell phone, pay phone, or off-campus phone.
2. Turn off lights, close and lock doors.
3. Get on the floor out of the line of fire. Seek available cover.
4. Wait until an "All Clear" given by a police officer or authorized, known voice

### ***Contacting a Student in an Emergency***

With thousands of students at different locations, it is **not possible** for staff to contact students on campus except in cases of emergency. Staff members may inquire about the nature of the emergency and decide whether the student should be contacted. In order to contact students, campus staff will need the student's ID number and class schedule.

When students anticipate someone may need to contact them on campus, they should leave the necessary information in the campus manager's office. Under no circumstances will ACC permit persons to search for students on campus.

### ***Family Education Rights and Privacy Act***

The following statement concerning student records maintained by the Austin Community College District is published in compliance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. The release of information to the public without the consent of the student will be limited to that designated as directory information. Directory information includes name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in activities, dates of attendance, degrees, certificates and awards, name of the previous educational institution attended, student classification and enrollment status. Any student objecting to the release of all or any portion of such information must notify Admissions and Records within the first 12 class days of the semester. The restriction will remain in effect until revoked by the student.

### **III. Program Mission and Philosophy**

Consistent with the mission of Austin Community College, the faculty of the Diagnostic Medical Imaging program is committed to providing quality instruction by preparing the graduate to be employable at an entry level in general radiography and to be successful on the National Credentialing Examination in radiography and by providing students the opportunity of exposure in advanced imaging modalities such as Computerized Tomography, Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Interventional Radiology, Nuclear Medicine, Ultrasound, and Radiation Therapy.

The faculty of the Diagnostic Medical Imaging-Radiology program is passionate about our profession, and dedicated to providing students the necessary instruction in technical, academic and clinical skills to become successful graduate radiographers. We believe all individuals are unique and dynamic individuals with inherent dignity and worth, and therefore deserving of respect. Compassion and professionalism are the hallmarks of excellent caregivers, and we adapt to the ever-changing technology in our profession.

#### **IV. Program Outcomes/Goals/Objectives**

- Upon completion of the Program, the graduate will satisfactorily demonstrate entry level clinical competency skills.
- The Radiography Program Students will demonstrate problem solving and critical thinking skills in the didactic and clinical components of the program.
- The Students will demonstrate and practice professional growth and development.
- Upon completion of the program, the graduate will demonstrate satisfactory communication skills.

## V. Program Accreditation

The Diagnostic Medical Imaging-Radiology program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. The program voluntarily participates in accreditation. The accreditation process has been developed to assure that programs follow educational standards that ensure academic excellence. A copy of the **“Standards for an Accredited Education Program in the Radiological Sciences”** is posted on the Program bulletin board. In the event that there is a question or complaint regarding accreditation matters, inquiries may be directed to the:

Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Sciences  
20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 2850  
Chicago, IL 60606-3182  
312-704-5300

In response to a complaint to the Joint Review Committee, the program will follow this procedure:

1. Make an effort to resolve the issue at the local level.
2. Form a college committee to investigate the issue.
3. Formulate a response to the Joint Review Committee within 30 days of receipt of complaint.

## **VI. Scans Competencies**

In 1990, the U.S. Department of Labor established the Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) to examine the demands of the work-place and whether our nation's students are capable of meeting those demands. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board requires that all degree plans in institutions of higher education incorporate these competencies, and identify to the student how these competencies are achieved in course objectives.

### **1.0 Resources**

- 1.1 Manages time
- 1.2 Manages money
- 1.3 Manages material and facility resources
- 1.4 Manages human resources

### **2.0 Interpersonal**

- 2.1 Participates as a member of a team
- 2.2 Teaches others
- 2.3 Serves clients/customers
- 2.4 Exercises leadership
- 2.5 Negotiates to arrive at a decision
- 2.6 Works with cultural diversity

### **3.0 Information**

- 3.1 Acquires and evaluates information
- 3.2 Organizes and maintains information
- 3.3 Uses computers to process information

### **4.0 Systems**

- 4.1 Understands systems
- 4.2 Monitors and corrects performance
- 4.3 Improves and designs systems

### **5.0 Technology**

- 5.1 Selects technology
- 5.2 Applies technology to talk
- 5.3 Maintains and troubleshoots technology

### **6.0 Basic skills**

- 6.0 Reading
- 6.2 Writing
- 6.3 Arithmetic
- 6.4 Mathematics
- 6.5 Listening
- 6.6 Speaking

### **7.0 Thinking skills**

- 7.1 Creative thinking
- 7.2 Decision making
- 7.3 Problem solving
- 7.4 Mental visualization

- 7.5 Knowing how to learn
- 7.6 Reasoning

**8.0 Personal qualities**

- 8.1 Responsibility
- 8.2 Self-esteem
- 8.3 Sociability
- 8.4 Self-management
- 8.5 Integrity/honesty

## VII. Program Policies and Information

### Admission Requirements

Admission to the Program is dependent primarily on the evaluation of supportive coursework. Admission is non-discriminatory in regard to race, creed, color, gender, age, handicap or national origin. The deadline for submitting applications for the class beginning each Fall is February 1 of the same year. Prerequisite coursework must be completed prior to submitting the application.

- Documentation of immunizations is required at the time of application. A copy of the immunization form is available to print on the Health Sciences website.
- Criminal Background Checks are required. The Community Standard for Criminal Background Checks has been posted on the Health Sciences website. The website address for this process is: [www.austincc.edu/health/background/index.htm](http://www.austincc.edu/health/background/index.htm).
- Completion of the support courses is strongly recommended since the number completed including the GPA is part of the admissions process.

### The Admissions Process Requires the Following:

1. The following two courses must be completed prior to applying and a minimum grade of "C" or a 2.0 must be earned.

BIOL 2404 - Introduction to Anatomy & Physiology (Review Biology Requirements) or an acceptable substitute Anatomy course taken within the previous five (5) years.

MATH 1314 - College Algebra or higher level college math.

Because of the competitive nature of the admissions process, applicants are encouraged to complete the following courses prior to applying to the program. A minimum grade of "C" must also be earned in each of the courses:

ENGL 1301-English Composition 1

SPCH 1315- Public Speaking

PHIL 2306-Ethics

PSYC 2301-Introduction to Psychology

COSC 1300-Introduction to Computing

2. It is required that applicants must take the Program Online Information Session and submit the verification form with their application.

3. Immunizations
4. Criminal History Background check.

### **Health Data Requirements**

Health Sciences students must possess the physical abilities and characteristics required to meet the technical standards for their Health Sciences program. Therefore, all Health Sciences students are required to have a health assessment performed by a physician or other approved licensed health professional after they have been admitted to the program but no later than August 1<sup>st</sup>. The ACC Health Data form must be used for this purpose and is available at [www.austincc.edu/health](http://www.austincc.edu/health). Click on Documents, Modules & Tests then Health Data form. A student must resubmit a Health Data form if he/she has had a lapse in program enrollment for one semester or more

### **Technical Standards and Essential Functions**

Health Sciences programs establish technical standards and essential functions to insure that students have the abilities required to participate and potentially be successful in all aspects of the respective programs. Students are required to perform these critical behaviors and essential functions for the Radiology program as indicated in the following grid.

The following technical standards and essential functions outline reasonable expectations of a student in the Diagnostic Medical Imaging-Radiology program for the performance of common functions. The student must be able to apply the knowledge and skills necessary to function in a variety of classroom, lab and/or clinical situations while providing the essential competencies of Radiography. These requirements apply for the purpose of admission and continuation in the program.

The student must demonstrate the following abilities:

Categories of Essential Functions	Definition	Example of Technical Standard
Observation	Ability to participate actively in all demonstrations, laboratory exercise, and clinical experiences in the professional program component and to assess and comprehend the condition of all clients assigned to him/her for examination, diagnosis, and treatment. Such observation and information usually requires functional use of visual, auditory, and somatic sensations.	<p>*The visual acuity to discern radiographic details in an x-ray image.</p> <p>*The ability to see and function in a semi-dark setting.</p> <p>*The auditory acuity to hear low tones.</p>
Communication	Ability to communicate effectively in English using verbal, non-verbal and written formats with faculty, other students, clients, families and all members of the healthcare team.	<p>*The ability to communicate proficiently with patients and fellow members of the healthcare team in the English language.</p>
Motor	Sufficient motor ability to execute the movement and skills required for safe and effective care and emergency treatment.	<p>*Fine motor skills to handle single sheets of radiographic film without damaging it.</p> <p>*The ability to wear lead aprons for extended periods of time.</p> <p>*The ability to lift and move immobile patients.</p>
Intellectual	Ability to collect, interpret and integrate information and make decisions.	<p>*The ability to assess physical and behavioral signs of emergent conditions displayed by clients that indicate the need for immediate medical attention.</p> <p>*The ability to employ innovative methods of accommodating variations in client condition, practitioner requests, and/or equipment limitations.</p>

Categories of Essential Functions	Definition	Example of Technical Standard
Behavioral and Social Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Possess the emotional health and stability required for full utilization of the student's intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all academic and patient care responsibilities and the development of mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with clients and other members of the health care team.</li> <li>❑ Possess the ability to tolerate taxing workloads, function effectively under stress, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in clinical settings with patients.</li> <li>❑ Possess compassion, integrity, concern for others, and motivation.</li> <li>❑ Possess the ability to demonstrate professional behaviors and a strong work ethic.</li> </ul>	*The ability to tolerate heavy workloads and stressful conditions.

Qualified applicants with disabilities are encouraged to apply to the program. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the Office of Students with Disabilities if they feel they cannot meet one or more of the technical standards listed. Each ACC campus offers support services for students with documented physical or psychological disabilities. Students with disabilities must request reasonable accommodations through the Office for Students with Disabilities on the campus where they expect to take the majority of their classes. Students are encouraged to do this three weeks before the start of each semester.

### Immunizations

Healthcare professions include inherent health and safety risks. Therefore, all health sciences students are required to be compliant with Texas Administrative Code Rule 97.64 related to immunizations for the protection of themselves and patients. Additional information related to immunizations is available at: [www.austincc.edu/health/](http://www.austincc.edu/health/). Click on Immunizations.

**Austin Community College**  
**Diagnostic Medical Imaging-Radiography**  
**Degree Plan**

	Lec	Lab	Clin	Credit	Contact Hrs
<b>Pre-Requisites</b>					
BIOL 2404 - Anatomy and Physiology	3	3	0	4	96
MATH 1314 - College Algebra	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>48</u>
	6	3	0	7	144
<b>Fall Semester (First Year)</b>					
RADR 1317 - Radiographic Anatomy & Phys I	3	0	0	3	48
RADR 1309 - Intro. to Radiography & Pt. Care	3	0	0	3	48
RADR 1213 - Prin. of Radiographic Imaging I	2	0	0	2	32
RADR 1411 - Basic Radiographic Procedures	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>96</u>
	11	3	0	12	224
<b>Spring Semester (First Year)</b>					
RADR 2431 - Advanced Radiographic Proc.	3	3	0	4	96
RADR 2209 - Radiographic Imaging Equipment	2	0	0	2	32
RADR 2205 - Principles of Radiographic Imaging II	2	0	0	2	32
RADR 1360 - Clinical/Medical Rad. Tech. I	0	0	16	3	256
ENGL 1301 - English Composition I	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>48</u>
	10	3	16	14	464
<b>Summer Semester (First Year)</b>					
RADR 2240 - Sectional Anatomy for Med. Imaging	2	0	0	2	32
RADR 2213 - Radiation Biology and Protection	2	0	0	2	32
RADR 1361 - Clinical/Medical Rad. Tech. II	0	0	14	3	224
SPCH 1315 - Public Speaking	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>48</u>
	7	0	14	10	336
<b>Fall Semester (Second Year)</b>					
RADR 2217 - Radiographic Pathology	2	0	0	2	32
RADR 2274 - Advanced Technical Principles	2	0	0	2	32
RADR 2460 - Clinical/Medical Rad. Tech. III	0	0	24	4	384
PHIL 2306 - Ethics	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>48</u>
	7	0	24	11	496
<b>Spring Semester (Second Year)</b>					
RADR 2233 - Advanced Medical Imaging	2	0	0	2	32
RADR 2461 - Clinical/Medical Rad. Tech. IV	0	0	24	4	384
PSYC 2301 - Introduction to Psychology	3	0	0	3	48
COSC 1300 - Introduction to Computing	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>64</u>
	8	1	24	12	528
<b>Summer (Second Year)</b>					
RADR 2335 - Radiologic Technology Seminar	3	0	0	3	48
RADR 2362 - Clinical/Medical Rad. Tech. V	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>256</u>
	4	0	15	6	304
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>2,496</b>

## Transfer of College Credit

Previous course work satisfactorily completed at accredited institutions of higher education will be evaluated for transfer and may be applied toward a degree program at Austin Community College.

A transcript will be evaluated after a student has registered for Austin Community College college-credit classes; and it will be evaluated only upon the request of the student. An official transcript is required for each college attended. The request should be made through a counselor or department chair during the first semester of enrollment at ACC. When the evaluation is complete, the number of transferred hours will be recorded on the Austin Community College transcript. Graduation candidates are responsible for complying with the section in the catalog stating criteria for graduation: specifically, the grade point average required for graduation, completion of all required courses, and application for graduation by the posted deadline.

### Transcript Review

The Radiology Program Department Chair or faculty is not responsible for official transcript evaluation. Students are responsible for initiating an official transcript review at any Admissions office to ensure transfer courses are accepted by ACC.

***NOTE: Any previously taken RADR courses are evaluated by the radiology department to determine appropriateness of course content. Students may receive full or partial credit for courses they have completed or a challenge exam may be required. Transfer students to the Radiology program are required to submit a letter of positive recommendation from their previous program director.***

## Readmission Requirements

A student is eligible to apply for readmission to the program one time only. If eligible for readmission the student must:

- Meet all current admission criteria
- Complete a new application by the designated deadline:
  - Fall readmission deadline: May 1
  - Spring readmission: September 1
  - Summer readmission: January 8
- Submit a letter addressing the status of any program recommendation(s) or stipulation(s).

A student will be readmitted on a space available basis using the following priority guidelines based on reason for withdrawal:

- Priority 1: for health and/or personal reasons. The student was passing both theory and clinical performance at the time of withdrawal.
- Priority 2: academic failure or unsatisfactory performance on the 1<sup>st</sup> and/or 2<sup>nd</sup> year Practical Competency Evaluation(s) but satisfactory clinical performance at the time of withdrawal.
- Priority 3: unsatisfactory clinical performance (Ex. A student's performance is not consistent, does not meet clinical course objectives) but had successful academic performance.
- Priority 4: unsafe and/or unprofessional clinical performance.

Any student who gains readmission to the program is responsible for meeting all course objectives and program requirements. Students may be placed on probation only one time during their tenure with the program. Any additional violations of program policy or not meeting course objectives will not result in a second probation but will result in withdrawal from the program and the student is NOT eligible for a second readmission.

### **Licensure Eligibility**

Pending successful completion of all program requirements, the graduate is eligible to write the certification examination administered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT). The Registry Exam will be administered by computer at designated testing centers. ARRT Certification is a requirement for employment in most radiologic facilities.

The Texas Department of Health, Medical Radiologic Technologist Certification Program, also requires that individuals who administer radiation for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes be certified with the State. It is recommended that students apply for certification with the Department of Health during the last semester of the Program so that they will be eligible for employment immediately after graduation.

### **Challenge Exam Policy**

1. A qualified student may request a challenge exam to receive credit for a RADR course.
2. The student must file a written notice of his/her intent to take a challenge exam. Forms may be obtained from the RADR department chair and must be filed at least two weeks prior to the test date.
3. Prerequisite for a challenge exam in any formal radiological science training to include one or more of the following:
  - a. military service training;
  - b. completion of or credit hours in radiology courses;

- c. foreign training programs;
  - d. other class work, as evaluated by the RADR faculty prior to determination of eligibility;
  - e. documentation of previous training in a hospital-based program accredited by the JRC.
4. To successfully complete the challenge, the student must pass an exam covering fundamental concepts and demonstrate all competencies required by the course with a grade of "B" or better, and pass a practicum to demonstrate acquisition of essential laboratory skills, if applicable.
5. The following RADR courses may be challenged:

RADR 1309	Intro to Radiography and Patient Care
RADR 1317	Radiographic Anatomy & Physiology I
RADR 1411	Basic Radiographic Procedures
RADR 1213	Principles of Radiographic Imaging I
RADR 2209	Radiographic Imaging Equipment
RADR 2431	Advanced Radiographic Procedures
RADR 1360	Clinical/Medical Radiologic Technology I
RADR 2205	Principles of Radiologic Imaging II
RADR 1361	Clinical/Medical Radiologic Technology II
RADR 2274	Advanced Technical Principles
RADR 2460	Clinical/Medical Radiologic Technology III
RADR 2461	Clinical/Medical Radiologic Technology IV
RADR 2233	Advanced Medical Imaging
RADR 2362	Clinical/Medical Radiologic Technology V

6. There is a challenge fee of \$10 per credit hour, minimum \$30 for each course.

### **Grading/Grading System**

It is expected that each student will successfully demonstrate competency in the classroom, laboratory and clinical areas. Since this is a competency based program, each instructor will give the student course and/or unit objectives to be mastered. Grading distribution for all RADR courses will be assigned according to the following scale:

- A = 93 - 100%
- B = 85 - 92%
- C = 75 - 84%
- D = 68 - 74%

\*For any RADR course, an accumulative average of at least a 75% must be earned. Any RADR course average lower than 75% is not considered passing and must be repeated. Any Radiology course may only be repeated once.

## **Employment**

Students are advised against full-time employment while enrolled in the DMI-R program. If employment is necessary, students must determine how many hours they can work and continue to meet the requirements of the Program. No special consideration will be afforded students with regard to their employment situations. Should a student be employed in a radiology facility, they may do so only during times when it does not conflict with program activities. Additionally, should a student be employed by a facility where clinical rotation is normally conducted, they may not use any employer time to substitute for program clinical requirements.

## **Electronic Communication/Devices**

Electronic communication devices such as cell phones and pagers need to be set to the silent mode during class or clinic. Students may not use a cellular phone in the classroom, laboratory or clinical setting. Cell phones may not be substituted for calculators.

The use of tape recorders, palm pilots or other personal digital assistant units, and cameras are not to be used in the clinical setting for recording identifiable patient information.

Tape recorders may be used in the classroom to record lectures with faculty permission. Palm Pilots or other programmable personal digital assistant devices may not be used during class or testing. Only nonprogrammable calculators are allowed.

The use of laptops to copy proprietary computer programs or other program documents/exams is forbidden. Please note that the program has a site license for instructional computer programs and no attempt should ever be made to copy these programs to either a laptop, flash drive, or CD. To do so will be considered academic dishonesty.

## **Academic Integrity**

Health professionals receive a high level of public trust and respect. Maintaining academic and clinical integrity is essential to the development of the characteristics required for ethical and professional practice. Therefore, health sciences students must demonstrate ethical, responsible, professional behavior and accountability for their actions throughout the program.

## **Course Test Review Procedure**

Because the security of exams is a very important part of the educational process, faculty will designate time, duration, and location for review of written examinations. No writing

materials, computers of any sort, or cameras may be used during test reviews. All test reviews will be supervised by faculty. Anyone in violation of this policy will be subject to the Academic Dishonest Policy.

### **Email**

All students must be accessible via an electronic mail address. Students may utilize the computers on campus to create and check their email accounts. Email accounts should be checked for new messages at least once or twice each week.

Students must have a gmail account that is offered by the college. Faculty are only permitted to communicate with these accounts. For more information:  
<http://www.austincc.edu/google/index.php>

### **First Year Practical Competency Evaluations**

Students are required to demonstrate competency with basic procedures in the summer semester of their 1st year. If a student fails to pass at least 85 percent of the procedures, he/she will have one final opportunity to demonstrate skills competency. If upon a second attempt at least 85 percent of the procedures are not passed, the student will be withdrawn from the program. See Clinical Education section for more information.

### **Second Year Practical Competency Evaluations**

Students are required to demonstrate competency with basic and advanced radiologic procedures in the spring semester of their 2nd year. If a student fails to pass at least 85 percent of the procedures, he/she will have a final opportunity to demonstrate skills competency. If upon a second attempt at least 85 percent of the procedures are not passed, the student will be withdrawn from the program. See Clinical Education section for more information.

### **Pregnancy Policy**

The National Council of Radiation Protection (NCRP) advises that control measures should be taken to avoid or reduce the risk of ionizing radiation exposure to the human embryo or fetus. It should be noted, however, that the risks of probability of detectable effects induced by medical diagnostic exposure are very small. While it is strictly voluntary, to ensure that extra protective measures be initiated promptly, it is suggested that the student notify the program director of documented pregnancy. The program will keep all information related to the pregnancy strictly confidential.

It is the policy of Austin Community College Diagnostic Medical Imaging program to provide reasonable radiation protection to student radiographers occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation. Declared pregnant students are expected to follow the additional protective measures detailed below which have been developed to restrict the fetal radiation dose to not exceed 0.5 Rem for the entire pregnancy.

After declaration, pregnant students in the Radiography program will be given a copy of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Guide 8.13 which addresses pre-natal radiation exposure. The guide may be downloaded from the following website: [www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/reg-guides/occupational-health/active/8-13/index.html](http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/reg-guides/occupational-health/active/8-13/index.html). The pregnant student must make the final decision as to their acceptance or non-acceptance of this minimal risk.

The following procedure shall be followed:

1. Disclosure or declaration of pregnancy is strictly voluntary. To ensure that additional protective measures for the fetus and mother are initiated quickly, the student may wish to inform the program director upon medical verification of pregnancy.
2. The Department Chair will arrange for the student to review her previous radiation exposure history. The Department Chair will provide the student with a copy of NCR Guide 8.13 and will review protective actions and the risks associated with radiation exposure to the fetus.
3. Upon medical certification that a pregnancy exists, and after the student has consulted with her physician, the program Department Chair will offer two options to the student. Please note that there are special forms that the student will need to take to her physician. These forms will be provided by the program.

#### **Option #1 - Leave of Absence During Pregnancy**

If the student so decides, she may elect to leave the program during the pregnancy period.

- a. If the student decides to accept this option and leave the program, she must immediately notify the Department Chair in writing.
- b. An incomplete grade will be awarded for the course(s) in progress. The remaining course work may be completed upon the student's return; however, it may not be feasible for the student to re-enter the program immediately since all courses are offered chronologically and only once a year.
- c. All didactic and clinical course work must be completed prior to completion and graduation from the program.

**Option #2 - Remain in the Program Throughout the Pregnancy**

If the student so decides, she may continue in the program under the following requirements:

- a. The student is required to review and implement radiation safety practices as outlined by NCR Guide 8.13.3.
  - b. The student is required to wear exposure-monitoring devices as determined by the NCR's recommendation.
  - c. The student should wear a wrap-around lead apron during exposures to radiation. Lead aprons of 0.5 mm lead equivalency are considered sufficient to attenuate 88% of the beam at 75 kVp. Above 75 kVp, aprons with 1.0 mm lead are recommended.
  - d. The student is required to participate in all scheduled clinical rotation areas as assigned in order to complete required clinical competency exams with the exception of elective Nuclear Medicine and Radiation Therapy rotations.
4. The Department Chair shall document the student's decision in regard to the two options described above.
  5. The student is required to complete and sign documentation acknowledging receipt of all information and associated documentation in regard to the pregnancy. All documentation shall be kept in the student's personal file.

## **VIII. Clinical/Practicum Policies**

### **Clinical Education Information**

The purpose of this information is to identify the criteria essential to the successful completion of clinical education in the Diagnostic Medical Imaging-Radiology Program.

There are **two major parts** to the Clinical Education Component of the Program.

#### **Part I: Clinical Practicum Courses**

There are a total of five (5) clinical semesters during which the student is expected to master basic, intermediate, and advanced skills in radiographic positions and procedures on actual patients. Each clinical semester the student will be required to demonstrate competency in performing specific Radiologic Procedures from a master list. Prior to the end of the program, the student must demonstrate competency in performing all of the procedures identified on the list.

#### **Part II: Practical Competency Evaluations**

In addition to the clinical courses, the program faculty conduct mandatory Practical Competency Evaluations for each of the students at the end of the first year in the Program (July) and near the end of the 5th semester (April) of the Program during the students 2nd year. These practical competency evaluations are free-standing and the student must demonstrate competency in all the required procedures before continuing in the program. A student who fails to pass at least 85 percent of the identified procedures cannot continue in the program the following semester.

If eligible, the student may re-apply for admission for the semester when the practical competency evaluations are conducted (either summer semester for the first year or the spring semester for 2nd year competencies). The rules for the Practical Competency Evaluation and the objectives for each of the evaluation sessions follow:

#### **Rules for the Practical Competency Evaluations**

The following rules apply to both first and second year students for the practical competency testing.

- Students shall arrive on time as scheduled for their exam. If you are late, your total exam time will be reduced accordingly. No additional time will be allotted.
- Each student will be allotted 60 minutes to complete the procedures listed in the practical competency objectives. If any student is unable to complete all the procedures within the allotted time, a failure will be recorded for those not performed. Each separate view/projection will be assessed and given a pass or fail grade. The 26 views/projections in the first year objectives OR the 21

views/projections in the second year objectives must be passed by a rate of at least 85 percent.

- Each student is required to bring their own right and left lead (pb) markers with fresh tape. None will be provided.
- Students must choose the correct setting on the control panel (table top, table bucky, or wall bucky) as well as select an appropriate setting for the anatomical area examined.
- An exposure hold light on the collimator at time of exposure indicates improper equipment management and a failure.
- Students may not ask the faculty evaluator any questions during the test.
- When finished with a position, the student must indicate to the faculty member that they are ready to be checked. After that no adjustments can be made.
- All procedures will be evaluated on a pass/fail basis. Any image receptor not marked within the exposure field or mismarked will be a failure.
- Faculty evaluators will make notes on the evaluation sheet during the exam indicating that the student has passed or providing an explanation of a failure. The evaluation of the faculty member is final. (See below for 2nd attempt rules). No results will be given until all students have completed their first attempt.

1. Those students failing to attain an evaluation grade of 85 percent may be re-tested one time only, and re-testing will be scheduled after all students have completed their initial competency examinations. The same procedures will be performed on the re-test, during a 60-minute time allotment, and 85 percent of the procedures must be passed. A different faculty member will conduct the re-testing and another faculty member will videotape the performance. All the rules above apply to any re-test. Students scheduled to re-test are required to practice in the program labs and sign in. The labs will be available for practice until 3:30 PM on Tuesday and Thursdays for 2nd year students and on Mondays and Wednesdays for 1st year students.

2. An unsuccessful second attempt will prevent the student from continuing the Program. Students may re-apply to the Program the following year to repeat the competency exams. Re-admission to the program is on a space available basis. A student may only repeat a radiology course once. Please refer to re-admission requirements on pg 15.

3. Students who are the designated patient must only follow the exact instructions given by the student radiographer. Any attempt to cue, signal, or communicate with the radiographer either verbally or with body language will be considered academically dishonest ("cheating") and will result in withdrawal from the Program as stipulated in Radiology Program student handbook's Academic Dishonesty Policy.

\*\*\***Note:** This exam process is under revision and subject to change.

### 1st Year Practical Competency Objectives

1. The student shall perform the following procedures in a simulated radiology department (Program laboratory).
  - a. Hand series: PA, PA oblique, fan lateral
  - b. Wrist Series: PA, PA oblique, lateral
  - c. Forearm series: AP and lateral
  - d. Elbow series: AP, lateral oblique, lateral
  - e. Foot series: DP, with a 5° posterior CR angle, medial oblique, lateral
  - f. Ankle series: AP, medial oblique, lateral
  - g. Knee series: AP, medial oblique, lateral (all views with a 5° cephalic CR angle)
  - h. AP Pelvis with a unilateral hip (Lauenstein method)
  - i. Chest series: PA and lateral with 72" SID
  - j. Abdomen series: Recumbent KUB and upright abdomen (40" SID)
2. The student shall perform these procedures in the allotted amount of time.
3. The student shall select the **appropriate** image receptor and use the correct size and orientation.
4. The student shall mark all films appropriately within the exposure field.
5. The student shall prepare the patient for each procedure by removing jewelry, shoes, socks, etc. For the chest and abdomen series, a complete description of how the patient should be prepared will be sufficient.
6. The size of the exposure field shall be adjusted to the part size.
7. For tabletop procedures where the standard SID is 40 inches, the SID setting shall deviate no more than 2 inches (plus or minus) from 40 inches.
8. The student shall position the patient for each view providing for patient comfort, modesty and obtaining a diagnostic image.
  - The CR shall be directed accurately to the anatomical structure to be imaged and to the center of the image receptor.

- The patient shall be appropriately shielded (whenever possible and appropriate) for their protection.
- The student shall give breathing instructions as required by the procedure.

\*\*\* **Note:** The program laboratories will be available for practice Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. through 3:30 p.m.

## **2nd Year Practical Competency Objectives**

1. The student shall perform the following procedures in a simulated radiology department (radiology labs).

- a. Cervical Spine Series: AP axial, AP open mouth, LPO, Lateral
- b. Thoracic Spine: AP and Lateral
- c. Lumbar Spine Series: AP, RPO, Lateral, L/S lateral "spot"
- d. GI series: PA, RAO, lateral
- e. BE: AP, AP axial (Billings method), LPO, Lateral
- f. Paranasal Sinuses: PA (Caldwell), parietoacanthial (Waters), lateral
- g. Trauma Hip: Lateral (Danelius-Miller method)

2. The student shall perform these procedures within the scheduled hour.

3. The student shall select the appropriate image receptor size, type, and correct orientation.

4. The student shall mark all films appropriately within the exposure field.

5. The student shall prepare the patient for each procedure by removing jewelry, and providing a complete description of how the patient should be prepared prior to beginning the exam/procedure.

6. The size of the exposure field shall be adjusted to the part size.

7. For tabletop procedures where the standard SID is 40 inches, the SID setting shall deviate no more than 2 inches (plus or minus) from 40 inches.

8. The student shall position the patient for each view providing for patient comfort, modesty and obtaining a diagnostic image.

- The CR shall be directed accurately to the anatomical structure to be imaged and the image receptor.

- The patient shall be appropriately shielded (whenever possible) for their protection.
- The student shall give breathing instructions as required by the procedure.

\*\*\* **Note:** The program laboratories will be available for practice Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. through 3:30 p.m.

### **Clinical Practicum**

The purpose of this information is to identify the criteria essential to the successful completion of clinical education in the Diagnostic Medical Imaging-Radiology program.

There are a total of five (5) clinical semesters during which the student is expected to master basic, intermediate, and advanced skills in radiographic positions and procedures. Each clinical semester will require the student to demonstrate competency in performing specific Radiologic Procedures from a master list. Prior to the end of the Program, the student must demonstrate competency in performing all of the Procedures indicated on the list.

### **Film Analysis and Project(s)**

During each semester there will be scheduled days for film analysis. Students will be expected to identify labeled anatomy, positions, possible mistakes, pathology, and other radiologic criteria.

### **Initial Competency**

During each clinical semester, students are expected to successfully perform the designated minimum number of examinations for that semester. The competency exams are to be completed on actual patients. Therefore, students should be prepared to perform these exams on the first day of clinic.

**Please Note:** If an instructor asks a student to perform a particular competency exam, a grade will be assigned whether or not the student is prepared to do the exam. Students should be completely familiar with the competencies to be done each semester. All exams will have been covered in class and practiced as well as performed in lab *prior* to clinical performance on actual patients.

### **Recheck Competency**

With the exception of the first clinical semester (RADR 1360), there will be recheck competencies. Students will be required by an instructor to perform a particular examination. These will always be exams previously performed by the student in a prior clinical semester or they may be challenged from the current semester providing they have been initially performed. There will be a minimum of six (6) random challenges per semester per student. **Note:** All recheck competencies must be completed on actual patients. Absolutely no simulations. If all six are not completed, an incomplete grade will be assigned until they are satisfactorily completed. It should be noted that if an

Incomplete grade is assigned, the student will be required to resolve the incomplete grade by the date designated by the instructor. Failure to do so will result in a failing grade.

## **Clinical Performance Evaluation Protocol**

### **Overview**

The intent of these clinical procedure guidelines is to provide a format for evaluation of proficient clinical performance.

### **Step 1 – Clinical Observation and Assistance**

As the student begins clinical education, active participation is limited until the student has had the opportunity to observe some of these procedures. At that point the rate of progress is dependent upon the student's ability to perform the tasks assigned by the instructor or staff technologist in that area.

### **Step 2 – Directly Supervised Performance**

After becoming competent in a given procedure, the student will actually perform the examination under direct supervision of a College faculty member or staff technologist. Direct supervision means that an R.T.R. is immediately present verifying positioning and exposure technique requirements.

### **Step 3 – Procedure Evaluation**

Once steps 1 and 2 are complete, the instructor or staff technologist will complete a competency evaluation. If successful, the student can perform these examinations independently. But should the student prove unsuccessful on this evaluation, it is expected the student will seek remediation. At a later date, a recheck evaluation on this same procedure will be required. Should the student be unsuccessful at this second attempt, the student will be placed on probation for failure to progress in satisfactory manner and remediation will be mandatory. If a third attempt is unsuccessful, the student will be withdrawn from the Radiology program.

### **Step 4 – Performance Under Limited Supervision**

Upon successful completion of the evaluation, the student is permitted to perform the examination with limited supervision. Limited supervision indicates that a R.T.R. is in the area in the event of questions/problems and to review finished radiographs.

### **Step 5 – Recheck Evaluation**

In an effort to ensure that students maintain learned skills after they have been evaluated, in each of the ensuing semesters completed procedures are re-

evaluated randomly at the clinical instructor's discretion. A minimum of six (6) recheck competencies will be completed each semester for each student. Recheck evaluations are always performed on actual patients.

**\*When performing an examination on an actual patient, should a repeat film be necessary, a registered technologist must be present for the repeated exam.**

### **Student Supervision After Competency is Achieved**

After demonstrating competency on any radiographic procedure from the list of clinical objectives, students may perform these examinations with direct or indirect supervision. **Direct Supervision** requires that a qualified radiographer be physically present during the procedure. **Indirect Supervision** requires that a qualified radiographer be in close proximity, but not in the radiographic room.

- Students **may not** perform portable radiographic exams unless they are accompanied by a qualified radiographer.
- Students **may not** perform radiographic exams in other clinical areas, i.e., outpatient departments, nursery, etc. unless they are accompanied by a qualified radiographer.
- Students **may not** perform surgical procedures unless they are directly supervised by a qualified radiographer at all times.
- Students **may not** observe or perform mammography for any reason or circumstance.
- Students **may not** transport patients unless they are accompanied by an employee of the facility.
- Students **may not** answer departmental phones or pagers
- A qualified radiographer **must** directly supervise any repeated image/exam.
- A picture ID **must** be worn, with the picture visible, while in the clinical facility.
- Students **shall** turn off cell phones while at their clinical facility.
- Students **shall not** answer departmental telephones.
- Students **shall not** perform a procedure without a doctor's order.

- Students **may not** be x-rayed for demonstration or other purpose.
- Students **must** call both, their assigned clinical agency and Karla Eaton's office if they are going to be absent.

### **Clinical Rotations**

The clinical rotations are planned and designed to provide each student similar educational/clinical experiences, although this may not occur at identical sites.

The program is affiliated with a number of healthcare and imaging facilities in Austin and the surrounding area. Any student, regardless of where they live, could be scheduled at a site a long distance from their residence during the course of the program.

Should a student refuse to attend a distant clinical site assignment, completion of the program may be delayed or withdrawal from the program may be necessary.

### **Cardiac Life Support**

All students in the Diagnostic Medical Imaging Program must maintain current healthcare provider certification in order to be eligible for clinical assignments.

The required CPR must be American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers. The card verifying completion must be an American Heart Association card for Healthcare Providers. (Please note that CPR cards from the Red Cross CPR or CPR Resources will not be accepted).

### **Attendance Policy**

The clinical components comprise a very large portion of the student's learning activities. Due to this fact, we feel it is necessary that all students do their best to comply with this attendance policy. Any absences should be in the event of an illness or family emergency. We have found that punctuality, consistent attendance, and the student's diligence in participating with patient examinations are key factors to the successful completion of this program as well as securing employment. Therefore, we feel a controlling measure must be in place to accomplish this objective.

Students are involved with clinical rotations for five semesters. The following is a breakdown of the semesters involved, and the total number of absences that may be missed without consequence.

Semester	Course #	Hours/Week and Days	Max. Allowed Absences
Spring, 1st year	RADR 1360	16 hours (Tues & Thurs)	2
Summer, 1st year	RADR 1361	20 hours (Tues, Thurs, ½ Fri.)	2
Fall, 2nd year	RADR 2460	24 hours (Mon, Wed, Fri)	3
Spring, 2nd year	RADR 2461	24 hours (Mon, Wed, Fri)	3
Summer, 2nd year	RADR 2362	24 hours (Mon, Wed, Fri)	2

If a student is absent more than the allowed days, the clinical grade will be affected. For each absence beyond the maximum allowed, a letter grade will be deducted from the entire clinical course grade. **Example:** If a student is enrolled in a first year course which allows two absences and both absences have been taken but the student misses a third day, a letter grade will be deducted from their course grade. If the student has an A average at the end of the semester, a B grade will be assigned because of the absence. If a fourth day is missed, two letter grades will be deducted. So an A average will be reduced to a C grade. ***It should be noted that a "D" grade is not acceptable in Radiology courses and would result in your withdrawal from the Radiology program.***

### Tardies

Clinical days are from 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM or as designated by your assigned clinical agency. All students should be ready to work by 7:30 AM. Students will be considered late if they are not in their assigned clinical areas by 7:37 AM (8:07 at clinical agencies which begin their clinical day at 8:00 AM). Only two tardies will be allowed in any clinical semester. If a third tardy is accrued, an absence will be deducted. If a student leaves the clinical agency early an absence will be given for the entire day.

**Please Note:** If you have used your maximum allowed absences and a third tardy is accrued, a letter grade will be deducted from your total clinical grade. Also, if a student is tardy, they must be in the clinical area by 9:00 AM on that day. If the student should be later than 9:00 AM, an absence will be deducted.

### Radiation Monitoring Policy

All students enrolled in the Radiologic Technology Program will be provided a thermoluminescent dosimeter (TLD) for use during laboratory activities that require the use of ionizing radiation. The Safety Rules for operating the equipment are posted in the laboratory bulletin board. Students are also required to wear their TLD's during clinical education rotations. If your TLD is forgotten, you will be asked to leave the clinical area and

an absence will be documented for that day. If you lose your TLD, you must report the loss immediately so that a replacement TLD can be ordered.

### **Radiation Dosimetry Reports**

The program radiation dosimetry service is provided on a quarterly scheduled basis. The program receives and replaces badges every quarter. Upon receipt of the radiation dosimetry report, all students will be notified and will be required to review and initial the reports with a faculty member within one month of the date the report was received. NOTE: TLD's should be worn at the collar level. Whenever a protective lead apron is worn, the badge must be worn at the collar level outside the lead apron.

### **Recommended Radiation Dose Limits**

NCRP report #116 has established maximum annual dose limits for all adult radiation workers at 5,000 millirems or 50 millisieverts and quarterly dose limits of 1,250 millirems or 12.5 millisieverts. Therefore adult (at least 18 years of age) radiology students have the same dose limits as other radiation workers.

In compliance with the ALARA (as low as reasonably achievable) principles, the program recommends the maximum annual dose limit for adult radiography students be 500 mR/50mSv or a quarterly limit of 125 mR/1.25 mSv. Should a currently enrolled radiography student's dosimeter reading exceed either of the programs recommended limits, the NCRP report will take precedence, however the following program guidelines will be employed:

#### **The Radiation Safety Officer will:**

1. Counsel with student and discuss the level of overexposure.
2. Review students clinical/lab assignment to determine possible cause of excessive exposure and re-assign student if necessary.
3. Consult with Program Medical Director/Advisor to review over-exposure and recommendation for additional action.
4. Consult with clinical facility officials if required to address cause of over-exposure and to correct/modify professional practice of student.

### **Picture ID's**

All clinical agencies require a wearable picture ID.

Name tags with a picture are provided via a \$3 fee with tuition. A time will be arranged for students to have pictures made. Lost ID's may include a fee for replacement.

Some clinical agencies require a 2<sup>nd</sup> ID to be made at their site. There is usually a fee that will be refunded at the end of the clinical rotation.

## Dress Code--General Information

1. The appearance of all students must generate confidence and respect from patients, families, and other consumers from the community in all clinical agencies.
2. All students shall present a clean, neat appearance and dress in an appropriate manner for a health care environment. Extreme styles, recreational clothing, excessive jewelry, heavy perfumes, or excessive make-up shall not be considered appropriate work attire.
3. IDENTIFICATION: All students are required to wear a picture identification badge, provided by the College, at all times in the clinical setting. The picture and student name shall not be hidden or obscured in any manner. Additionally, all students shall wear the Program patch while on clinical duty. No other insignia is considered appropriate. No arm bands, novelty buttons/pins, hats shall be permitted.
4. RADIATION MONITORING: TLDs shall be worn at all times in the clinical environment. TLDs shall be worn at the collar level outside the lead apron and/or thyroid shield. Failure to wear your TLD in the clinical environment will result in dismissal for the day and an absence will be recorded.
5. Hair (including wigs/hair pieces) shall be kept clean and neat. Long hair shall be pulled back from the face. Hair shall not be abnormal in color (blue, green, purple, etc.). Beards and mustaches are acceptable if kept clean and trimmed.
6. Fingernails shall be well groomed and clean with a maximum length of ¼" beyond the finger tip. Artificial nails and nail tips are prohibited by all clinical affiliates. Nail polish shall not be black or any morbid color.
7. Jewelry other than wedding/engagement rings and wrist watches are discouraged. No dangling earrings shall be worn. Visibly pierced body parts other than ears are not acceptable.
8. All tattoos shall be covered.
9. Shoes shall be kept clean and in good repair.
10. When student rotations require entry into sterile environments, i.e. surgery, special procedures and/or heart catheterization labs, etc., surgical caps designed to cover ALL head and facial hair shall be worn. Surgical masks and shoe covers shall be worn when appropriate. If special clothing is required, it is usually provided by the clinical agency and will be donned at the clinical site. (**NOTE:** Surgical scrub attire is the property of the clinical agency; removing it from the site may be interpreted as stealing).

11. All student clinical attire shall consist of:

- a. Teal blue uniform pants. Either tie or elastic waist.
- b. Teal blue or white polo/scrub shirt. Long or short sleeves are acceptable. No sleeveless T-shirts or shirts without collars.
- c. Teal blue or white uniform vests may be worn.
- d. Undergarments and socks shall be worn.
- e. Only white long sleeved lab coats are appropriate. (Each student shall have at least one.)
- f. Only completely white athletic type or nursing shoes shall be worn. Only white shoestrings are appropriate. No sandals, heeled dress shoes, opened toe shoes or other footwear is acceptable.
- g. No mid calf or stirrup pants or spandex garments of any type shall be worn.
- h. Chest hair, midriff, cleavage, or buttocks shall not be exposed.

12. LABORATORY ATTIRE

- a. When students are working in the radiology laboratories it is strongly recommended that surgical scrubs be worn.
- b. All students must wear close-toed shoes when working in the lab. Sandals and flip flops will not be allowed.

**Outstanding Clinical Student**

The faculty of the Diagnostic Medical Imaging-Radiology program recognizes the outstanding clinical performance of one student each semester. This student exhibits consistently efficient and accurate performance throughout the semester.

The student chosen for this award will receive a certificate of appreciation naming them the outstanding clinical student and a grade of 100% will be averaged into their film analysis scores for that clinical semester.

**Criteria to be evaluated are:**

1. Attendance and punctuality

2. Neat and professional appearance
3. Consistent and accurate performance
4. Enthusiasm
5. Assigned room should be kept neat and stocked
6. Considerate patient care given

## Comprehensive Clinical Objectives

### Imaging Processes and Equipment

At the completion of training, the graduate will be competent and proficient in the following aspects of the imaging processes and equipment:

1. The graduate will demonstrate skills necessary to select the appropriate imaging system for any given anatomical area.
2. The graduate will demonstrate ability to work with and adapt to any type of diagnostic x-ray machine.
3. The graduate will demonstrate ability to select and implement appropriate exposure factors for any given anatomical region.
4. The graduate will demonstrate ability to utilize radiographic equipment well within its operational capabilities.
5. The graduate will demonstrate competency in using mobile radiographic equipment including C-arm fluoroscopic units.
6. The graduate will demonstrate competency in utilizing exposure factors and imaging equipment/systems to provide the best image quality possible.
7. The graduate will demonstrate ability to adjust the quality factors of radiographic contrast, density, and recorded details in order to improve the image.
8. The graduate will demonstrate competence in performing quality assurance evaluations with:
  - a. imaging system function (screens)
  - b. timer function (spin top test)
  - c. sensitometry
  - d. focal spot assessment
9. The graduate will demonstrate competence in processing radiographic films utilizing rapid processors.
10. The graduate will demonstrate competence in using digital radiography systems:
  - a. Computed Radiography
  - b. Direct Capture

11. The graduate will be able to discuss the limitations inherent to currently available digital imaging systems.
12. The graduate will be able to process digital images using a photostimulable phosphor image plate reader.
13. The graduate will be able to perform digital radiography using exposure factors that are within the sensitivity number range recommended for a given procedure.
14. The graduate will demonstrate ability to describe the radiation interactions responsible for the image formation process.

### **Radiation Protection**

At the completion of training, the graduate will be competent and proficient in the following aspects of radiation protection:

1. The graduate will demonstrate skills in providing basic radiation protection to him/herself and the patient.
2. The graduate will demonstrate skills in manipulating radiographic exposure factors in order to provide the best quality image utilizing minimal exposure requirements.
3. The graduate will demonstrate an understanding of the A.L.A.R.A. (as low as reasonably achievable) concept.
4. The graduate will demonstrate skills in limiting the field of radiation to minimal requirements.
5. The graduate will demonstrate an understanding of the mechanism of injury for ionizing radiation.
6. The graduate will demonstrate an understanding of the basic radiation interactions responsible for ionization of matter.
7. The graduate will demonstrate competency in the use of protective attire and placement of lead shielding for patients.

## **Patient Care and Management**

At the completion of training, the graduate will demonstrate an ability to exercise the following quality of care practices:

1. The graduate will demonstrate skills in providing quality patient care.
2. The graduate will demonstrate compassion and understanding for any patient under his/her care.
3. The graduate will do everything possible to ensure that the dignity of the patient is preserved.
4. The graduate will communicate effectively with the patient, physicians, coworkers and other members of the healthcare team.
5. The graduate will not express medical opinions to the patient.
6. The graduate will demonstrate ability to educate the patient about any radiographic examination.
7. The graduate will accurately perform and record vital signs.
8. The graduate will demonstrate safe oxygen administration.
9. The graduate will maintain current Health Care Provider CPR certification.
10. The graduate will demonstrate safe venipuncture.
11. The graduate will demonstrate safe aseptic technique.

## **Radiographic Procedures**

At the completion of training, the graduate will have demonstrated competency in performing basic radiographic procedures for the following anatomical regions:

1. Head/Neck
2. Abdominal: Gastrointestinal, genitourinary
3. Abdominal: Contrast and Non-Contrast
4. Extremities: Lower and Upper
5. Chest/Thorax
6. Spine/Pelvis

At the completion of training, the graduate will demonstrate competency in performing basic radiographic procedures to include both pediatric and adult for:

1. Trauma procedures
2. Surgical procedures
3. Mobile procedures
4. Computed tomography (adult only)

# American Society of Radiologic Technologists Code of Ethics

## **Preamble**

This Code of Ethics is to serve as a guide by which Radiologic Technologists may evaluate their professional conduct as it relates to patients, colleagues, other members of the allied professions and health care consumers. Students in the Radiography program at Austin Community College are held to these standards.

Therefore, in the practice of the profession, we the members of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists accept the following principles:

## **Principle I**

Radiologic Technologists shall conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the dignity of the profession.

## **Principle II**

Radiologic Technologists shall provide services with consideration of human dignity and the uniqueness of the patient, unrestricted by considerations of age, sex, race, creed, social or economic status, handicap, personal attributes or the nature of the health problem.

## **Principle III**

Radiologic Technologists shall make every effort to protect all patients from unnecessary radiation.

## **Principle IV**

Radiologic Technologists should exercise and accept responsibility for independent discretion and judgment in the performance of their professional services.

## **Principle V**

Radiologic Technologists shall judiciously protect the patient's right to privacy and shall maintain all patient information in the strictest confidence.

## **Principle VI**

Radiologic Technologists shall apply only methods of technology found upon a scientific basis and not accept those methods that violate this principle.

## **Principle VII**

Radiologic Technologists shall not diagnose, but in their responsibility to the patient, they shall provide the physician with all information they have relative to radiologic diagnosis or patient management.

## **Principle VIII**

Radiologic Technologists shall be responsible for reporting unethical conduct and illegal professional activities to the appropriate authorities.

**Principle IX**

Radiologic Technologists should continually strive to improve their knowledge and skills by participating in educational and professional activities and sharing the benefits of their attainments with their colleagues.

**Principle X**

Radiologic Technologists should protect the public from misinformation and misrepresentations.

## **IX. General Information**

### **Counseling/Student Services**

Many counseling services are available at the EVC campus and all other major ACC campuses. If you have questions or problems in any of the following areas, please contact the Student Services Department:

Academic Concerns - Study Techniques, Test Taking, Time Management, Lecture or Clinical Concerns, Instructor Conflicts, etc.

Personal Concerns - Relaxation Techniques, Assertiveness, Communication, Family or Social Pressures, etc.

Career Concerns - Career Decisions or Questions, Career Information, Resume Writing, Interviewing, Resources for Job Information, etc.

Financial Concerns - Basic Financial Aid Information and Forms, Resources to contact for further information of scholarships, loans, etc. (More assistance can be obtained from the Financial Aid Offices)

### **Library/Learning Resource Center (LRC)**

The Eastview Library is located on the second floor of Building 2000. Library hours are:

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
Eastview	7:30- 9:00	7:30- 9:00	7:30- 9:00	7:30- 9:00	7:30- 9:00	8:00 - 5:00	12:00 - 6:00

Hours are subject to change and therefore should be checked each semester. The hours will be posted on the library door.

The Eastview Library serves as a superb medical resource facility and students should become familiar with it as soon as possible.

### **Computers**

Computers are available for student use on the EVC campus at the LRC. There is no charge for computer use. However, it is recommended that you reserve a computer if your time is limited. Available hours are the same as for the LRC.

Please note that an ACC student picture ID will be required for library and computer use.

## X. Student Signature Sheet

Please read each statement below. Initial each statement in the space indicated and provide your name, signature, and date below.

1. \_\_\_\_ I have read and agree to, and will comply with the student policies as outlined in the Student Handbook. Furthermore, I will agree to and will comply with the course requirements as listed in the Syllabus and Student Policies of Diagnostic Medical Imaging-Radiology.
2. \_\_\_\_ I understand that while performing my regularly assigned duties, I may be exposed to blood, body fluids, or tissues. I will use the appropriate personal protective equipment required when there is an inherent potential for mucous membrane or skin contact with blood, body fluids or tissues, or a potential for spills or splashes of them. Appropriate protection may include the use of gloves, gowns, masks, face shields, eye protection, mouthpieces, resuscitation bags, and other protective equipment. I understand that if I fail to use available personal protective equipment, I may be subject to disciplinary action.
3. \_\_\_\_ I have been informed regarding the inherent health/safety hazards in the healthcare field and release ACC from any liability for such hazards.
4. \_\_\_\_ I have read and agree to the "Substance Abuse Administrative Policy."
5. \_\_\_\_ I understand that some clinical agencies may require a pre-placement drug screen at my expense.
6. \_\_\_\_ I agree to criminal background checks and agree to immediately notify the Dean of Health Sciences in writing of any subsequent changes in criminal history that occur after the admission background check has been completed.
7. \_\_\_\_ I will complete all clinical educational training modules and submit signed documentation to the Program as required.

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Revised August 2010**