

## **Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program**

Phone: (901) 516-8099

Fax: (901) 516-2870

Dear Applicant,

I would like to thank you for your interest in the Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program. I look forward to reviewing your application and meeting you personally.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography is a unique and challenging field in the health professional team. It takes a very special person to deal with the stress, personal patient contact and clinical expertise required to perform the job of a sonographer. It is the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program's purpose and responsibility to help you discover this fascinating career and the important role it plays in the care of the patient.

This application packet has been compiled to introduce our Program and includes information you may find helpful. Included in your packet is:

- Introduction Letter
- "Is Sonography the Career for You?" *(not available via internet)*
- Program Description
- Program Curriculum
- Admission Requirements
- Technical / Physical Standards
- Financial Requirements
- Application Form

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this packet, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Tamera Ghelichkhani, RDMS  
Program Director  
Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program

## Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program at Methodist Healthcare, offers two programs in sonography. A Cardiac Sonography Program and a JRC-DMS accredited General Sonography Program. The programs provide quality clinical and didactic instruction to a small group of select students in their field of choice. Students designate a field of study which allows them focus on a particular area of interest and allow maximum development of expertise. Students choose from one of the following options:

- OPTION 1:** Encompasses abdominal imaging (*liver, gallbladder, pancreas, kidneys, etc.*), superficial structures, and obstetric and gynecologic imaging.
- General  
Ultrasound**  
(15 months) Additional didactic and clinical experience is provided in vascular imaging (*arteries and veins throughout the body*).
- OPTION 2:**
- Cardiac  
Ultrasound**  
(15 months) Consists of adult echocardiography (*imaging of the heart*).  
(note deleted verbage)

Upon completion of a program, the student is eligible to apply for a choice of certifying exams given by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS).

| MLH PROGRAM | ARDMS EXAM                              | ARDMS PREREQUISITE |
|-------------|---|--------------------|
| General     | US Physics and Instrumentation          | 2                  |
|             | Abdomen and Superficial Structures      | 2                  |
|             | Obstetrics and Gynecology               | 2                  |
|             | Vascular Principles and Instrumentation | 1, 3A, 4A2, or 4B2 |
|             | Vascular Technology                     | 1, 3A, 4A2, or 4B2 |
| Cardiac     | Cardiac Principles and Instrumentation  | 1, 3A, 4A2, or 4B2 |
|             | Adult Echocardiography                  | 1, 3A, 4A2, or 4B2 |

Successful completion of these examinations enable the individual to use the title “Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer” (RDMS), “Registered Diagnostic Cardiac Sonographer” (RDMS) and/or “Registered Vascular Technologist” (RVT).

Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare is associated with the North Arkansas, Mississippi and Memphis Conferences of the United Methodist Church and serves as a model for an integrated system of services that is person-centered and responsive to the mission and ministry of healthcare.

Methodist Healthcare – Memphis Hospitals is one of the largest private not-for-profit hospitals in the country with more than 1,700 licensed beds. The 917-bed University Hospital is a tertiary care and referral center located in the Memphis medical center. In March 2002 MLH signed an affiliation agreement with the University of Tennessee Health Science Center to become the primary private teaching site for medical education and to further emphasize research. Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center, with 225 beds, is the Mid-South’s only pediatric medical center serving a six-state referral area and also serves as the primary teaching site for the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Tennessee. Methodist South, a 200-bed acute care hospital, Methodist-North, a 234-bed acute care hospital, Methodist Le Bonheur Germantown, a 209-bed acute care hospital, Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center and University Hospital all operate under one license comprising Methodist Healthcare-Memphis Hospitals. The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is located on the ground floor of the Crews Wing of University Hospital, the largest campus of Methodist Healthcare-Memphis Hospitals.

All medical specialties and most sub-specialties are represented on the MLH medical staff which numbers more than 1200. Among the outstanding and comprehensive programs are neurology/neurosurgery, oncology, cardiology, ophthalmology, obstetrics/gynecology, pediatrics and gamma-knife.

**DMS Clinical affiliates include:**

- MH-University - Radiology
- MH-University - Cardiology
- MH-North - Radiology
- MH North - Cardiology
- MH-Germantown - Radiology
- MH Germantown - Cardiology
- MH-Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center
- The Methodist Diagnostic Center
- The Methodist Breast Center
- MH Germantown Outpatient Diagnostic Center
- MH North Outpatient Diagnostic Center
- University of Tennessee Medical Group, Obstetrics and Gynecology Department

## CURRICULUM

### **1<sup>st</sup> Semester DMS - GENERAL TRACK**

Intro To Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Patient Care  
Ultrasound Physics & Instrumentation I  
Abdomen I  
Gynecology  
Obstetrics I  
Small Parts and Superficial Structures  
General Scan Lab I  
General Clinical Education I

### **1<sup>st</sup> Semester DMS – CARDIAC TRACK**

Intro To Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Patient Care  
Ultrasound Physics & Instrumentation I  
Electrophysiology / Cardiology Principles I  
Echocardiography Techniques  
Adult Echocardiography I  
Cardiac Scan Lab I  
Cardiac Clinical Education I

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Semester DMS - GENERAL TRACK**

Ultrasound Physics & Instrumentation II  
Vascular I  
Abdomen II  
Obstetrics II  
General/Vascular Scan Lab II  
General/Vascular Clinical Education II

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Semester DMS – CARDIAC TRACK**

Ultrasound Physics & Instrumentation II  
**(note deleted verbage)**  
Electrophysiology / Cardiology Principles II  
Adult Echocardiography II  
Cardiac Scan Lab II  
Cardiac Clinical Education II

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Semester DMS - GENERAL TRACK**

Ultrasound Physics & Instrumentation III  
Vascular II  
Abdomen III  
Obstetrics III  
Neurosonography  
General/Vascular Scan Lab III  
General/Vascular Clinical Education III

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Semester DMS – CARDIAC TRACK**

Ultrasound Physics & Instrumentation III  
(note deleted verbage)  
Advanced Echocardiographic Techniques  
Adult Echocardiography III  
Intro to Pediatric Echocardiography  
Cardiac Scan Lab III  
Cardiac Clinical Education III

### **4<sup>th</sup> Semester DMS - GENERAL TRACK**

Physics and Instrumentation IV  
Vascular III  
Abdomen / Superficial Structures IV  
Review OB/Gyn IV  
  
General/Vascular Scan Lab IV  
General/Vascular Clinical Education IV

### **4<sup>th</sup> Semester DMS – CARDIAC TRACK**

Review Physics and Instrumentation  
Review Adult Echocardiography  
Review Cardiology Principles  
Cardiac Scan Lab IV (note deleted "vascular")  
Cardiac Clinical Education IV

### **5<sup>th</sup> Semester DMS - GENERAL TRACK**

Review Physics and Instrumentation  
Review Abdomen / Superficial Structures  
Review OB/Gyn  
Vascular Review  
General/Vascular Clinical Education IV

**In view of the ever-changing field of Diagnostic Medical Sonography, the above courses may be revised as deemed necessary by the Program Director and faculty without prior notification to the student.**

## **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

**To have this application considered for class commencing in August of each year, an applicant must:**

1. Ensure an accurate and complete application form is received by this office along with a **\$25 application fee** (non-refundable) by **May 15**.
2. Be a graduate of a 2-year AMA or AMA-equivalent allied health education program **that is patient care related** and hold current registry in that health care field (*students of such programs that will graduate by July 31 may also apply*) – **OR** -- 4-year Bachelor's degree
3. Enclose a resume describing your professional employment history (*include military service*), professional training, volunteer experience and education (*list all schools attended starting with high school and including present school* )
4. Document a minimum of 2.0 grade for each of the following prerequisite classes:
  - General Physics (*college level credit*)
  - Biology, Human Anatomy and Physiology preferred (*college level credit*)
  - Communication Skills (*college level credit*)
  - Medical Terminology (*college level credit*)
  - Algebra (*high school level credit*)
5. Arrange for the submission of official copies of transcripts from high school, college or other schools attended, and ensure this office receives them by **May 15**.
6. Arrange for the submission of three letters of reference, **as described in the application form**, and ensure this office receives them by **May 15**.
7. Meet the technical standards for performing the duties of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography profession as established by the Program.
8. At time of admission, provide documentation of Health Insurance.
9. Participate in scheduled interviews by the admission committee.
10. Pass a pre-admission background check and medical exam performed by Methodist Healthcare. Applicant must be in satisfactory physical, mental, and emotional health as determined by Methodist Healthcare.

## **HEALTH AND PHYSICAL ABILITIES**

**Applicants must meet the following criteria:**

1. **Good physical health**
  - Physical stamina is required for the hard work involved: long periods on one's feet, pushing and pulling equipment, lifting and positioning patients; continuous scanning may cause strain on legs, back, shoulder and wrist
  - Good use of hands for gripping, and squeezing, as well as repetitive hand and wrist motion
  - Free of communicable disease, as you will be working with sick patients and constantly exposed to communicable diseases and infections
2. **Communication Skills**
  - Effective communication skills are required, as sonographers must interact with patients and their families, clinicians, and peers in a variety of situations.
  - Ability to read, write and communicate both orally and written to other individuals
  - Normal vision, including subtle delineation of gray shades and color vision
  - Normal hearing to remain alert to audible signs of patient distress, equipment malfunction and safety hazard warning techniques.

### 3. **Technical Aptitude**

- Ability to conceptualize images in three-dimensional form
- Good hand-eye coordination

### 4. **Emotional Stability**

- Ability to deal compassionately with patients in time of stress or crisis
- Ability to remain unfrustrated and flexible by disruption of routine

## **FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Application fee - \$25 (*sent with application, non-refundable*)
- Tuition
  - 15-month General Program \$6,500 (*eligible for loan forgiveness program*), subject to change
  - 15-month Cardiac Program \$6,500 (*eligible for loan forgiveness program*), subject to change
- Books - \$850 (*approximately*)
- Insurance - \$20
- Activity Fee - \$40

Individuals who show an interest in this advanced area of study and who meet the entrance requirements for the program, may submit the attached application.

The Admissions Committee will invite each applicant meeting the entrance requirements, to the participate in the interview process. The committee will evaluate by interview, transcripts, and/or references the educational background, attitudes, motivation, health, personality, and/or character of each applicant to indicate the likelihood of his/her success in the program and profession.

Enrollment is limited. All qualified applicants are screened and the **MOST OUTSTANDING** and **QUALIFIED** candidates are accepted to the Program

## Application For Admission – Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program

Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare – University Hospital  
1265 Union Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38104  
Phone: (901) 516-8099 Fax: (901) 516-2870

*Please print in ink or type.*

I wish to apply for the class beginning August 20 \_\_\_\_\_. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to apply to the DMS – **GENERAL** Program (*Abdomen and OB/Gyn, with Vascular Classes*)

I wish to apply to the DMS – **CARDIAC** Program (*Adult Echocardiography*)

Name in full: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Present Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Apt #  
City State Zip

Telephone (1) : \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (2) : \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail : \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

For research and recruiting purposes, please state where you heard about our program :  
\_\_\_\_\_

### To complete your Application Packet:

- **APPLICATION FEE** - Enclose a non-refundable application fee of \$25. If using check or money order, make payable to Methodist Healthcare.
- **WRITTEN PAPER** – Compose and submit a brief type written paper (*less than 2 pages*) regarding your desire and decision to pursue a career in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.
- **RESUME** – Attach a resume describing your professional employment history (*include military service*), professional training, volunteer experience and education (*list all schools attended starting with high school and including present school*)
- **TRANSCRIPTS** - Official transcripts of college records and Allied Health Programs are required and must be mailed by the institution **directly to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program**. The applicant must arrange for the evaluation of any transcripts from schools outside the United States. A list agencies providing this service may be obtained from the school office.
- **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION** - Please arrange to have three (3) letters of recommendation (*one work-related, one educationally-related, and one professionally-related or personal reference*) **sent directly to the Program Director.**

### ACADEMIC REQUIREMENT REVIEW

1. I am a(an):

A graduate of a 2-year AMA or AMA-equivalent allied health education program that is patient care related and currently hold a registry/license in same allied health profession?

A graduate with a 4-year Bachelor's degree

I plan to meet one of the above requirements by \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

2. I have completed the following courses with a minimum 2.0 grade:

- General Physics (*college level credit*)
- Biology, Human Anatomy and Physiology preferred (*college level credit*)
- Communication Skills (*college level credit*)
- Medical Terminology (*college level credit*)
- Algebra (*high school level credit*)

I plan to meet the all above requirement by \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Have you ever been discharged or placed on academic probation from any school? \_\_\_\_\_  
If YES, please provide a written explanation **Yes** **No**

Have you ever previously applied for admission to a Diagnostic Medical Sonography program? \_\_\_\_\_  
**Yes** **No**

Is YES, where? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please read the following and sign**

The information I have provided in this application is true and accurate. I understand that any false statement, material omission or inaccuracy on my part will automatically disqualify this applicant from consideration.

I further understand that it is my sole responsibility to request transcripts and reference letters and that all required information must be received by the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program on or before the May 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. I am aware that incomplete application packets will not be considered.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

After receipt of your completed application packet (including letters of reference and transcripts) an interview will be scheduled for you with the Admissions Committee. Interviews will be scheduled in early June

**An equal opportunity is offered to each applicant regardless of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability and age 40 and over.**

Please submit completed application to:

**Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program  
MLH-University Hospital, Department of Radiology  
ATTN: Tamera Ghelichkhani, RDMS  
Program Director  
1265 Union Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38104**