

Advanced Technical Certificate in Computed Tomography

2017-18 Program Guide

Admission requirements are subject to change. Please check for any admission updates:

valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm

| Term | Priority Application Deadline | Classes Begin |
|-------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Fall 2017 | 7/28/17 | 8/28/17 |
| Spring 2018 | 12/1/17 | 1/8/18 |

ABOUT THIS LIMITED-ACCESS PROGRAM

This patient-focused program enables you to develop skills to become a CT technologist. You will gain an understanding of the physical principles and instrumentation involved in CT. This includes procedure protocols, evaluating equipment operation, ensuring accurate diagnosis and safe patient care. The Computed Tomography (CT) Program is designed for individuals who are currently certified in Radiography (ARRT), Radiation Therapy (ARRT), or Nuclear Medicine Technology (AART or NMTCB) and hold an eligible degree from a regionally accredited institution. Program content follows the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) curriculum to prepare program completers for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) certification examination in Computed Tomography. Completion of this certificate program does not insure permission to take the credentialing examination.

The Computed Tomography (CT) Program at Valencia is a limited access, bachelor's-level program and admission to Valencia does not guarantee acceptance to the program. Applicants must also submit a Health Sciences CT Program Application and be accepted to the program. Except for the practicum course, this is an online program designed for working professionals. The online courses do require some on-site testing at Valencia or at a location in your community. The program begins in fall and spring terms. Although applications submitted prior to the priority application deadline are more likely to be processed for the upcoming term, applications can be submitted after the priority deadline. Students who meet all admission requirements are admitted on a first-come, first-served basis until the class is filled; then students are placed on the waiting list for the next program start date. Applicants who decline entry for their identified admission term must reapply to the program.

PROGRAM CHECKLIST

- ____ 1. Be a U.S. citizen or a U.S. permanent resident.
- ____ 2. Review this Computed Tomography Program Guide and the overview and program requirements in the online Valencia catalog: catalog.valenciacollege.edu/degrees/advancedtechnicalcertificates/
- ____ 3. Submit a completed Valencia application for admission using the *Bachelor's Degree & ATC* application (valenciacollege.edu/admissions-records/forms.cfm) and pay the non-refundable \$35 application fee. First-time Valencia bachelor-level applicants must create a new application account. Active Valencia students who have an A.S. degree in Radiography from Valencia are not required to pay the \$35 fee for the ATC in CT.
- ____ 4. Have an address in the state of Florida.
- ____ 5. Submit the documentation to request Florida Residency for tuition purposes.

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- ____ 6. Submit to Valencia's Admissions Office an official transcript that indicates you have earned an associate degree, or higher, in Radiography or Radiation Therapy or Nuclear Medicine Technology from a regionally accredited institution. Students who hold the appropriate professional certification and any Associate in Science degree, Associate in Applied Science degree, or higher from a regionally accredited institution in any other field may also be considered for admission.
- ____ 7. Receive notification from Valencia's Admissions Office of *acceptance as a candidate* for the Advanced Technical Certificate in CT.
- ____ 8. Submit a Health Sciences CT Program Application with a copy of your current certification with American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) or Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB); employment documentation, if applicable; and the application fee. Your professional certification must remain current throughout your program enrollment. The Health Sciences Computed Tomography program application is available at: valenciacollege.edu/west/health/AppDeadlines.cfm
- ____ 9. Your official transcript must reflect *graduation with your eligible degree within the year prior to program application*.
- OR**
- You must submit *documentation of employment within the year prior to program application in diagnostic imaging*. (If submitting documentation of employment, it must be on official letterhead.)
- OR**
- You must *complete RTE 3116 Advanced Patient Care prior to taking RTE 4942L CT Practicum*.
- ____ 10. Following program admission from the Division of Allied Health, attend the mandatory, on-campus CT Program Orientation.
- ____ 11. Provide all required documentation by the Health Sciences Compliance Deadline, which will be prior to beginning the CT Practicum. These compliance requirements will be discussed at the CT Program Orientation:
- Current criminal background check and fingerprinting
 - Drug screening
 - Physical exam form
 - Record with up-to-date immunization data
 - Current specific CPR certification

COST

The estimated total cost for the Advanced Technical Certificate in Computed Tomography, including Florida Resident tuition for the nine credits of program requirements, special course fees, and associated expenses such as the background check and immunizations is \$1,300. This estimate does not include books.

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CURRICULUM

Computed Tomography Certificate

| Course | Title | Credits |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| RTE 3765 | ANATOMY FOR THE MEDICAL IMAGER +* | 3 |
| RTE 3590 | COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY +* | 3 |
| RTE 4942L | CT PRACTICUM +* | <u>3</u> |
| Total Credit Hours | | 9 |

+ This course must be completed with a grade of C or better.

* This course has a prerequisite; check the description in the Valencia catalog.

Courses are scheduled to accommodate working professionals. The theory courses are taught online, although some testing may be on campus; students outside Central Florida can make arrangements for testing in their community. The clinicals are arranged in healthcare facilities with which Valencia College has affiliation agreements. RTE 3765 and RTE 3590 must be completed before taking RTE 4942L. To be placed in a practicum by Valencia, you must submit the Practicum Request Form by the applicable deadline. Although the Practicum is most often taken in the second term of the program, this is not always possible. **The clinical practicum must be begun within 1 year of completion of the course prerequisites in order to assure current content knowledge needed safe clinical practice.**

If you are currently employed in CT, or work at a facility that would allow you to cross-train in CT, and you are in the process of accumulating the ARRT required competencies, with appropriate documentation, you can satisfy the requirements of RTE 4942L CT Practicum through Experiential Learning credit. If you choose to apply for Experiential Learning credit, you must submit the required documentation and pay the Experiential Learning fee per credit (rather than regular tuition).

The following courses are offered in fall term:

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|---|
| RTE 3765 | Anatomy for the Medical Imager | 3 |
| RTE 3590 | Computed Tomography | 3 |

The following courses are offered in spring term:

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|---|
| RTE 3765 | Anatomy for the Medical Imager | 3 |
| RTE 3590 | Computed Tomography | 3 |
| RTE 4942L | CT Practicum | 3 |

The following course is offered in summer term:

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|---|
| RTE 4942L | CT Practicum | 3 |
|-----------|--------------|---|

ARRT CT Registry

Technologists must meet the ARRT's education and clinical experience requirements to attain advanced modality registry eligibility. RTE 3590 Computed Tomography satisfies the education requirement and the CT Practicum provides clinical experience in performing and documenting Computed Tomography procedures toward the ARRT eligibility requirements. While the ATC in Computed Tomography does offer a clinical component, the college is unable to guarantee ARRT registry eligibility. For more information on the ARRT requirements, visit www.arrt.org.

BS in Radiologic and Imaging Sciences

Valencia also offers the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Radiologic and Imaging Sciences (BSRAD) with Concentrations in CT, MRI, Mammography, Leadership and Cardiac Ultrasound. Students who are eligible to enroll in the BSRAD can apply this certificate toward degree graduation requirements. Students are admitted to the BS degree every term--Fall, Spring and Summer. The Program Guide with admission requirements for the BSRAD is found at <http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm>. Scroll to Radiologic and Imaging Sciences and then the Program Guide Link.

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HEALTH SCIENCES PROGRAM GUIDELINES
FOR THE B.S. IN RADIOLOGIC & IMAGING SCIENCES (BSRAD)
and
ADVANCED TECHNICAL CERTIFICATES IN CT, MRI, MAMMOGRAPHY AND
LEADERSHIP IN HEALTHCARE

Valencia's Health Sciences programs are offered through the Divisions of Allied Health and Nursing, which provide information about specific admission criteria for the programs. The Health Sciences program guides, of which this is one, are developed for a specific academic year (August to July) and, as a rule, changes to admission and program requirements become effective at the start of an academic year; however, **Valencia College reserves the right to make changes in admission and program requirements as circumstances require.** If a mid-year change becomes necessary, it will be indicated via valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm.

You may apply to only one bachelor's-level Health Sciences program at a time and enrollment is limited to only one Health Sciences program in a term.

ATLAS EMAIL

All communication from Valencia relative to program admission will be via your **Atlas email**. Written communication you send to Valencia staff should also be via your Atlas email and should include your name and your Valencia ID number.

MANDATORY ORIENTATION

The Advanced Technical Certificates in CT, MRI and Mammography require attendance at the mandatory, on-campus Program Orientation prior to program start.

COURSE FORMAT

Except for the practicum course, the Advanced Technical Certificate in Computed Tomography is an online program. The practicum is a three-credit clinical rotation completed in a healthcare facility. The online courses do require on-site testing at a Valencia campus or at another site if Valencia is not convenient for you. If you want to take your examinations in another location, you will need to do so at an approved testing site such as a college or public library that offers proctoring services and which may require a fee. Valencia can provide a listing of testing sites throughout Florida.

BACKGROUND CHECK, FINGERPRINTING, DRUG TESTING, IMMUNIZATIONS AND CPR CERTIFICATION

The Health Sciences programs include student clinical rotations in external affiliate healthcare facilities with which Valencia has agreements for student clinical assignments. The affiliates' policies require that students serving in a clinical rotation be cleared of offenses that would disqualify them from participating in student clinical assignments. Thus, all students in a program or degree concentration that requires a clinical experience must submit to a criminal background check, fingerprinting and drug screening as well as provide documentation of specific immunizations and CPR certification prior to participation in the clinical experience.

If you have a positive background check, fingerprint or drug test, you may be denied enrollment in a Health Sciences program due to the inability to participate in a student clinical assignment. If you have concerns regarding known background issues, it is recommended that you email questions to hscompliance@valenciacollege.edu.