



RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What does a Radiologic Technologist do?

Healthcare professionals use many types of equipment to diagnose patients. Radiologic technologists specialize in x-ray. Technologists may be certified in multiple specialties. Radiologic technologists are often working in emergency rooms, inpatient and outpatient centers and in even in surgical settings.

Radiologic technologists typically do the following:

- 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 about the procedure
- 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
- Keep detailed patient records

How long is the Radiologic Technologist degree program?

The program begins every fall semester with a new cohort of 25-30 students, depending on the availability of clinical sites. The program lasts 5 semesters (fall, spring, summer, fall and spring) or just under two years. The does not include time to complete prerequisite courses.

What are the prerequisites for the program?

All of the following must be completed **prior** to admission for the Rad Tech program:

- Composition and Rhetoric-ENGL 1101
- College Algebra-MATH 1111
- Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab-BIOL 2113 and BIOL 2113L*
- Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab-BIOL 2114 and BIOL 2114L*

*Courses may not be more than 5 years old at the time of program admission.

How are students selected for Program admission for Radiologic Technology?

Candidates are scored and ranked based on: overall GPA, prerequisite courses GPA on all attempts, and ATI TEAS exam score. Information on the ATI TEAS exam can be found here:

<https://www.gwinnettech.edu/programs/assessment-testing-center/teas/>

Are there additional requirements after acceptance into the Radiologic Technology program?

Yes. Students are required to submit copies of immunization records, tuberculosis screening(s), completion of BLS CPR training, and are subject to a background check and drug screen clearance prior to starting clinical rotations.

Are Radiologic Technologists exposed to a lot of radiation?

Radiologic technologists work with imaging equipment that uses radiation. They must wear badges that measure radiation levels in the radiation area. Detailed records are kept on their cumulative lifetime dose. Although radiation hazards exist in this occupation, they are minimized by the use of protective lead aprons, gloves, and other shielding devices, and by badges that monitor exposure to radiation. Overall, the radiologic technology occupation is considered very safe.

Where does a Radiologic Technologist work?

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2016), Radiologic Technologists held about 205,200 jobs, and the largest employers were as follows:

Hospitals; state, local, and private	59%
Offices of physicians	20%
Medical and diagnostic laboratories	8%
Outpatient care centers	6%
Federal government, excluding postal service	3%

<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/radiologic-technologists.htm#tab-3>

How much does a Radiologic Technologist make an hour?

The median annual wage for Radiologic Technologists was \$58,440 in May 2017, or approximately \$28.88 per hour. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/radiologic-technologists.htm#tab-1>

Are Radiologic Technologists in demand?

The projected job employment growth from 2016 to 2026 is around 12%. The average growth rate for all occupations is only 7%. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/radiologic-technologists.htm#tab-6>

Is there a wait list? If I apply this year, when will I get in?

There is no wait list for the Rad Tech program. We evaluate each application cohort every application cycle; if you do not get in the first cycle, you are welcome to try again next calendar year. The deadline to apply each year is **June 8th**.

I need to work at least part-time if I am admitted to the Rad Tech program. Is this possible?

The amount of time a Rad Tech student must spend in study, practice and attending clinical rotations is significant. The Rad Tech Program cannot make accommodations for a student's work schedule. Most Rad Tech students find it difficult to maintain passing grades in their didactic courses and work at the same time but it can be done if one is determined and organized.

When and where are classes scheduled? Can I take courses at night or online?

Didactic courses are offered on the Lawrenceville campus only, Monday – Friday during the day. Clinical assignments are typically scheduled between 7am and 4pm; however, all students will be required to complete at least four weeks of evening clinical rotations from 2pm – 10pm.

What degree will I receive from Gwinnett Technical College after successfully completing the Rad Tech program?

Associate of Applied Science Degree in Radiologic Technology

Do I get to choose my clinical sites?

No. Our clinical coordinators schedule all rotations to ensure equal and equitable learning experiences for every student. Students will have to travel to several different clinical sites during the course of the Rad Tech program, in order to give the student a variety of imaging experiences. All of our clinical sites are within an hour/30 miles of Gwinnett Technical College (not including traffic).

Is the Radiologic Technology Program accredited?

Yes. Gwinnett Tech's Radiologic Technology program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT). You can visit their website at www.jrcert.org

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Where can I get more information about a career in Radiologic Technology?

The best resources are The American Society for Radiologic Technologists (www.asrt.org) and the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (www.arrt.org).