RADIOGRAPHY PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. OCCUPATIONAL DESCRIPTION:

The radiographer plays an important role on the medical team. A radiographer is responsible for performing diagnostic imaging examinations to assist the radiologist in diagnosing broken bones, ulcers, tumors, diseases or malfunction of various organs. As a skilled radiographer, you would perform the following functions:

- Adjust and maintain imaging equipment
- Precisely follow orders from physicians on what areas of the body to image
- Prepare patients for procedures, including taking a medical history and answering questions
- Protect the patient by shielding exposed areas that do not need to be imaged
- Position the patient and the equipment in order to get the correct image
- Operate the computerized equipment to take the images
- Work with physicians to evaluate the images and determine whether additional images are required
- Keep detailed patient records

B. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

Employment opportunities are good for registered radiographers both locally and nationally. A certified radiographer is qualified to work in hospitals, outpatient diagnostic centers, physician offices and military hospitals. Once certification for diagnostic radiography is attained, it is then possible to enter such specialized fields as ultrasonography, nuclear medicine, and radiation therapy. Other diagnostic specialties within the specific sphere of radiography include fluoroscopy, angiography, tomography, and C.T. scanning.

In addition, it is possible through continuing education to become active in hospital administration or in the instruction of radiological sciences.

C. SALARY AND EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK:

The mean salary for a radiographer in the local metropolitan area ranges from $53,520-$60,070 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes292034.htm. Salaries are generally higher in metropolitan areas and in hospitals or diagnostic outpatient clinics. Employment of radiologic technologists is projected to grow 21 percent from 2012 to 2022, faster than the average for all occupations. As the population grows older, there will be an increased demand in medical imaging.

D. PROGRAM APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Refer to the online information session for the most up-to-date application requirements. http://www.nvcc.edu/medical/divisions/allied/radiography.html

-1- Last Revised 3/30/18
E. CLINICAL AND CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The following is required prior to entrance into clinical rotations:

1. Evidence of good mental and physical health as substantiated by a Health History and Physical Form signed by a physician.

2. CPR certification (BLS for Health Care Provider through American Heart Association) is required and must be maintained for the duration of the program.

3. Criminal background check and drug screen are required to attend clinical rotations. An annual criminal background check and drug screen will be required as clinical affiliates mandate this requirement in affiliation agreements. Any student that does not pass the background check or drug screen must resolve this issue directly with the agency who conducted the search. Unresolved issues presented in the criminal background checks or drug screens will prevent clinical placement resulting in the student’s failure to meet program objectives. Please be aware that some misdemeanors committed in other states are considered felonies under Virginia law. Felonies committed prior to Virginia Code reclassification as misdemeanors are still considered felonies. Refer to the Criminal Background Check policy in the current Allied Health Application packet for more information.

4. The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) is the national certifying organization for all radiographers. The ARRT provides the examination process for certification. The following are standards for submission for an application for the examination:

   The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists require an applicant to be of good moral character. "Generally, the conviction of either (a) a felony or (b) any offense, misdemeanor or felony involving moral turpitude, indicates a lack of good moral character for registry purposes. Those who have been convicted of a crime may be eligible for registration if they have served their entire sentence, including probation and parole, and have had their civil rights restored."

   THE ARRT requires convictions or charges resulting in any of the following be reported: Plea of guilty, plea of nolo contender, withheld or deferred adjudication, suspended or stay of sentence, military court martial. Misdemeanor speeding violations must be reported if they are related to alcohol or drugs.

   For more information please reference website: www.arrt.org and go to section under “Ethics FAQ” or by calling ARRT (651) 687-0048, ext. 580.
F. PROGRAM CONTINUATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. All courses in the program major must be completed with a grade of "C" or better before taking the next course in the sequence.

2. All courses in the major must be taken in the sequence outlined in the college catalog.

3. Program faculty and clinical affiliates reserve the right to recommend, through appropriate channels, withdrawal of any student who neither exhibits safe performance nor adheres to prescribed clinical affiliate policies and procedures.

4. Physical and mental health must be maintained for continuance in the program. Applicants must be free of any physical and or mental conditions, which might adversely affect their acceptance or performances in the program. The college reserves the right to require medical examinations to verify continuing competence.

G. RESPONSIBILITIES OF RADIOGRAPHY STUDENTS:

1. To prepare for the high ethical standards of the health professions, the College expects absolute academic honesty both in the classroom and in clinical practice.

2. Students in the Radiography Program incur a variety of additional expenses. These include the cost of uniforms, accessories and travel to clinical assignments.

3. A strict dress code is required in the clinical setting.

4. Students must provide their own transportation to clinical assignments. Students may be required to attend both day and/or evening assignments. Students will be required to rotate to various clinical sites to obtain clinical competencies.

H. FACULTY MEMBERS:

a. Jarice Risper, Program Director, Radiography  
   jrisper@nvcc.edu

b. Jonathan White, Instructor, Radiography  
   jwhite@nvcc.edu

c. Roberta Heffernan, Assistant Professor, Radiography  
   rheffernan@nvcc.edu

d. Maggie Massie, Instructor, Radiography  
   mmassie@nvcc.edu
I. **HOSPITAL AFFILIATES:** Northern Virginia Community College has made affiliation agreements with the following clinical education centers where student radiographers will receive instruction and practical experience:

- **Alexandria Hospital**
  4320 Seminary Road
  Alexandria, VA 22304

- **Inova Fair Oaks Hospital**
  3600 Joseph Siewick Drive
  Fairfax, VA 22033

- **Inova Fairfax Hospital**
  3300 Gallows Road
  Falls Church, VA 22046

- **Fauquier Hospital**
  500 Hospital Drive
  Warrenton, VA 20186

- **Loudoun Hospital Center**
  44045 Riverside Parkway
  Leesburg, VA 20176

- **Association of Alexandria Radiologists**
  4660 Kenmore Avenue, Suite 608
  Alexandria, VA 22304

- **Inova Mount Vernon Hospital**
  2501 Parkers Lane
  Alexandria, VA 22306

- **Potomac Hospital**
  2300 Opitz Boulevard
  Woodbridge, VA 22191

- **Prince William Hospital**
  8700 Sudley Road
  Manassas, VA 22110

- **Reston Hospital Center**
  1850 Town Center Parkway
  Reston, VA 20190

- **Sibley Memorial Hospital**
  5255 Loughboro Road NW
  Washington, DC 20016

- **Virginia Hospital Center**
  1701 North George Mason Drive
  Arlington, VA 22205

- **Kaiser Permanente**
  Springfield Medical Center
  6501 Loisdale Ct.
  Springfield, VA 22150

- **Kaiser Permanente**
  Fair Oaks Medical Ctr.
  12255 Fair Oaks Parkway
  Fairfax, VA 22033

- **Kaiser Permanente**
  Woodbridge Medical Ctr.
  14139 Potomac Mills Rd
  Woodbridge, VA 22192

- **Kaiser Permanente**
  Fall Church Medical Ctr
  201 N. Washington St.
  Falls Church, VA 22046

- **Kaiser Permanente**
  Springfield Medical Center
  6501 Loisdale Ct.
  Springfield, VA 22150
J. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

For information concerning professional certification, contact the ARRT or visit their website.

The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists
1255 Northland Drive
St. Paul, Minnesota 55120
(651) 687-0048
http://www.arrt.org

The American Society of Radiologic Technologists
15000 Central Avenue SE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87123-3909
(800) 444-2778
http://www.asrt.org