

# Advanced Technical Certificate in Echocardiography

2017-18 Program Guide

**Admission requirements are subject to change. Please check for any admission updates:**  
[valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm](http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm)

Term	Priority Application Deadline	Classes Begin
Fall 2017	7/28/17	8/28/17

## ABOUT THIS LIMITED-ACCESS PROGRAM

The Echocardiography Program is designed to prepare health professionals to perform echocardiograms in the clinical setting. It 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 Echocardiography Program Application and be accepted to the program. Applicants must hold an eligible degree from a regionally accredited institution and a current eligible professional credential. The program is designed for working professionals and consists of 18 credits of didactic, lab and clinical course work. The program begins in fall term. **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.

Those who complete the Echocardiography ATC will be eligible to sit for the Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI) Registered Cardiac Sonographer (RCS) specialty examination. After 12 months of full-time clinical cardiac ultrasound experience, program completers will be eligible to sit for the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) Sonography Principles & Instrumentation (SPI) and Adult Echocardiography (AE) Exams.

## PROGRAM CHECKLIST

- \_\_\_ 1. Be a U.S. citizen or a U.S. permanent resident.
- \_\_\_ 2. Review this Echocardiography Program Guide and the program requirements for the Advanced Technical Certificates in the online Valencia catalog:  
<http://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](http://valenciacollege.edu/admissions-records/forms.cfm)) and pay the non-refundable \$35 application fee. First-time Valencia bachelor's-level applicants must create a new application account. Active Valencia students who have an A.S. degree from Valencia in Cardiovascular Technology, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Nursing, Radiography, or Respiratory Care are not required to pay the \$35 fee for the ATC in Echocardiography.
- \_\_\_ 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, from a regionally accredited institution in Cardiovascular Technology, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Nursing, Radiography, or Respiratory Care. 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 Admissions Office of *acceptance as a candidate* for the Advanced Technical Certificate in Echocardiography.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Following your admission to Valencia as a candidate for the Echocardiography Program, submit the Health Sciences Program Application for the Echocardiography Program with a copy of your current professional credential for Cardiovascular Technology (CCI – RCIS or RCES) or Sonography (ARDMS – RDMS, RVT, RMSKS, RPVI or RMSK) or Nursing (State Board of Nursing – RN) or Radiography (ARRT – R or S ) or Respiratory Care (NBRC-RRT) and the application fee
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Following program admission from the Division of Allied Health, participate in the Echocardiography Program Orientation held at the beginning of RET 4440C Cardiac Ultrasound I course.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Provide all required documentation by the Health Sciences Compliance Deadline, which will be prior to beginning RET 4942L Cardiac Ultrasound Clinical Practice I:
  - 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 Echocardiography, including Florida Resident tuition for the 18 credits of program requirements, special course fees, and associated expenses such as the background check and immunizations is \$2400. This estimate does not include books.

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# CURRICULUM

## Echocardiography Certificate

Course	Title	Credits
RET 4440C	Cardiac Ultrasound I	3
RET 4443	Cardiac Ultrasound Physics	2
RET 4441C	Cardiac Ultrasound II	3
RET 4942L	Cardiac Ultrasound Clinical Practice I	2
RET 4943L	Cardiac Ultrasound Clinical Practice II	2
RET 4442C	Cardiac Ultrasound III	3
RET 4944L	Cardiac Ultrasound Clinical Practice III	<u>3</u>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>18</b>

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

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

Courses are scheduled to accommodate working professionals and the courses are sequential. The theory courses are taught online with an on-campus lab component. The clinicals are arranged at assigned clinical sites with which Valencia College has affiliation agreements. To be placed in a Clinical Practice course, you must submit the Request Form by the applicable deadline.

<b>Term I - Fall Term:</b>		<b>Credits</b>
RET 4440C	Cardiac Ultrasound I (online with on-campus lab)	3
RET 4443	Cardiac Ultrasound Physics (online)	2
<b>Term II - Spring Term:</b>		
RET 4441C	Cardiac Ultrasound II (online with on-campus lab)	3
RET 4942L	Cardiac Ultrasound Clinical Practice I (assigned clinical site)	2
<b>Term III - Summer Term:</b>		
RET 4943L	Cardiac Ultrasound Clinical Practice II (assigned clinical site)	2
<b>Term IV - Fall Term:</b>		
RET 4442C	Cardiac Ultrasound III (online with on-campus lab)	3
RET 4944L	Cardiac Ultrasound Clinical Practice III (assigned clinical site)	<u>3</u>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>18</b>

### CCI Echocardiography Registry

Technologists must meet the CCI's clinical experience requirements to attain advanced modality registry eligibility and the Clinical Practice courses provide clinical experience in performing and documenting Echocardiography procedures toward the CCI eligibility requirements; for more information on these requirements, visit [www.cci-online.org/](http://www.cci-online.org/) .

### BS in Cardiopulmonary Sciences

Valencia also offers the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Cardiopulmonary Sciences (BSCARDIO) with a Concentration in Non-Invasive Cardiology or Community Health. Students who are eligible to enroll in the B.S. in Cardiopulmonary Sciences can apply this certificate as their chosen concentration in fulfillment of graduation requirements. Students are admitted to the BSCARDIO every term--Fall, Spring and Summer. The Program Guide with admission requirements for the BSCARDIO is found at <http://net1.valenciacollege.edu/future-students/degree-options/bachelors/>.

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**HEALTH SCIENCES PROGRAM GUIDELINES**  
**FOR THE BACHELOR'S in CARDIOPULMONARY SCIENCES**  
**and**  
**THE ADVANCED TECHNICAL CERTIFICATE in ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY**

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](http://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 Program Orientation for the ATC in Echocardiography will be conducted in class.

**COURSE FORMAT**

The Echocardiography program is designed for working professionals and consists of 18 credits of didactic, lab and clinical course work. The labs are taught on Valencia's West Campus and the clinical course work is completed in healthcare facilities in Orlando.

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

The Health Sciences programs include student clinical rotations in external affiliate health care 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](mailto:hscompliance@valenciacollege.edu).