



# RADIOGRAPHY INFORMATION SESSION

**NOVA** | Northern Virginia  
Community College

*Radiography students learning patient positioning in lab*

*Last Updated: June 1, 2025*

# PROGRAM AT-A-GLANCE

- Application Period:** May 15 to May 31
- Admission Policy:** Competitive
- Program Location:** Medical Education Campus  
Springfield, Virginia
- Program Size:** 44 students
- Program Length:** Approximately 21 months
- Program Starts:** Every August



*RAD students practicing patient positioning in lab*

**Medical Education Campus, Health Sciences Division  
6699 Springfield Center Drive, Springfield, VA 22150**

# PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

The NOVA Radiography Program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT)

## Contact Information

20 North Wacker Drive, Suite 2850

Chicago, IL 60606-3182

Phone: 312.704.5300 | Email: [mail@jrcert.org](mailto:mail@jrcert.org)

[www.jrcert.org/programs/northern-virginia-community-college/](http://www.jrcert.org/programs/northern-virginia-community-college/)

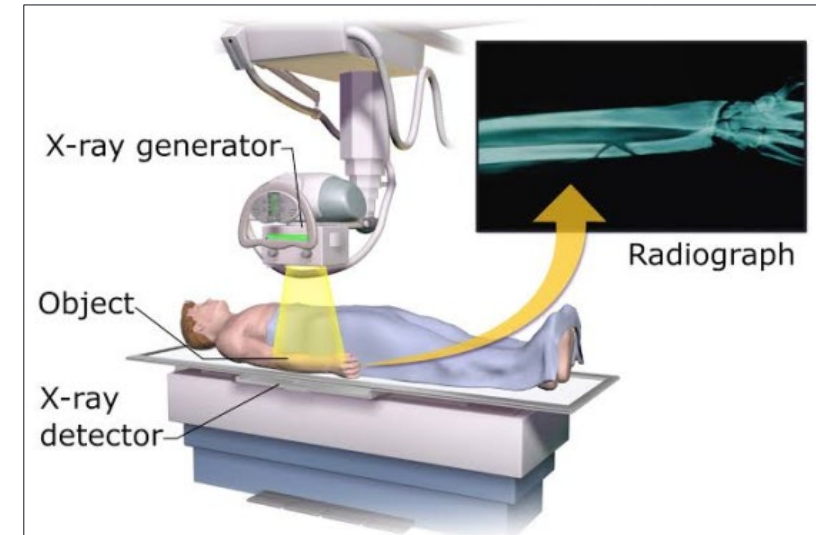
Program completion data, registry exam pass rates, credentialing, and job placement statistics are available under **Program Effectiveness** at the RAD program website.



*JRCERT logo*

# WHAT RAD TECHS DO

- Radiologic Technologists or radiographers take x-rays, a medical procedure that uses radiation to generate an image of the body
- They work with Radiologists, the doctors that review the x-rays to diagnose injury or disease
- They can work in hospitals, imaging centers, and medical offices
- Students will learn how to position patients and the x-ray equipment to safely use the right amount of radiation but get the best image
- To see salary information, go to [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov) and search Radiologic Technologist



*How an x-ray works*

# IMAGING SUBSPECIALTIES

Some subspecialties within the diagnostic imaging field include:

- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
- Computed tomography (CT)
- Nuclear medicine
- Mammography
- Bone densitometry

The NOVA Radiography program prepares students to take the American Registry of Radiologic Technology (ARRT) examination leading to certification as a Radiologic Technologist R.T.(R). Graduates may receive opportunities from their employer after being hired in the field to fully cross-train and qualify for ARRT certification in additional imaging modalities.

# IS THIS CAREER FOR ME?

Radiologic Technologist Videos:

- **What Does a Typical Day Look Like for a RAD Tech?**  
*The Radiologic Technologist* - [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Og95lZKU7Vg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Og95lZKU7Vg)
- **What Does a Typical Day Look Like in a Hospital Setting?**  
*The Radiologic Technologist* - [www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLaP3llbYnU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLaP3llbYnU)
- **My Job: Radiologic Technologist**  
*Nemours KidsHealth* - [www.youtube.com/watch?v=gGkgYrwq-KA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gGkgYrwq-KA)

# HOW TO BECOME A RAD TECH

- Apply to NOVA
- Complete the pre-application requirements
- Apply to the program during the application period

If accepted:

- Attend mandatory RAD Program Orientation
- Complete the clinical requirements
- Successfully complete the program and graduate
- Successfully pass the ARRT RT registry exam



*X-ray of a human skull*

# APPLY TO NOVA

Apply to NOVA at [www.nvcc.edu](http://www.nvcc.edu)

- Select the current semester so you can enroll in classes after applying
- Select the **Health Sciences Associate of Science** degree to complete prerequisites
- Students are placed in the Radiography major after program acceptance
- Reapply to the college if it has been more than 3 semesters since you enrolled in classes
- Academic Calendar: [www.nvcc.edu/academics/calendar](http://www.nvcc.edu/academics/calendar)



# COMPLETE PRE-APPLICATION REQs

- Complete the pre-application requirements by enrolling in available classes on the Student Information System (SIS)
- Prerequisites may be taken at any campus they are offered including NOVA Online
- Students may request transfer credit evaluation from the NOVA College Records Office to see if outside classes may be transferred towards the program
- High-school students may be eligible to complete requirements while still finishing high school
- P+ grades earned during the pandemic are the equivalent of a C grade and are not accepted
- **How to Enroll in Classes on SIS:** [www.nvcc.edu/admissions/register](http://www.nvcc.edu/admissions/register)
- **Schedule of Classes:** [www.nvcc.edu/academics/schedule](http://www.nvcc.edu/academics/schedule)
- **HS Dual Enrollment Procedures:** [www.nvcc.edu/admissions/dual-enrollment](http://www.nvcc.edu/admissions/dual-enrollment)



# **GPA PRE-APPLICATION REQUIREMENT**

## **Minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA**

- Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher at NOVA
- If the student doesn't have a GPA at NOVA, then the GPA from the most recent school is evaluated
- Cumulative GPA is only reviewed to make sure the minimum GPA has been met and is not used to rank eligible candidates

# MTH PRE-APPLICATION REQUIREMENT

## Qualify for MTH 161 Precalculus I

- Complete the appropriate advising survey at [www.nvcc.edu/admissions/direct-enrollment.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/admissions/direct-enrollment.html)
- Complete the Direct Enrollment survey if you graduated high school or completed a GED in the past 5 years
- Complete the Informed Self-Enrollment survey if you graduated high school or completed a GED more than 5 years ago
- Did you qualify for MDE 10? You must successfully complete MDE 10 & MDE 60 to meet the requirement
- Did you qualify for MDE 60? You must successfully complete MDE 60 to meet the requirement
- Did you qualify for MTH 161 or MTH 161 with MDE 61 Learning Support class? You have met the requirement
- Did you complete or transfer MTH 161 or a higher math class? You have met the requirement
- There is no time limit on previously completed math courses

# SDV PRE-APPLICATION REQUIREMENT

## SDV 101 Orientation to Healthcare - 1 credit, B or better grade

- Class must be completed or transferred to NOVA prior to application
- SDV 100 or 101 is required in the first semester for all degree placed students
- The Radiography program will also accept the following:
  - \* *SDV 100 College Success Skills – 1 credit, B or better grade*
  - \* *SDV ABLE exam with score of 38 or higher taken at NOVA Testing Center*
- SDV can be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the NOVA College Records Office through the Transfer Credit Evaluation Process for students with a previous associate, baccalaureate, or higher degree from an accredited United States institution of higher education

# ENG PRE-APPLICATION REQUIREMENT

## ENG 111 College Composition I - 3 credits, B or better grade

- Class must be completed or transferred to NOVA prior to application
- The Radiography program will also accept the following:
  - \* *ENG 112 – 3 credits, B or better grade*
  - \* *200-level ENG Literature class – 3 credits, B or better grade*
  - \* *College Composition CLEP Exam; minimum score of 59 for required B grade*
  - \* *English Language International Baccalaureate (IB) Exam; minimum score of 5 for required B grade*
  - \* *English Language Advanced Placement (AP) Exam; minimum score of 4 for required B grade*

# RAD PRE-APPLICATION REQUIREMENT

## RAD 105 Introduction to Radiology - 2 credits, B or better grade

- Class must be completed prior to application
- Offered at the Medical Education Campus in the Fall and Spring semesters; not offered in Summer
- Early registration is highly recommended since classes fill quickly
- Fall sections of RAD 105 will use a SIS waitlist
- **Some Spring sections of RAD 105 will require Department Consent.** These sections are reserved for applicants applying in May. See the Class Note on SIS. Applicants must be finished with all other requirements or be enrolled in final requirements which will be verified by the RAD Department.

### **To request RAD 105 registration for a Spring section that requires Dept Consent**

If Spring registration has officially opened, send an email to [DiagnosticImaging@nvcc.edu](mailto:DiagnosticImaging@nvcc.edu) with your name, Student ID # 0000000, Class RAD 105 & desired section #. Early requests sent before midnight of the first day of open Spring registration will not be accepted.



# BIO PRE-APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

**BIO 141 Human Anatomy & Physiology I - 4 credits**  
*B or better grade and within past 10 years*

**BIO 142 Human Anatomy & Physiology II - 4 credits**  
*B or better grade and within past 10 years*

- Both classes must be completed or transferred to NOVA prior to application
- The 10-year time limit goes by the semester the class was completed  
*(if class was taken in fall, it would expire 10 years later at the end of fall semester)*
- Science classes that expire in spring of the current application cycle are okay for application  
*(if class was taken in spring 2016, it is okay for May 2026 application)*

# TEAS PRE-APPLICATION REQUIREMENT

- Test for Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)
- Required for all applicants regardless of prior education or degree
- Only 3 allowed attempts in January to December calendar year
- Scores are good for 3 years
- Must have score of 50 or higher in English, Math, and Reading (Science not required)
- Radiography looks at highest scores in each subject from all attempts
- TEAS preparation website available for MEC applicants

**How to Sign Up, Print Scores, and More Information:**

**[www.nvcc.edu/academics/divisions/health-sciences/teas-test.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/academics/divisions/health-sciences/teas-test.html)**



Transcript for  
Institution: NVCC Medical Education Center  
Program Type: ASM

Assessment Name	Score	Level	Required Minimum
ATI TEAS - Reading & Math	88.7%	80	50
Reading	83.3%	50	50
Math	80.0%	50	50
Science	81.5%	50	50
English and Language Usage	83.3%	50	50

*Correct and incorrect formats of TEAS Scores*

# TRANSFER CREDIT EVALUATION

- Request evaluation through the [NOVA College Records Office](#)
- All applicable credits must be posted before applying to the program
- Military transcripts are evaluated by the [Office of Military and Veteran Services](#)
- International transcripts must first be evaluated by an international evaluation agency
- Evaluations may take 8 to 12 weeks – request it early
- Applicants must verify that all transfer credits or exam scores equal the required minimum B grade
- The CRO may award transfer credit for classes or exam scores equivalent to B minus or C grades, but these do not meet the program’s minimum B grade requirement and are not accepted
- Applications with evaluations submitted at the deadline may be rejected for missing requirements

## Evaluation Procedures

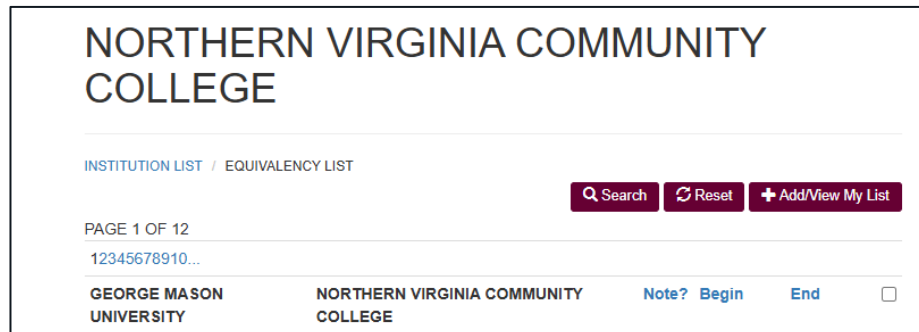
[www.nvcc.edu/academics/divisions/health-sciences/transcript-evaluation.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/academics/divisions/health-sciences/transcript-evaluation.html)

# TRANSFER DATABASE

Waiting for an evaluation? Check the NOVA Transfer Database to see if your college or university is already listed

[www.nvcc.edu/about/offices/college-records-office/transfer-credit-evaluation.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/about/offices/college-records-office/transfer-credit-evaluation.html)

- Click on Transfer Evaluation System
- Find your college or university (listed alphabetically)
- Scroll through the list of classes to see if your previous class is listed and how it will transfer to NOVA



The screenshot shows a web interface for the NOVA Transfer Database. At the top, it says "NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE". Below that, there is a navigation bar with "INSTITUTION LIST / EQUIVALENCY LIST". There are three buttons: "Search", "Reset", and "Add/View My List". Below the buttons, it says "PAGE 1 OF 12" and "12345678910...". At the bottom, there is a table with two columns: "GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY" and "NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE". There are also links for "Note?", "Begin", "End", and a checkbox.

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY	NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Note?	Begin	End	<input type="checkbox"/>

*Screenshot of the NOVA Transfer Database showing George Mason University classes and how they transfer to NOVA*

# IMPORTANT EVALUATION REMINDERS

- Having a previous class evaluated via the [Course Prerequisite Waiver Form 125-041](#) is for registration only and does not award transfer credit
- To start a transcript evaluation, students must submit official transcripts to the CRO with a [Transfer Credit Evaluation Request Form 125-049](#)
- The Transfer Database is continuously updated so students may still request evaluation if their institution or class is not already listed
- Applicants must verify that any transfer credit being used for application meets the B or better grade requirement
- **For classes transferred as EEE**, students need to email [meccounseling@nvcc.edu](mailto:meccounseling@nvcc.edu) at least 10 business days prior to application to request a course substitution for the class to be considered. Copies of the course sub may be attached to the HSN application to show the requirement has been evaluated to be equivalent.

# GENERAL EDUCATION CLASSES

- Students may complete the general education classes from the Radiography major before applying
- Although not required to apply, competitive admission points are awarded for each class completed at time of application
- HLT 141 Medical Terminology, 1 credit – C or better grade  
*(may also sub HLT 143, HIM 111, or the HLT 141 ABLE Exam - score of 70 or higher)*
- Social science elective, 3 credits – C or better grade
- Humanities/fine arts elective, 3 credits – C or better grade
- See the [College Catalog](#) for a list of accepted social science and humanities/fine arts electives

# DOMICILE ADMISSION POLICY

The Radiography program can only accept a limited number of applicants each year dependent on the number of clinical sites that are available for students. All students who have met the required prerequisites may apply to the program. However, international, and out-of-state students should note the NOVA Admission Policy for Limited Enrollment Programs.

“Due to limited laboratory, classroom and/or clinical space, certain Health Sciences and Nursing programs have restricted enrollment. As stated in the NOVA catalog, Health Sciences and Nursing students are accepted on either a competitive or a first-come/first-served basis with priority given to:

1. Legal residents domiciled in the cities and counties supporting the College
2. Other Virginia legal residents
3. Out-of-state applicants
4. International students requiring Form I-20

Category 1 may include areas in which clinical affiliates have contractual agreements with NOVA or students from other VCCS service areas whose community college does not offer the specific program.”

This policy is established by the Virginia Community College System and is stated in section 6.0.5 Admission Priorities of the VCCS Policy Manual.

**In-state Tuition Eligibility:** [www.nvcc.edu/admissions/tuition/in-state.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/admissions/tuition/in-state.html)



# TECHNICAL STANDARDS

Technical Standards are a group of minimal physical and cognitive abilities as well as sufficient mental and emotional stability to confirm that students are able to complete the entire course of study, participate fully in all aspects of training, and be deployable as competent Health Sciences and Nursing students, with or without reasonable accommodation.

Review the Radiography Technical Standards:

[www.nvcc.edu/academics/programs/radiography/goals-tech-standards.html#tech\\_standards](http://www.nvcc.edu/academics/programs/radiography/goals-tech-standards.html#tech_standards)

# PREVIOUS X-RAY EXPERIENCE

To ensure patient safety, international applicants with previous x-ray experience, or students looking to transfer from another Radiography program should note the following:

- The RAD Department does not have the ability to evaluate previous x-ray experience, or existing clinical knowledge and patient care skills from outside Radiography classes
- **ARRT discontinued advanced placement in 2021** for individuals with previous x-ray experience
- Radiography transcripts will be evaluated for RAD 105 credit only – no other classes will be transferred
- Students must meet all prerequisites, apply, and be competitively admitted the same as all other applicants
- There are no exceptions for the 10-year time limit for BIO 141 and BIO 142
- If accepted, students must complete the entire NOVA Radiography program

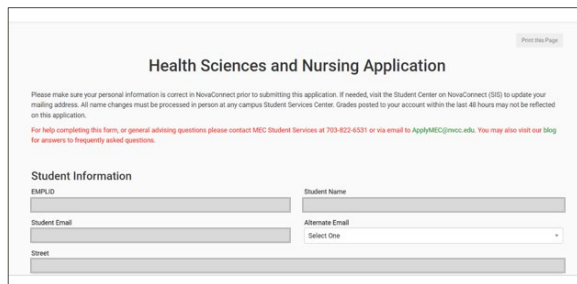
## To request evaluation of a previous Radiography class for RAD 105 credit

- Request general education evaluation with the NOVA College Records Office
- International transcripts must first be evaluated by an international evaluation agency
- Once your transcript or international evaluation is officially received by the CRO, you may email **[DiagnosticImaging@nvcc.edu](mailto:DiagnosticImaging@nvcc.edu)** to request evaluation for RAD 105

# HOW TO APPLY

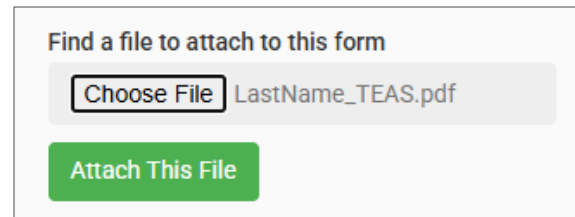
- Apply between May 15 to May 31 after meeting all requirements
- Submit a **Health Sciences and Nursing Application**
- You **MUST** attach your TEAS scores using the Attachments section on the HSN Application
- Make sure TEAS scores are in the correct format (see picture below)  
Do not attach your ATI Transcript! It does not show your individual scores for each subject
- Use the Comments field to submit any comments

**[www.nvcc.edu/academics/divisions/health-sciences/application.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/academics/divisions/health-sciences/application.html)**



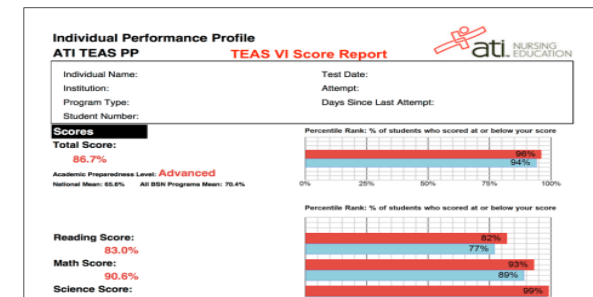
The screenshot shows the 'Health Sciences and Nursing Application' form. It includes a 'Please Note' section with instructions, a 'Student Information' section with fields for EMPLOY, Student Name, Student Email, Alternate Email, and Street.

*Health Sciences & Nursing Application*



The screenshot shows the 'Find a file to attach to this form' section. It features a 'Choose File' button, a text input field containing 'LastName\_TEAS.pdf', and an 'Attach This File' button.

*Attachments section on HSN Application*



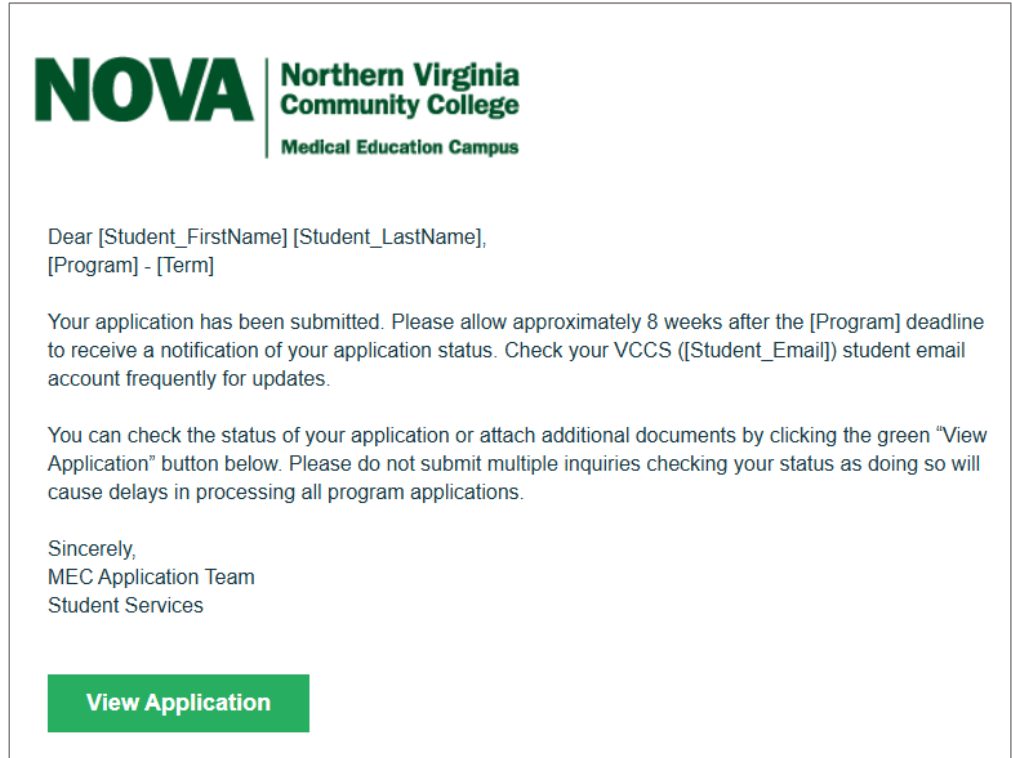
*Correct format of TEAS Scores*

# AFTER APPLICATION

- Check your VCCS email for a confirmation
- Click on the View Application button on the confirmation if you need to add missing attachments
- Check your VCCS email frequently and respond promptly if you are contacted for missing information
- Allow 4-6 weeks after the deadline for notifications
- All applicants will be notified of a final admission decision via their VCCS student email

View more FAQs about the HSN application process:

[www.nvcc.edu/academics/divisions/health-sciences/faq.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/academics/divisions/health-sciences/faq.html)



*Confirmation email received after HSN submission*

# COMPETITIVE ADMISSION

## Meeting the minimum application requirements does not guarantee acceptance

- The program accepts 44 students
- Past 5 Years Number of Applications: 2021: 131 | 2022: 115 | 2023: 105 | 2024: 86 | 2025: 142
- How eligible applicants are ranked:
  - \* Final grades in BIO 141 and BIO 142 (*better grades = more points*)
  - \* Completion of general education courses at time of application (*completed = points*)
  - \* TEAS scores in English, Math, and Reading (*higher scores = more points*)
  - \* Number of attempts to earn A grade in BIO 141 and BIO 142
- The number, quality of applicants, and individual TEAS scores can vary widely from year to year
- Focus on earning A grades in the ranking courses for the best chance of acceptance
- Previous medical experience, resumes, recommendation letters, and the date within the application period an application was submitted are not considered for admission; eligible candidates are numerically scored and ranked by the competitive admission criteria

# RAD PROGRAM ORIENTATION

Accepted students will receive an email with instructions on how to:

- immediately order a required background check and drug screen (approx. \$170)
- attend the mandatory Radiography Program Orientation held in July
- complete a physical, AHA BLS Healthcare Provider CPR, and other clinical requirements by the start of the program

[NOVA Health Sciences Physical Form 125-007](#)



*A second-year RAD student speaking at the program orientation*

# RAD PROGRAM

- Full-time, 21-month program including one 10-week summer semester
- Daytime program held Monday to Friday
- In-person lectures and labs at the Medical Education Campus in Springfield, Virginia
- Clinical rotations at up to 3 different sites in the Northern Virginia/DC metro area
- Students should work 20 hours or less during the program
- Employment and personal obligations must be flexible and scheduled around classes
- Program cannot be completed online or on a part-time basis



*Students practicing in the Radiography lab*

# RAD PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Homework/Study Time: Expectation of 30-35 hours per week each semester

## **Semesters 1 and 2**

15-weeks in August to December and January to May

- Lectures and Labs: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in-person at MEC
- Preclinicals (1<sup>st</sup> 6 weeks): Tuesdays and Thursdays - Preclinical activities on Zoom & at MEC
- Clinicals (beginning October): Tuesdays and Thursdays at assigned clinical site

## **Semester 3**

10-weeks in May to July

- RAD 135 Clinical: Monday through Friday at assigned clinical site

## **Semesters 4 and 5**

15-weeks in August to December and January to May

- Lectures and Labs: Tuesdays and Thursdays in-person at MEC
- Clinicals: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at assigned clinical site

Students graduate in May and take the ARRT RT registry exam

# RAD PROGRAM GRADING SCALES

*To avoid poor patient care and possible patient injury, the Radiography grading system may be different than other courses taken at NOVA.*

**Students must earn a minimum grade of C in every RAD course to advance each semester**

## Classroom Grading (lectures)

92.50 – 100 = A grade

83.50 – 92.49 = B grade

74.50 – 83.49 = C grade (minimum required)

69.50 – 74.49 = D grade

00.00 – 69.49 = F grade

## Clinical Grading (clinicals)

94.50 – 100 = A grade

89.50 – 94.49 = B grade

84.50 – 89.49 = C grade

74.50 – 84.49 = D grade

00.00 – 74.49 = F grade

# RAD PROGRAM CLINICALS AND LABS

- Possible exposure to infectious diseases, terminally ill and combative patients, vomit, urine, feces, blood or other hazards
- Have ability to communicate with empathy to sick patients and family members that may be upset
- Have ability to professionally handle insults, insensitive or inappropriate comments, and other possible rude behavior from patients or family members
- Be prepared to learn hands-on positioning and work with classmates and patients of different backgrounds, beliefs, religions, or genders
- Clinical locations are assigned; students must be able and willing to travel to any assigned site

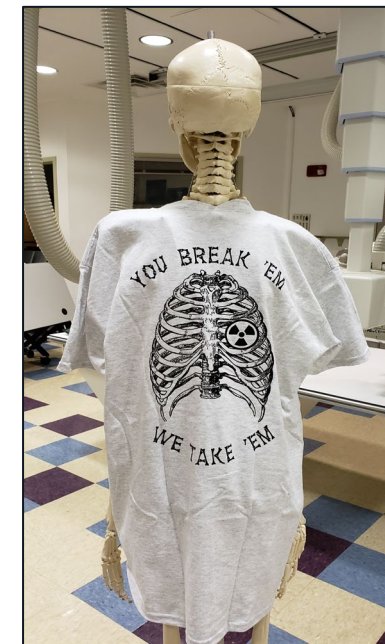


*Students learning infection control isolation procedures in the Radiography lab*

# RAD PROGRAM EXPENSES

All dollar amounts are estimates and exact costs may vary. Additional expenses not listed here may be required. Tuition rates are subject to change by action of the State Board of Community Colleges. See the NOVA Financial Aid website at [www.nvcc.edu/admissions/financialaid](http://www.nvcc.edu/admissions/financialaid) for scholarships, grants, and other aid availability.

- College tuition: **Program credits times current rates = approximate total tuition**  
Radiography program: 70 credits x approx. \$224/credit hour = \$15,680
- TEAS Preadmission Test: \$65
- Lab supplies including markers: \$20
- Textbooks: \$500 - \$600
- Uniforms, patches, badges & name tag: \$120
- Background check and drug screen: 1<sup>st</sup> year approx. \$170  
2<sup>nd</sup> year approx. \$80
- AHA BLS Healthcare Professional CPR: Cost varies by training site
- Physical exam with immunizations/titers: Cost varies by insurance
- Clinical Evaluation System: \$150
- Parking/travel expenses: Cost varies by clinical site
- ARRT registry exam fee: \$225, exam taken at end of program
- Virginia state licensure application fee: \$130 after graduation



*RAD Club t-shirt*

# ARRT RT EXAM ELIGIBILITY

- ARRT has their own ethics requirements for applicants
- Applicants must disclose all prior or pending criminal convictions
- Applicants with prior criminal convictions may request a *Pre-Application Ethics Review from ARRT* to determine exam eligibility - [www.rrt.org](http://www.rrt.org)
- Students may review the Health Sciences and Nursing Background Check and Drug Screen policies for the program at:

[www.nvcc.edu/academics/divisions/health-sciences/requirements.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/academics/divisions/health-sciences/requirements.html)

# GRADUATION AND LICENSURE

Graduates are awarded an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Radiography from NOVA

- Complete RT credentialing exam from American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT)

[www.arrt.org/pages/earn-arrt-credentials/credential-options/radiography](http://www.arrt.org/pages/earn-arrt-credentials/credential-options/radiography)

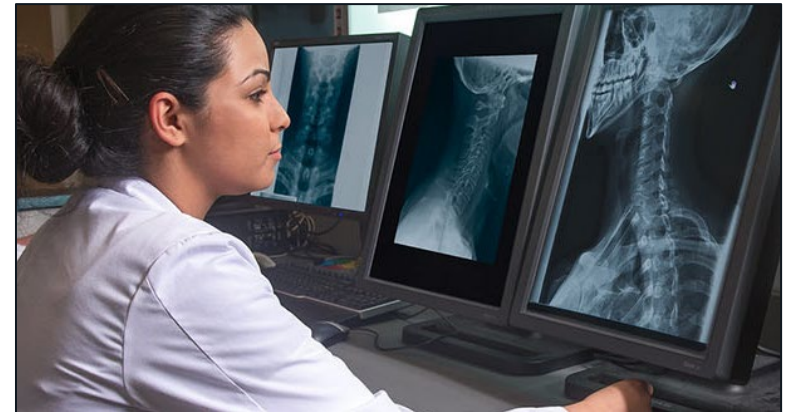
- Apply for state medical board licensure

**Virginia Licensure:**

[www.dhp.virginia.gov/Boards/Medicine/ApplicantResources/ApplyforLicense/RadiologicTechnologist/](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/Boards/Medicine/ApplicantResources/ApplyforLicense/RadiologicTechnologist/)

- Maintain RT licensure through Continuing Education

**American Society of Radiologic Technologists** [www.asrt.org](http://www.asrt.org)



*RAD student examining an x-ray*

# INFORMATION SESSION CODE

- Record this code in the Information Session Code field on the Health Sciences and Nursing Application
- Type the code EXACTLY as written
- No spaces and no capital letters

**obliquexray**



*Skeleton x-raying a Radiography student*

# ACADEMIC ADVISING



*Medical Education Campus*

Email, chat, live Zoom video conference,  
or in-person academic advising

**College Advising Contacts and Hours:**  
[www.nvcc.edu/student-resources/advising](http://www.nvcc.edu/student-resources/advising)