

Advanced Technical Certificate in Mammography

2019-2020 Program Guide

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

valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm

Priority Application Deadline

November 1st

Classes Begin*

Spring Term - January

ABOUT THIS LIMITED-ACCESS PROGRAM

The Mammography Program is designed for working professionals who have a current professional credential from ARRT and have completed an A.S. degree, or higher, in Radiography from a regionally accredited institution. Students completing this certificate will gain knowledge and skills toward eligibility for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) post-primary certification exam in Mammography and toward employment opportunities as certified Mammographers. Completion of this certificate program does not insure permission to take the credentialing examination.

This is a limited access, bachelor's-level program and admission to Valencia does not guarantee acceptance to the program. Program applicants must also submit a School of Allied Health Mammography 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 spring 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 accepted 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.

* <https://valenciacollege.edu/academics/calendar/>

PROGRAM CHECKLIST

- ___ 1. Be a U.S. citizen or a U.S. permanent resident.
- ___ 2. Review this Mammography Program Guide and the overview and program requirements 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) and be in Active student status. First-time Valencia bachelor's applicants must create a new application account.
- ___ 4. Have an address in the state of Florida.
- ___ 5. Submit the documentation to request Florida Residency for tuition purposes.
- ___ 6. Submit to Valencia's admissions office an official transcript that indicates you have earned an associate degree, or higher, in Radiography 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 Admissions Office of *admission as a candidate* for the ATC in CT.
- ____ 8. After receiving notification of admission as a *candidate*, submit a School of Allied Health Mammography Program Application with a copy of your active credential with American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) or Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB); employment documentation, if applicable; and the application fee. Your professional credential must remain current throughout your program enrollment. The School of Allied Health Mammography program application is available via: <https://valenciacollege.edu/academics/programs/health-sciences/mammography/>
- ____ 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 4941L Practicum*.
- ____ 10. Following program admission from the School of Allied Health, attend the mandatory, on-campus Mammography Program Orientation.
- ____ 11. Provide all required documentation by the Health Sciences Compliance Deadline, which will be prior to beginning the Mammography Practicum. The estimated cost is \$190 plus the cost for any needed immunizations and/or CPR. These compliance requirements will be discussed at the Mammography 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 Mammography, including Florida Resident tuition for the 9 credits of program requirements, special course fees, and associated expenses such as the background check and immunizations is approximately \$1,300. This estimate does not include books.

SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH CURRICULUM

Mammography Advanced Technical Certificate

Course	Title	Credits	
RTE 4474	Quality Management ⁺	3	Offered in Spring Term
RTE 3588	Mammography ⁺	3	Offered in Summer Term
RTE 4941L	Practicum ⁺	<u>3</u>	Offered in Fall Term
Total Credits		9	

+ 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. 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 3588 and RTE 4474 must be completed before taking RTE 4941L. *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 third term of the program, this is not always possible. **The clinical practicum must be begun within 1 year of completion of the practicum course prerequisites in order to assure current content knowledge needed for safe clinical practice.**

If you are currently employed in Mammography, or work at a facility that would allow you to cross-train in Mammography, and you are in the process of accumulating the ARRT required competencies, with appropriate documentation, you can satisfy the requirements of RTE 4941L 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).

ARRT Mammography Registry

Technologists must meet the ARRT's education and clinical experience requirements to attain advanced modality registry eligibility. RTE 3588 Mammography satisfies the education requirement and the Mammography Practicum provides clinical experience in performing and documenting Mammography procedures toward the ARRT eligibility requirements. While the ATC in Mammography 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 a Concentration in Mammography, CT, MRI or Leadership. Students who are eligible to enroll in the BSRAD can apply the Mammography Advanced Technical 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 <https://valenciacollege.edu/academics/programs/health-sciences/radiologic-imaging-sciences/>

**SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH PROGRAM GUIDELINES
FOR THE B.S. IN RADIOLOGIC & IMAGING SCIENCES (BSRAD)
and
ADVANCED TECHNICAL CERTIFICATES IN CT, LEADERSHIP IN HEALTHCARE
MRI, MAMMOGRAPHY, and VASCULAR SONOGRAPHY**

Valencia's Health Sciences programs are offered through the School of of Allied Health and the School of Nursing, which provide information about specific admission criteria for the programs. The School of Allied Health 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

Following acceptance to the program from the Division of Allied Health, you will be given pertinent information about the mandatory, on-campus Mammography Program Orientation.

COURSE FORMAT

Except for the practicum course, the Advanced Technical Certificate in Mammography 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 proctored site if Valencia is not convenient for you. If you want to take your examinations in another proctored 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.