



MRI Education Program

FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions):

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Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

1. Can I download an application or brochure about the MRI Program?

Yes. Please visit our [website](#) to download the PDFs.

2. When does the MRI program start?

The program will begin on or near July 1st of each year. Applications will be accepted until February 1st of each year. Applications that are not received or are not complete (this includes receipt of all required transcripts, ACT/SAT scores, *etc.*) by the February 1st deadline **will not be considered** for the enrollment year.

3. How many students apply and how many are accepted into the program each year?

The number of applications submitted varies from year to year but is generally around 10. Each year, the top academic candidates are granted an interview and up to 6 of those are offered positions. Up to 2 additional students are waitlisted in the event that any of the selected students decline the position.

4. When are students notified of their application status?

Candidates are notified early to mid-February regarding whether or not they are granted an interview. Interviews are typically scheduled toward the end of February or early March, and candidates are notified whether or not they have been accepted by early April.

5. If I'm not accepted this year, do I have to re-apply next year?

Yes, you must resubmit a new application and three new reference forms if you wish to reapply for the next year. Application files are kept for one year, so if you reapply within one year, you **will not** need to resubmit your ACT/SAT/TEAS scores or your academic transcripts *unless* you have completed additional course work or repeated the ACT/SAT/TEAS exam(s) during that time frame. If an applicant does not apply in consecutive years, their complete file will be discarded.

6. If not selected this year, what can I do to improve my chances of admission if I re-apply next year?

Enrollment into the program is very competitive and, obviously, everyone cannot be selected. The following are recommendations that may improve your chances of admission:

- a. Complete college level course work in the following science related areas:
 - Biology, Chemistry, Anatomy & Physiology, and Physics.
- b. Complete college level course work in the following mathematics related areas:
 - College Algebra, Geometry, Computer Science, or any higher-level mathematics course.
- c. Earn a higher degree than what you currently have

*If not selected this year, what can I do to improve my chances of admission if I re-apply next year?
(cont.)*

- d. Retake and improve your composite score on the ACT, SAT, or TEAS exam
- e. Obtain experience in patient care if the opportunity presents itself, such as volunteer work.
- f. Thoroughly research the profession of MRI. Know as much as you can about the profession and the specifics related to your chosen career. The American Society of Radiological Technologists (ASRT) website is a good resource (www.asrt.org), as well as the Society for MR Radiographers & Technologists (SMRT) (<http://www.ismrm.org/smrt/>).

7. What are the costs associated with attending the program?

Tuition – The program tuition is \$2,000.00 dollars per semester (\$4,000.00 per year for the full 12-month program). There is a \$50.00 non-refundable admission fee.

Books & Supplies – The cost of textbooks plus the online clinical reporting system (Trajecsys Report System™) is estimated at approximately \$400.00 – \$500.00 for the 12-month Program. **This is an estimated value and may be subject to change depending on instructor preference and market prices.*

Uniforms – Upon acceptance to the program, students are provided with information on purchasing their uniforms. Students should expect to spend approximately \$200.00 on uniforms for the program.

Graduation fees – Students are assessed a \$25.00 graduation fee payable two weeks prior to graduation.

Conference attendance – Students are required to attend an educational conference during their 2nd semester. Expenses include registration fees, poster presentation, travel, and lodging. Students should expect to spend approximately \$400 - \$500 to attend this conference; however, students can subsidize this cost by conducting various fund-raising activities.

ARRT Exam Fees – During their 2nd semester, students must apply for certification to the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists to take the post-primary certifying exam in Magnetic Resonance Imaging upon completion of the program. The current fee assessed by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) is \$225.

8. Is student housing available?

WVUH **does not** own or operate a student housing facility; therefore, it is the student's responsibility to obtain and finance housing if they choose to live in the Morgantown area.

9. What types of financial aid are available?

Students enrolled in the Radiography, Radiation Therapy, and MRI programs are eligible for Federal financial aid to include Pell Grants and Direct loans. Prospective students may include WVUH on their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by listing our school's code (012573) when completing Step Six of the FAFSA; however, financial aid eligibility will not be calculated until the student gains admission to the program. WVUH students do not qualify for the Promise scholarship; however, the Pierpont Associate's degree program may be an option for Promise eligible students.

10. What are the clinical requirements, hours of attendance, and the allotted time off?

The normal hours of attendance are Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM with the exception of early morning shift clinical rotation(s) in the 1st semester and evening shift clinical rotations in the 2nd semester. The weeks of evening clinical assignments (10:00 AM to 6:00 PM; 11:00 AM to 7:15 PM; 12:00 PM to 7:15 PM; or 3:00 PM to 11:00 PM) are to further develop confidence and competency, as well as prioritize patient examination requests and handle emergency situations. The week(s) of early morning QA/QC assignment (6:45 AM to 3:15 PM) is to develop competency in opening up the clinic and Quality Control methods. All clinical assignments are conducted within the sponsoring institution's facilities and are located within 25 miles of the main campus at Ruby Memorial Hospital. Students ***do not*** participate in weekend or holiday clinical rotations.

Consistent with the desired qualities of a medical professional, students are required to be on time for their scheduled clinical rotations and miss as little time as possible over the one-year program. Attendance is monitored closely and students may be dismissed for violation of the attendance policy. Students are allotted six (6) personal leave days over the one-year period and are scheduled off on all of the Hospital-recognized holidays. In addition, students are granted three (3) weeks of scheduled vacation each year (1-week in March or April & 2-weeks in December).

11. How does this type of education differ from other post-secondary education programs?

Students enrolled in the Imaging Science Education programs are expected to be mature, responsible adults that are willing to make a commitment to the Institution and the profession. This commitment is evidenced by demanding high quality academic work, exceptional patient care /clinical skills, and good attendance.

The first few months may seem difficult as the program does require a lot of the student's time and because all of the information and experiences are new. It may seem like working and going to school because you are required to be in attendance for about 8-hours each day and then you will find it necessary to spend additional time completing homework assignments and/or preparing for examinations. Students are responsible for simultaneously completing the didactic (classroom) and clinical components of the program. Therefore, each student will have to dedicate a lot of time to his or her education.

How does this type of education differ from other post-secondary education programs? (cont.)

A critical aspect of the student's education is the clinical component. Students are assigned to a clinical rotation the first week of their program after orientation; therefore, they will be immediately exposed to certain aspects of health care that may be unpleasant to the untrained individual. Students should expect to experience adult & pediatric patients with a variety of conditions such as broken bones, severe deformities, malignancies, bleeding, and contagious diseases. In addition, students will be required to provide care regardless of the patient's sex, race, socioeconomic status, and/or physical condition. It is imperative that the student respond in a mature, reassuring, and professional manner when providing healthcare to the patient population while maintaining strict confidentiality regarding the patient and their condition.

12. What are the post-secondary or general education requirements for admission and/or graduation?

To be eligible to sit for the ARRT primary certification exam in Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), all students must have completed an Associate's degree (or higher) from an accredited post-secondary institution before entering the program. The degree may be in any field or discipline.

13. Do I have to be a graduate of an accredited radiography (X-ray) program in order to apply? Also, do I have to have my R.T. (R)?

Yes. All Applicants must have graduated (or have pending graduate status) from a JRCERT-accredited program in Radiologic Technology.

Registry eligible students are accepted on the condition that they successfully pass the ARRT examination in Radiography before July 1st. Students who do not pass must withdraw from the Program and can only regain admission by entering the applicant pool in subsequent enrollment years.

14. Do I still have to take the ACT, SAT, or TEAS exam if I have already completed X-ray school and have an Associate degree?

No. Students with an Associate degree or higher may be exempted from this rule. Official ACT, SAT or TEAS exams scores may be submitted and if the score provided satisfies or exceeds the minimum score, additional points will be awarded to the applicant.

15. If I graduate from your program, do you guarantee I will be offered a job?

The mission of the MRI program is to graduate competent and caring students with entry-level employment skills required of MRI technologists. We cannot guarantee job placement, but will assist the student in finding employment as best we can.

16. I have more questions not answered by these FAQ's. Who can I contact for more information?

Additional questions may be directed to the Program Director, Brad Holben, by e-mail: cholben@hsc.wvu.edu *or* by phone: (304)-598-4169.