

CASPER COLLEGE RADIOGRAPHY PROGRAM ADMISSION GUIDE

2010/2011



Table of Contents

Casper College Department of Radiography Welcome Letter ...3	3
About the Profession of Radiologic Technology4	4
Radiography Program Admission Checklist5	5
Associate Degree Program in Radiography -Academic Record. ..7	7
Estimated Expenses8	8
Other Clinical Education Requirements9	9
Physical Ability Requirements10	10
Radiography Program Mission/Goals11	11
Student Outcomes12	12
Clinical Observation Form13	13
Observer Checklist14	14
Radiography Program Application for Admission15	15

Casper College Department of Radiography

Dear Prospective Radiography Student,

Thank you for expressing an interest in the Casper College Radiography Program. Our program spans two years of both academic and clinical education, at the completion of which the student is awarded an Associate of Science Degree. The Casper College Radiography Program is fully accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology located at 20 North Wacker Drive, Suite 2850, Chicago, Illinois 60606-2901.

Once accepted to Casper College you will be a Health Science Major with an emphasis in radiography. After you complete the pre-requisite courses outlined in the catalogue with a 2.3 GPA or higher, you will be eligible to apply for the program, and may be selected to interview for one of the twenty-student positions in the program. The deadline for application is February 15th of each year, and the interviews will take place in April. The program begins in May and continues for the two-year period. Please review the checklist for admissions to the radiography program enclosed in this packet for more information on the application process.

Casper College is an excellent school. It is large enough to provide high-level instruction, yet small enough that the student receives individualized attention. We are also fortunate to have excellent clinical settings in Casper, Gillette, Sheridan, Lander and Riverton for students to gain hands on experience in the field of radiology. Students can select locations in Casper or in one of the outside communities to complete the clinical portion of their radiography education. Lecture and lab courses are offered on the Casper College campus in a block type schedule. All students are required to attend on campus lecture/lab courses.

Please review the information I have enclosed in this packet. It will outline the necessary pre-requisites for program eligibility. If there is anything I might do to provide you more information or to answer any questions, please feel free to call me. We also extend an invitation for you to visit our campus. If you would like a tour, call the Admissions office at 1-800-442-2963 or 1-307-268-2491, and they will be happy to make arrangements. If you have the opportunity to visit our campus, please come by and see me.

Sincerely,

Laurie Weaver
Casper College Radiography Department
Program Director
125 College Drive
Casper, WY 82601
307-268-2587
lweaver@caspercollege.edu

About the Profession of Radiologic Technology

A radiologic technologist or radiographer utilizes x-ray equipment to create images of tissues, organs, bones and vessels of the body. The two year Associates of Science Program at Casper College prepares the student to enter the field of radiology through study in anatomy, radiation physics, pathology and other science and health related areas. You'll also learn to use computers to acquire and manipulate the radiographic images, and you'll learn to work with some of the most technologically advanced equipment in the medical field. Other essential parts of a radiographer's job include communicating with patients, utilizing critical thinking skills to perform medical imaging procedures, and working together with other members of the health care team to provide effective patient care.

Radiographers are employed in many health care settings including specialized imaging centers, urgent care clinics, hospitals, physicians offices, as well as in the education and administrative settings. Some radiographers continue their education and specialize in mammography, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, sonography, nuclear medicine, interventional procedures, radiation therapy, and other imaging modalities. The opportunities in the imaging field are immense, and the possibilities exciting.

What makes a career in radiologic technology worth a closer look? First, as a radiologic technologist, you'll be on the cutting edge of scientific progress, working with the latest advances in medical care. You'll also be a member of one of the fastest growing professions in the country. Experts predict job openings will be plentiful well into the future. Most importantly, you'll be a vital member of the patient care team, a radiologic technologist provides the care that leads to diagnosis, treatment and cure of a patients illness.



Some of this information was taken from the ASRT brochure "Take A Closer Look"



Casper College Radiography Program Admissions Checklist ARE YOU READY TO APPLY?

Complete the following checklist to find out if you are ready to apply for admission to the Radiography Program. If you have any questions, call Laurie Weaver at 307-268-2587 or E-mail at lweaver@caspercollege.edu.

STEP ONE

- Have you applied for admission to Casper College as a classified student with a major in radiography? All transcripts from previous college coursework must be on file in the admissions office.

STEP TWO

As of January of the year you are applying for, will you meet the prerequisites or be currently enrolled in the following courses? Midterm grades will be used in the application ranking process if the student has not completed the course by February 15th of the year applying.

- ENGL 1010 English Composition I
- MATH 1400 Pre-Calculus Algebra
- ZOO 2040/2041 Human Anatomy or
- ZOO 2110 Human Physiology
- HLTK 1200 Medical Terminology
- HLTK 0950 Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers

STEP THREE

- Is your cumulative GPA 2.3 or greater?
- Have you observed the activities in a radiology department for a minimum of 8 hours and have completed the program observation form and questions? Call Laurie Weaver at 268-2587 to set an appointment. Students will need to complete a non-employee packet and have proof of a current PPD (TB) skin test to observe at the Wyoming Medical Center.
- Can you comply with the Technical Admissions Standards (located in the current Casper College catalog) including CPR certification for the healthcare professional?
- No prior felony convictions – to be eligible to take National Registry. See program director for more information.

STEP FOUR

If you have successfully completed all the items on this checklist you are ready to apply for admission to the Radiography Program.

- Complete and return the Radiography Program Application for Admission by February 15th.
 - Send two recommendation letters to Laurie Weaver by February 15th.
 - One from your most recent employer addressing: sense of responsibility, reliability, and capability of working with limited supervision and having interest/pride in the job
 - One from anyone who can attest to your honesty, sincerity, and the ability to work in a team setting.

*After all of the above steps are completed and you qualify as one of the top applicants, you will be invited in April to interview for admission into the program. Interview selection involves a ranking of cumulative GPA and pre-requisite course grades. (Midterm grades will be used if courses are still in progress) The interview consists of questions that assess communication skills and knowledge of the profession based on your experience during the hospital observation requirement.

STEP FIVE

If you are accepted into the program, which starts in May, you must meet the following requirements.

- Complete the Hepatitis B vaccination series: First of the series must be completed prior to the start of clinical education.
- Provide evidence of MMR immunization.
- Pass Wyoming Medical Center's drug screening prior to starting clinical education. Undergo a background check through the Wyoming Medical Center Human Resources Department.
- Provide evidence of current health insurance and PPD testing each year while in the program.
- Complete a health exam by your physician prior to starting the program.
- Provide evidence of Chicken Pox immunization or provide a signed statement that you have had the chicken pox
- Provide a copy of your current drivers license.

**CASPER COLLEGE STUDENT ACADEMIC RECORD
ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM IN RADIOGRAPHY**

PRE - RAD	PREREQUISITE COURSES		CRS	SEM/YR	GRADE	
	ZOO 2040/2041 Human Anatomy		4			
	ZOO 2110 Human Physiology		4			
	MATH 1400 Pre-Calculus Algebra		4			
	ENGL 1010 English I		3			
	HLTK 1200 Medical Terminology or Equivalent		3			
	HLTK 0950 BLS		.33			
	GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES – It is helpful to have these courses completed prior to admission to the program					
	ENGL 1020 English Composition II		3			
	POLS 1000 US and Wyoming constitutions		3			
	Cultural Environment		3-4			
	PSYC 1000 General Psychology <i>or</i>		4			
	SOC 1000 Sociology		3			
	PE		1			
FIRST YEAR	Mini Mester I					
	*RDTK 1500 Introduction to Radiologic Technology		1			
	*RDTK 1530 Patient Care and Management		2			
	*RDTK 1580 Radiographic Positioning I		2			
	Summer I					
	*RDTK 1710 Clinical Education I		2			
	Fall I					
	*RDTK 1610 Radiographic Imaging I		3			
	*RDTK 1680 Radiographic Positioning II		2			
	*RDTK 1810 Clinical Education II		3			
	*RDTK 1830 Pharmacology for Radiographers		1			
	ZOO 2040 Anatomy or ZOO 2110 Physiology if not completed pre-RDTK		4			
	COSC 1200 Computer Information Systems		3			
	Spring 1					
	*RDTK 1640 Radiographic Imaging II		3			
	*RDTK 1910 Clinical Education III		3			
	*RDTK 2580 Radiographic Positioning III		2			
	HLTK 2200 Sectional Anatomy		3			
	SECOND YEAR	Summer II				
		*RDTK 2710 Clinical Education IV		2		
Fall II						
*RDTK 2640 Radiation Biology & Protection			2			
*RDTK 2630 Radiographic Pathology			2			
*RDTK 2810 Clinical Education V			5			
Spring II						
*RDTK 2910 Clinical Education VI			5			
*RDTK 2930 Transition from Student / Radiographer			2			
Total Credit Hours		TOTAL HRS REQUIRED: 80.33-82.33				

***RDTK courses can only be taken once a student is accepted into the radiography program. Other general education courses listed above can be taken during any semester or prior to acceptance into the program.**

Associate Degree for Radiography Education at Casper College Estimated Expenses

Prospective students should refer to the current Casper College catalog for tuition and fee rates. In addition to tuition and fees, the following expenses and supplies are estimated for the **first semester** of the radiography program:

First Semester: refer to the current Casper College catalog for tuition and fee rates.

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| • Background check | \$60 |
| • Books (approximate) | \$400 |
| • Uniforms and lab coat | \$200 |
| • Eye protection | \$12 |
| • Chicken pox titer | \$2.50 |
| • Chicken pox vaccine x2 (at Public Health) | \$100 each if negative titer |
| • Hepatitis titer | \$30 |
| • Hepatitis immunization series | \$90 |
| • MMR titer | \$2.50 |
| • MMR vaccine | \$50 |
| • Health insurance - if not covered by another policy | \$750 annually (2009-2015) |
| • Flu vaccination | \$15 (approximate) |

Casper College provides, at no expense to students, liability (malpractice) insurance while radiography students are engaged in their clinical lab activities. As is stated in the catalog, students are responsible for their own transportation and its related expenses.

Expenses for the second semester include: refer to the current Casper College catalog for tuition and fee rates.

Books and supplies (approximate)	\$200-350
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Expenses for the third and fourth semester include: refer to the current Casper College catalog for tuition and fee rates.

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| • Books and supplies (approximate) | \$200-350 |
| • Health insurance (if not covered by another policy) | \$750 annually
(2009-2015) |
| • Cap and gown fee | \$15 |
| • Application for Radiography license | \$130 |
| • ARRT exam | \$150 |
| • Flu vaccination | \$15 (approximate) |

If you are applying for financial assistance you may be eligible for an increase to your expense budget based on the above estimated expenses. Please contact the office of Student Financial Assistance for instructions on how to request an expense review.

Other Clinical Education Requirements

Casper College Radiography Program

Background Check and Drug/Alcohol Policy

Students enrolled in any of the health science programs will participate in clinical experiences in a variety of agencies. Prior to participating in the clinical experiences, students will be subject to that agency's requirements for a background check, drug testing and drug abuse prevention policies. Students are then subject to the random drug testing policy of that agency.

Following graduation, several of the state and/or national licensing or certification (registry) boards, including the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT), may refuse to allow a graduate to sit for the required exam or issue a license or certification to a person who has a prior felony conviction or proven history of drug or alcohol abuse. Applicants to whom this applies should consult the program director for further information.

Clinical Accessibility Policy

The Casper College Radiography Program utilizes a variety of health care agencies in the community for clinical experience for the students. If you have been employed in one or more of the agencies and are not eligible for rehire as an employee, the agency may not permit you to participate in the essential clinical component of the program.

Please contact the Human Resources department of the affected agency and request documentation from HR that states the agency position on you participating in the clinical component of the program. If you receive a negative response from the agency, you are **automatically ineligible to apply**. A response indicating you **will be permitted** to attend clinicals in the agency will be given to the program director prior to the selection process for admission to the program. If you are unable to fulfill clinical requirements due to a previous employer issue and have not complied with the above, you could be dismissed from the program.

Physical Abilities for Students Seeking Admission to a Health Sciences Program

For the purpose of the Radiography Program, a qualified individual is one who, with or without reasonable accommodation or modification, meets the essential eligibility requirements for participation in the program.

The field of Radiography is a practice discipline with cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor performance requirements. Based on these requirements, a list of "Core Performance Standards" has been developed. These standards are part of each Radiography course and some of the standards are more prevalent than others.

These standards should be used to assist students in determining whether accommodations or modifications are necessary for the student to meet program requirements. Students who identify potential difficulties with meeting the Core Performance Standards must communicate their concerns to the Student Services department as well as the program director. Determination is made on an individual basis as to whether or not the necessary accommodations or modifications can be made reasonably.

CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION

ISSUE	STANDARD
Critical thinking	Critical thinking ability to exercise clinical judgment in a timely manner
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact therapeutically with patients, families and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds
Communication	Communication skills sufficient for interaction with patients/clients, families, staff, faculty and other students in verbal, nonverbal, and written form
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room, safely perform treatments/procedures and assist patients/clients; lift 50 pounds and transfer patients/clients; manipulate equipment; walk and/or stand for extended periods of time
Motor skills	Gross and fine motor skills sufficient to provide safe and effective Radiography care
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and safely assess health needs
Visual	Visual ability with or without corrective lenses sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in safe Radiography care
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment

Approved by attorney, J. Z. Norman, 5-3-06

CASPER COLLEGE RADIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

MISSION

The Associate of Science degree Radiography Program at Casper College produces competent medical radiographers eligible for immediate employment or advanced education, by offering high quality educational and clinical experiences.

PURPOSE

The Radiography Program at Casper College provides quality learning opportunities for its students in order to accomplish its mission. It also encourages and supports life-long learning. By maintaining national accreditation, the radiography program will prepare students to meet the demands of the profession. This includes technical skills, as well as their ability to be intellectually adaptive and communicate well, to think analytically, to integrate knowledge, and to appreciate cultural and social diversity. Graduates will learn to exhibit and apply high ethical values and standards of practice in regard to patient care in the healthcare field.

PROGRAM GOALS

I. Clinical Performance and Competence

Students will produce high quality images by possessing the knowledge, clinical application, radiation safety practices and patient care skills needed to meet the needs of the radiography community as entry level radiographers.

II. Problem Solving and Critical Thinking

Students will demonstrate sound problem solving and critical thinking skills necessary to function effectively in the clinical setting.

III. Communication

Students will communicate effectively with patients, peers, and other members of the healthcare team. Through effective communication students will function as a productive member of the healthcare team.

IV. Professional Growth and Development

Students will understand the purpose and importance of professional values, ethics, continuing education, and life long learning.

V. Program Effectiveness

Graduates will fulfill the needs of the health care community. The program will provide the community with graduates who are able to function as an active member of the health care team.

Casper College Radiography Program Student Outcomes

Upon completion of the Associate of Science degree radiography program, the graduate will be able to/will:

1. Synthesize and apply knowledge from the biological, physical and radiographic sciences to provide humanistic patient care;
2. Perform radiographic skills in a manner safe to the patient, other health team members, and self within the professional scope of practice;
3. Adapt radiographic positioning skills to various body habiti;
4. Adapt radiographic technique to various pathological conditions;
5. Adapt radiographic technique to accommodate different machines and/or equipment;
6. Collaborate with other members of the health team and supervise others less skilled in the technical aspects of radiography;
7. Critique radiographs for accuracy of positioning and technique to meet the satisfaction of the radiologist;
8. Administer diagnostic radiation so as to minimize radiation exposure to the patient, other health professionals and self;
9. Demonstrate responsibility for continued personal and professional growth and education;
10. Pursue an advanced degree in radiography, should he or she so desire.
11. Effectively utilize communication skills within the health care setting.
12. Utilize skills to successfully incorporate critical thinking and problem solving skills within the health care setting.
13. Learn more effectively by providing an on campus lab that was adequate and contributed to the effective learning used in the clinical setting.
14. Provide adequate patient care and management skills during radiographic procedures.
15. Practice within the profession's ethical and legal boundaries to meet the needs of the patient and health care community.

CASPER COLLEGE RADIOGRAPHY PROGRAM CLINICAL OBSERVATION FORM

As part of the radiography program application process the student is required to perform an 8-hour observation in a radiology department. The observation format is as follows:

Observation objective: The observation period is designed to introduce to the student the role and responsibilities of a radiographer. (See checklist on the following page for more specific objectives) The student is required to complete this form as well as have the supervising technologist sign in the appropriate space.

After the form is complete, please return it along with the answered questions to Laurie Weaver at Casper College.

The student must follow the listed guidelines during the observation:

- 1. Dress presentably to portray a professional attitude that the program wishes to instill in its students. No t-shirts, shorts, or jeans can be worn.**
- 2. Patient confidentiality must be maintained at all times. The applicant must not discuss patients, procedures, or results encountered during the observation. I understand the importance of patient confidentiality and by signing below agree to keep all patient information private and confidential.**

Observers Signature: _____

3. Applicants may feel free to ask questions, but should refrain from asking them in front of patients.
4. Please complete the questions listed below on a separate piece of paper and return them along with this form.
5. **If observing at the Wyoming Medical Center the student must complete a non-employee packet prior to the observation period. Contact the WMC Human Resource Department for the packet and instructions.**

Applicants Name _____

Facility Name _____

Observation Date _____

Hours observed _____

Technologist Signature _____

Questions to be completed by applicant and attached to completed form.

1. List the general responsibilities of the radiographer.
2. What interactions does a technologist have with patients? Physicians? Other allied health professionals?
3. Describe why mathematics and sciences are important prerequisites for a technologist.
4. List the exams you observed. Give a brief explanation of each.

Casper College Radiography Program Observer Check-list

The observation day is designed to introduce the student interested in learning more about the radiography profession to a variety of experiences within the diagnostic imaging department. To help facilitate your experience, please utilize this check-list as you complete your observation. It may be impossible to see all of the areas listed on this form, however you can use this as a guide to see as much as possible.

You should not spend more than 1 hour in each of the areas listed under diagnostic and therapeutic specialties. A majority of your observation should take place in the Radiology Department area. If you feel you did not gain enough information during your observation please feel free to schedule another time.

Radiography Department	WMC Location	Check when completed
Quality Control Area	Interior of Radiology Department	
Fluoroscopic Exams	Rooms 1 and 4	
Portable Procedures	Emergency Room Patient Room	
General diagnostic procedures: Example- Chest exams, extremities, spines, etc.	Radiology Department Rooms 2, 3 and 5	
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Specialties		
Nuclear Medicine	1 st Floor WMC	
Ultrasound	1 st Floor WMC or CMI	
MRI	Wyoming Imaging Center	
CT	1 st Floor WMC: Radiology Department	
Radiation Therapy	Where available	



**CASPER COLLEGE
RADIOGRAPHY PROGRAM
APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION**
PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

1. Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

2. Name _____
(Different from above that may appear on your records)

3. Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

4. E-mail Address _____

5. Present Mailing Address _____
Street City State Zip

6. Permanent Address _____
Street City State Zip

7. High School _____
(City) (State)
Year Graduated _____

8. College and/or other post high school education attended: It is your responsibility to be sure that admissions office has your transcripts from other colleges/universities.

9. Have you applied to Casper College Yes ___ No ___
(A completed Casper College application must be on file in the Admissions Office)

10. In which courses are you now enrolled? _____

Where? _____

11. Please circle your preferred clinical site: **Casper Gillette Lander Sheridan Riverton**

MAIL THIS APPLICATION TO: Laurie Weaver
Casper College
125 College Drive
Casper, Wyoming 82601

Date _____ Signature _____ Year applying for Admission _____

- A) You must complete the pre-requisite courses and have a cumulative college GPA \geq 2.3 to apply to the program (See Checklist provided in this packet)**
- B) Deadline for application and transcripts submission is February 15th**
- C) Notification of interview can be anticipated in March or April.**