



FAQ

Radiography

Program

2010-11

What classes do I have to take to get into the radiography program?

Applicants are strongly encouraged to set up an appointment and meet with a KCC academic advisor to ensure KCC graduation requirements are met and, to ensure radiography program completion requirements are met. Advisors can also help a student develop a course sequence schedule to enhance their chances of securing a position in the radiography program. Contact Academic Advising for an appointment (269) 965-4124.

The following two courses are prerequisites for the 2011 radiography program.

1. MATH 121 Intermediate Algebra or equivalent course
2. OIT 227 Medical Terminology or another college Medical Terminology course of a minimum of one (1) credit hour.

****To meet the prerequisite requirement, courses taken at other institutions must transfer in as the equivalent of the required KCC course.**

“Prerequisite” requires that the course must be successfully completed and recorded on the transcript by the application deadline of February 1, 2011 for the application to be considered.

While the other required courses, **BIOL 201, BIOL 202, EMT 110**, SOCI 201, ENG 151, COMM 101, and PSYC 201 are not prerequisites, applicants receive admission points for each course completed. The first three courses listed receive points according to the grade earned and are weighted significantly higher than the other four courses listed.

Is there a waiting list for the radiography program?

No. Our program is a “selective admissions” process rather than a “first-come, first-serve” process. Admission points are applied and the applications are ranked according to a determined criteria. Positions are offered to the 20 applicants earning the highest total admission points. Applicants who do not secure a position in the program but who would like to be considered for the following program year must re-apply, update their application file and, meet the criteria for the new program application year. Once again, the application file will be ranked for the new program year.

What is the “determined criteria” used in the admission process?

The criteria is as follows:

1. Completion of prerequisites: **OIT 227 or other medical terminology course of a one (1) credit minimum, and MATH 121 or course equivalent.**
***Prerequisites must be completed by the application deadline of Feb 1, 2011 for an application to be considered.**
2. High School GPA/GED if less than 12 college credit hours completed, or
3. College GPA if greater than 12 credit hours completed.
4. ACT/SAT score, or Degree/GPA held
5. Completion of and grade achieved in the following courses: **BIO 201, BIO 202, EMT 110, ENG 151, COMM 101, PSYC 201, SOCI 201.**
***The first three (3) courses listed secure more admission points than the remaining four (4).**

How are files ranked if more than one applicant earns the same number of application points?

Application files are then ranked according to date of application.

When should I apply?

Applications for the 2010 program will be accepted from August 1, 2009 to February 1, 2010. The new group of students will start in June 2010.

Do I need to contact the program director to apply?

No. Contact Enrollment Services to request a "Selective Admission Application Packet". Instructions and deadlines for completion will be well defined and included with the packet. Enrollment Services (Admissions) can be reached at (269) 965-4153 or adm@kellogg.edu.

What needs to be in the application file in order for it to be complete?

Contact Enrollment Services to request a "Selective Admission Application Packet". Instructions and deadlines for completion will be well defined and included with the packet. Enrollment Services (Admissions) can be reached at (269) 965-4153 or adm@kellogg.edu.

I already have a degree. Do I still have to take the ACT?

The ACT requirement can be waived and admission points awarded for those applicants holding degrees with a specified GPA. The higher the degree achieved, the more application points awarded.

I already have a degree. I don't have to take any of the general ed. courses do I?

Maybe not. KCC transfers in any courses from an accredited college with a grade of "C" or higher. However, that does not mean the courses transferred in will be the equivalent courses required for KCC graduation or those required for completion of the radiography program. **Students are strongly advised the student make an appointment to meet with a KCC academic advisor to ensure both the program and KCC general education course requirements are met.**

How do I find out what transfers from my other colleges?

KCC transfers in any courses from an accredited college with a grade of "C" or higher. Applicants to the radiography program are required to have official college transcripts sent from all colleges they've attended. Once the transcripts are received, the registrar's office will complete a transcript audit/evaluation and generate a report. **While a course may transfer in, it does not mean that the course is the equivalency of a course required for completion of the radiography program or for KCC graduation. Students are strongly advised the student make an appointment to meet with a KCC academic advisor to ensure both the program and KCC general education course requirements are met.**

I took an anatomy course at another community college. It will meet the anatomy requirements at KCC won't it?

It may. Course equivalencies are determined through the transcript audit/evaluation process completed by the registrar's office. When applying to the radiography program, applicants complete a Kellogg Community College "selective admission application" and have official transcripts sent from all colleges attended. Once the transcripts are received, the registrar's office will complete a transcript audit/evaluation and generate a report. **While a course may transfer in, it does not mean that the course is the equivalency of a course required for completion of the radiography program or for KCC graduation. Students are strongly advised the student make an appointment to meet with a KCC academic advisor to ensure both the program and KCC general education course requirements are met.**

If I complete all of the general education courses, what are my chances of getting into the program?

There is no way of predicting an applicant's chances of securing a position until all application files are ranked.

What are the average admission points of those who get into the program?

The number of points of the successful applicant varies year to year and is therefore is not relevant to the application process.

An applicant should keep in mind that the admission process is based on academic performance and if they wish to maximize their potential for securing a position in the program, they should meet with a KCC academic advisor who can provide suggestions and help set up a course sequence schedule that would better the applicant's chances of securing a position.

I am a high school student. What types of classes should I take to better prepare me for the radiography program?

A student who has a good math, science, and computer literacy foundation will have an easier time with the radiography curriculum. Specifically, algebra, geometry, biology, and physics, as well as any computer courses offered at the high school level will prove beneficial to a future radiography student. While newly graduated high school students are welcome to apply to the radiography program, we strongly recommend that new high school graduates complete a year of KCC courses prior to beginning the program.

Is there an age requirement for the program?

Due to potential exposure to ionizing radiation in the clinical component of the program, students must be 18 years of age by July 1st of their first program year.

I want to take some of the general education courses at a college closer to my home. How do I find out what courses are the equivalencies of the courses required in the radiography program?

Contact a KCC academic advisor. Getting advisement from the school who will eventually be issuing the degree is strongly encouraged to avoid taking courses which may not be the equivalency of the courses required in the radiography program.

If I complete all the general education courses, will it still take me two years to complete the program?

Yes. The radiography courses are sequential. This means that the courses must be taken in order and that one course builds on the previous.

Can I do the program part-time?

The program is considered full-time. Depending on the semester, there are 16-40 hours per week of clinical education and 0-12 hours of radiography classroom education. In addition, general education course requirements must be completed. Students will also need to allow time for homework/study in addition to the time spent in clinical setting and in the classroom setting. It is estimated that for every hour spent in the classroom, three (3) hours of homework/study can be expected.

If a student has the general education courses completed upon entering the program, then the amount of time a student must spend on campus will be less.

The radiography program requires the commitment of a highly motivated and committed student in order to be successful. Time management and organizational skills are critical for the successful radiography student.

What is the radiography course schedule like?

FIRST YEAR:

Summer	Mon- Thu (class)	Varied	8 weeks
Fall & Spring	Mon, Wed, Fri (class) Tues, Thu (clinical)	Varied 7:30 am – 4:00 pm	15 weeks 15 weeks

SECOND YEAR:

Summer	Mon – Fri (clinical)	7:30 am – 4:00 pm	8 weeks
Fall & Spring	Mon, Wed, Fri (clinical) Tue, Thu (class)	7:30 am – 4:00 pm Varied	15 weeks 15 weeks

**The above schedule is tentative and reflects radiography course work only. There are plans to develop some online and evening course activities within the radiography curriculum in the near future.

Any general education courses are scheduled in addition to the above schedule.

What's the homework load like?

Success in the program is a direct reflection of a student's effort. A student can expect to spend 3-4 hours of study/homework for each 1 hour of class time. While student ability varies, students who spend less than the 3:1 ratio of study time tend to struggle with understanding concepts which reflects in their clinical competency and in their exam scores.

Are all the courses during the day?

While most radiography course work is completed during the daytime hours, there are plans to incorporate the use of one of our affiliate hospital radiology departments for demonstration and practice of concepts requiring radiation exposure. Therefore, students would be required to attend a lab approximately five (5) evenings each fall and spring semester.

General education courses can be completed during evening and weekend hours or completed online should the student choose.

Radiography clinical courses are completed in the hospital radiology departments of our affiliating hospitals. Clinical education courses are scheduled only during the day shift to allow the student an opportunity to secure competency on the wide variety of radiologic examinations and procedures completed on the day shift. Only a very small sampling of what radiographers do is can be accomplished on nights and weekends.

Are any radiography courses available online?

Currently most didactic (non-clinical) radiography courses are a face-to-face format in the classroom with an online component, while two courses within the curricula are delivered via hybrid. The online course component with the traditional face-to-face format allows students to take all their exams in the classroom on a laptop computer rather than paper and pencil and, offers other online resources and activities to the student as well. They hybrid courses require students participate in face-to-face classroom activities for part of the course, with other work being accomplished online.

It is expected that more radiography courses will be delivered via a hybrid or completely online format at some point in the near future.

Can I pick which hospital I want to I complete my clinical education at?

No. The KCC radiography program affiliates with six clinical sites; Bronson Methodist Hospital, Kalamazoo; Borgess Health Alliance, Kalamazoo; Battle Creek Health System; Oaklawn Hospital, Marshall; Community Health Center of Branch County, Coldwater; and the Veterans Administration Medical Center, Battle Creek.

Clinical assignments are designed to provide a broad educational experience Student must be willing to accept an assignment at any of the six clinical sites. Students will rotate through various sites within the two-year program.

What does the program cost?

Below is an **ESTIMATE** of the cost for the 2010-11 school year:

In-district tuition	\$5,967.00 (77 credits x \$77.50/cr.hr.)
**out of district tuition is more.	
Lab Fees for RADT courses	700.00
Est. Cost of books for RADT courses	950.00
Est. Cost of books for other courses	800.00
8 courses 100.00/course	
Est. lab fees for other courses	<u>500.00</u>
Estimated Total:	\$ 8,917.50

Estimated additional costs beyond tuition, books, and course fees:

Uniforms - 3@ 50.00	150.00
Shoes 1@ 75.00	75.00
Mask-Fit 1@ 70.00	70.00
Drug Screen 2@ 70.00	140.00
Flu Shot 2 @ 30.00	60.00
Criminal Background Check	30.00 – 70.00

Physical exam including laboratory testing and immunizations – cost unknown.
Students secure these requirements through their own medical provider, some of which may or may not be covered by medical insurance.

Can I work while I am in the program?

Most radiography students maintain jobs while in the program. Work schedules must be conducive to the school schedule. Students who work while successfully participating in the program are able to prioritize and organize in order to maintain both work and school schedules, as well as achieve the required “C” grade in all courses. Students must be aware that school schedules and assignments will take precedence over work schedules.

Is a radiographer the same as an x-ray technician?

The title has evolved over the years with the increase in knowledge and expertise. “X-ray Technician” is no longer used. More appropriate is the title of “Radiologic Technologist”, or “Radiographer”. “Imaging Specialist” is another title that has recently surfaced as an appropriate alternative. Not to be mistaken with “Radiographer”, a “Radiologist” is a physician who specialized in diagnosis and treatment with imaging modalities.

Can I do MRI after I complete this program?

Yes. The radiography program offers the foundation in medical imaging education. Medical imaging of patients is obtained in various locations within the hospital/clinic, through various imaging modalities. Through radiography program preparation, graduates participate in the general diagnostic imaging as listed below. Additional training efforts such as on-the-job training, seminars, courses, home study, fellowships, etc., allow the graduate to perform the advanced specialization imaging exams as listed below.

General Diagnostic Imaging:

- Static or “still” x-ray imaging such as hands, feet, chest, etc.
- Contrast enhanced, dynamic “action” imaging such as upper GI’s, barium enemas, arthrograms, etc.
- ER/trauma imaging
- Surgical imaging

Advanced Specialization Imaging:

- MRI
- CT
- Bone Densitometry
- Mammography
- Cardio/vascular interventional

**Ultrasound, nuclear medicine, and radiation therapy are separate programs of study not offered by KCC.

What is the job market like?

While the short-term, local job market has tightened with the present state of the economy, the long-term prediction remains bright. Due to the continued expansion of medical imaging technology, national predictors indicate the need for radiographers across the country to continue. Graduate surveys conducted in the past five years have indicated that our grads have secured positions within the field radiography in our southwest Michigan region, however, most

recent 2007/2008 graduates are finding that they must be more patient in securing a full-time job in the immediate Battle Creek/Kalamazoo area. Several recent graduates report they are working part-time or on-call awaiting a full-time position to become available. Graduates who are able to re-locate for a job and are willing to work any shifts are positioned to secure employment quicker than those with imposed limitations.

What is the pay scale like?

Our 2009 graduates have reported to be starting out at \$18- \$22 per hour with benefit packages.

I have a misdemeanor conviction. Can I still become a radiologic technologist?

Although a student could possibly complete the program with a criminal conviction, they may not be allowed to complete the national registry exam. This would mean they would not receive the credentials of "RT(R)", or "registered radiologic technologist". This could prove to be a significant obstacle to securing a position in a hospital or in other imaging facilities. Any applicant with a conviction may wish to contact the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT). Exam eligibility is determined by the ARRT Ethics Committee based on the nature of the conviction. They can be reached at (651) 687-0048 or www.arrt.org.

Some of our hospital affiliations require criminal background checks. A criminal conviction might prevent the program from being able to place a student for your clinical education. Determination is typically based on the nature of the conviction and the results of the ARRT pre-application process.

I have a disability. Can I participate in the program?

That question can only be answered by the student and the student's medical provider/advisors. The ability requirements for radiographers are determined by hospital employers with consideration given to radiographer and patient safety. For a student to fully participate in the radiography program clinical education component and secure all required competencies as set forth by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists, they must meet the following requirements as determined by hospital employers:

- Ability to perform repetitive tasks
- Ability to reach above shoulder level
- High degree of manual dexterity
- Ability to grip
- Ability to bend at knee
- Ability to stand for long periods of time
- Ability to maneuver (pushing/pulling/lifting) the weight of patients
- Ability to lift 50 pounds
- Ability to walk the equivalent of 2 miles per day
- Ability to sit for periods of time
- Ability to perform CPR
- Ability to visually see structures both close and far away.
- Ability to read faces, dials, monitors, gauges, doses on syringes, vials, and ampules.
- Ability to hear normal sounds with background noise from equipment generators, computers and other equipment.
- Ability to cope with high levels of stress

- Ability to handle multiple priorities in a stressful situation
- Ability to make quick decisions under pressure
- Ability to cope with the anger/fear/hostility of others in a calm manner
- Ability to concentrate
- Ability to be flexible
- Ability to assist with problem resolution
- Ability to work alone
- Ability to demonstrate a high degree of patience

Where can I get additional information regarding radiography?

KCC's Enrollment Services (Admissions) and Academic Advising departments are both resources with information regarding our program.

Our program website is also a helpful tool www.kellogg.edu/alliedhealth/radiography.

For general information regarding radiography as a career, the following websites are helpful:

www.arrt.org

www.asrt.org

Kellogg Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, age, or disability in its programs, services, or activities. Direct inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies can be made to either the Vice President for Instruction or the Director of Human Resources, 450 North Avenue, Battle Creek, Michigan 49017-3397.