



# Radiography

**Opportunity – Then. Now. Always.**

2024 Application Cycle

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# Radiography Application Requirements

Information is subject to change. Visit [pcc.edu/radiography](http://pcc.edu/radiography) for updated program information. **All deadlines and timelines are subject to change.** PCC will not consider degrees, work experience, certifications, or courses earned for points after the end of Winter term 2024. Selection for PCC's Radiography program is a three-phase evaluation process (see page 3 for details). The first evaluation is based on a point system worth up to 62 points as detailed below. Based on the 62 points, we select the highest scoring applicants to participate in the second phase of selection. Based on Phase II scores, the imaging department selects **up to 38 applicants** for admission to the program.

## Application Requirements

- Complete all required prerequisite courses by the end of the Winter term prior to the application deadline.
  - Prerequisites: WR 121Z competency, completion of MTH 95 or higher, MP 111, BI 231, BI 232 and BI 233. See pages 5-6 for details & expiration dates.
- Individual prerequisite courses must be successfully completed with a letter grade of "C" or higher.
- Apply to Portland Community College online at [pcc.edu/admissions](http://pcc.edu/admissions). ALL applicants must be admitted as a credit seeking student to PCC and possess a student ID number (G number) prior to applying to the Radiography Program.
- Complete the Radiography program application by creating an account through the [AHCAS](#) system.
  - Applicants can begin building their AHCAS application in the fall prior to the application deadline. PCC's program will not be visible in AHCAS until our application opens on **January 2, 2024**. For more information, please visit the [PCC Radiography application instructions](#) page.
- Official transcripts from any and all schools attended (including PCC) must be submitted directly to AHCAS.
  - Failure to submit all official transcripts to AHCAS will render an application ineligible for consideration.
- Applicants are required to submit their Radiography application, all official transcripts, supporting documentation, and a \$68 non-refundable application fee to AHCAS by the 8:59 p.m. deadline on **April 15, 2024**. Do not wait until the deadline date to apply.

## Competitive Entry Information

Admission to this program is highly competitive. Up to 38 applicants are selected each year from a pool of approximately 150 or more applicants. Completion of the radiography prerequisite requirements does not guarantee admission to the program. Applicants are strongly encouraged to research the field of radiography and have a thorough understanding of the job duties of a radiologic technologist. Applicants should also gain experience in a medical setting through work or volunteer experience to become familiar with the healthcare environment and culture.

## Selection Process

### Phase I: Application Evaluation

- Applications are evaluated on a 62-point scale based on academic achievement in science, math, and medical terminology, Veteran status, job shadowing, and healthcare or volunteer experience, licensure, or certification (Detailed on page 7)
- Applicants must meet minimum GPA and prerequisite eligibility requirements
- All applicants must submit Part I of the healthcare experience form as part of their AHCAS application
- Send official transcripts to AHCAS from all colleges attended, including PCC
- Only complete and verified applications submitted by the application deadline will be considered

### Phase II: Panel Interview & Health Science Reasoning Test (HSRT)

- Applicants who meet the cutoff score from Phase I of the selection process will be invited to participate in Phase II
- Program selection is based solely on Phase II points
- Applicants will be notified of invitation to Phase II via the email address designated in AHCAS
- Applicants will be required to attend a mandatory orientation prior to attending Phase II. Orientation dates will be posted on our website [pcc.edu/radiography](http://pcc.edu/radiography) in early January, along with the program application information
- Applicants will be required to sit for the HSRT and take part in a panel interview facilitated by imaging faculty members and clinical instructors

### Phase III: Post-Selection Requirements

Applicants should **NOT** pursue meeting these requirements prior to being admitted to the Radiography Program. Admitted students will receive specific directions from PCC's Radiography department on how to meet these requirements. Applicants offered a seat in the program must meet the following requirements prior to beginning the Radiography Program in the Fall term:

- Pass a criminal background check from an agency designated by PCC
- Pass a 10-panel drug screen from a lab designated by PCC
- Submit proof of current immunizations, including a complete COVID-19 vaccination (for more information on required immunizations, please visit [pcc.edu/radiography](http://pcc.edu/radiography)).
- Submit proof of current CPR for Healthcare Providers certification

## Post-Graduation Certification Requirements

Upon graduation from the Radiography program, students will apply to take the national certification examination offered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) and for licensure as a Radiologic Technologist in the state of Oregon. Candidates for certification are held to stringent ethics standards in order to be eligible for initial certification and annual renewal of registration. Successful completion of PCC criminal background check does not guarantee eligibility for ARRT certification. Applicants with criminal history are encouraged to begin an Ethics Review Pre-Application with ARRT **prior to applying** to the PCC Radiography program. For additional information, please visit [arrt.org/pages/earn-arrt-credentials/initial-requirements/ethics/ethics-review-preapplication](https://www.arrt.org/pages/earn-arrt-credentials/initial-requirements/ethics/ethics-review-preapplication).

### Additional Resources

- American Society of Radiologic Technologist: [asrt.org](https://www.asrt.org)
- Oregon Board of Medical Imaging: [oregon.gov/obmi/pages/index.aspx](https://www.oregon.gov/obmi/pages/index.aspx)
- American Registry of Radiologic technologist: [arrt.org](https://www.arrt.org)
- Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology: [jrcert.org](https://www.jrcert.org)
- Health and Science Reasoning Test (HSRT): [insightassessment.com/product/hsrt](https://www.insightassessment.com/product/hsrt)
- Portland Community College Academic Advising: [pcc.edu/advising/](https://www.pcc.edu/advising/)
- Portland Community College Career Services: [pcc.edu/careers/](https://www.pcc.edu/careers/)
- Portland Community College Accessible Ed & Disability Resources: [pcc.edu/disability/](https://www.pcc.edu/disability/)

### Application Timeline for Summer 2024 Admission

- **Early September:** Applicants can begin building their [AHCAS](#) common application pieces.
- **January 2, 2024:** Application opens. PCC's program will not be visible in AHCAS until January 2.
- **New!! March 18, 2024:** Students must be admitted to PCC as a credit seeking student prior to the applying to the Radiography Program. For [general admission](#) deadlines, visit [pcc.edu/enroll](https://www.pcc.edu/enroll). For application deadlines, please view the [academic calendar](#) or visit [pcc.edu/calendars/](https://www.pcc.edu/calendars/).
- **March 24, 2024:** End of Winter Term - All prerequisite courses, math placement exam and work/volunteer experience and job shadowing must be completed by this date.
- **April 15, 2024 at 8:59pm PST:** AHCAS Radiography application deadline.
- **Late-April:** Applicants are notified if they are moving on to Phase II.
- **Early-May:** Mandatory orientation for applicants selected to participate in Phase II panel interviews.
- **Late-May:** Panel interviews & HSRT scheduled.
- **First week of June:** Applicants notified of program placement via the email address designated in their AHCAS application. Applicants complete Phase III requirements before the fall term.
- **Summer term:** The Radiography program will begin summer term with RAD 100.
- **Fall term:** The Radiography program begins full-time.

## Required Prerequisite Course Details

**The following prerequisite courses have a 7-year expiration (courses must be dated 2017 or more recent for the 2024 application):**

### **BI 231, 232, & 233 Anatomy and Physiology I, II, & III:**

The full anatomy & physiology sequence must be completed by the end of Winter term prior to the application deadline.

- The full sequence of human anatomy and physiology with laboratory, inclusive of all body systems is required. Chemistry and/or Biology may be required prior to the A&P sequence at some institutions. BI 112 or BI 211 and BI 212 are prerequisites for BI 231.

### **MTH 95 Intermediate Algebra or higher:**

MTH 95 or higher must be **completed** with a grade of "C" or higher by the end of **Winter term** prior to the application deadline (**Refer to the FAQ section for more details**)

- Applicants who have expired MTH 95 may use college math placement test scores to **update** their math requirement. Applicants who update their math by completing a college placement test (placing into MTH 111Z or higher) must use the grade from their expired math course for points. PCC only accepts ALEKS placement test score reports from the ALEKS math placement website to demonstrate math competency. MTH 111Z placement is determined based on PCC's Testing Center's placement recommendations.

**The following prerequisite courses have no expiration date:**

### **WR 121Z English Composition:**

WR 121Z = WR 121 (**see the FAQ section for more details on common course numbering**). Remedial English such as sentence structure and punctuation will not be accepted as sufficient to meet the prerequisite. WR 122Z, WR 123, WR 222 or WR 227Z are also accepted in lieu of WR 121Z. The WR 121Z requirement is waived with completion of previous U.S. Bachelor's degree or higher from a U.S. regionally accredited institution. Applicants who have completed a U.S. Bachelor's degree must complete or substitute a general education elective to fulfill the prerequisite GPA requirement for admission to the program. Applicants are encouraged to meet with a HEP Pathway Advisor for questions relating to WR 121Z substitution.



## **MP 111 Medical Terminology:**

The course must cover prefixes, suffixes, root words, abbreviations, conditions, symptoms and procedure terms. The course needs to be taught by body systems. If you are taking this course at another college/university, please submit official transcripts to PCC prior to applying or contact a HEP Pathway Advisor to verify transfer equivalency to PCC.

## **Basic Computer Literacy:**

The Radiography program does not require a computer science class as a prerequisite. However, success in the radiography program requires that students be computer literate, including word processing, data entry, use of spreadsheets and internet research. Students with no computer experience should discuss with an advisor how to achieve competency prior to program application. A recommended course at PCC is CIS 120 Digital Literacy.

**Applicants with transfer courses are strongly encouraged to meet with a HEP Pathway advisor. Each transfer course is subject to review by the PCC Student Records Office, the Medical Imaging Department, and/or a HEP Pathway Advisor to determine transfer equivalency.**

## Degree Requirements that may be taken prior to acceptance

All students must complete the general education requirements for the Associate of Applied Science Degree. To view degree requirements, please visit: [catalog.pcc.edu/generaleducationdisciplinestudies/](http://catalog.pcc.edu/generaleducationdisciplinestudies/)

## Academic Advising at PCC

### If you are new to PCC

Please sign up for a Panther Registration Session. Academic advisors can help with can help with first-term planning for students with prior college credits\* and students who have never taken college courses before. To sign up for a Panther Registration Session, please visit: [pcc.edu/first-term/new-student-advising/](http://pcc.edu/first-term/new-student-advising/)

### \*If you have prior college credits

It is important that your official transcripts are evaluated by student records **before** meeting with an academic advisor at PCC. To learn more, please visit: [pcc.edu/student-records/transfer/](http://pcc.edu/student-records/transfer/)

# Radiography Selection Criteria

<b>Prerequisite Courses</b>	
All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher by the end of Winter term 2024 to apply for the program. <b>Applicants will be awarded 8 points for an “A” grade, 6 points for a “B” grade and 4 points for a “C” grade in the following courses:</b>	
Intermediate Algebra – MTH 95	/ 8 pts
Anatomy & Physiology I – BI 231	/ 8 pts
Anatomy & Physiology II – BI 232	/ 8 pts
Anatomy & Physiology III – BI 233	/ 8 pts
Medical Terminology – MP 111	/ 8 pts
<b>Prerequisite Courses Total Points Possible</b>	
<b>/ 40 pts</b>	
<b>Job Shadowing</b>	
Applicants can earn 5 points for completing 3 hours of job shadowing in an inpatient imaging department prior to the end of winter term. Please see the FAQ section (page 9) for job shadowing details and a link to the required job shadowing form.	
<b>Job Shadowing Total Points Possible</b>	
<b>/ 5 pts</b>	
<b>Community Engagement</b>	
Applicants may earn points for engagement hours in a variety of settings benefiting rural, underserved and/or underrepresented populations. Please see FAQ section (page 10) for details.	
20 – 50 hours of completion	/ 3 pts
51+ hours of completion	/ 5 pts
<b>Community Engagement Total Points Possible</b>	
<b>/ 5 pts</b>	
<b>Service Members (active military, veteran, reserve)</b>	
Discharged applicants must provide their DD214, member 4 copy documenting honorable discharge. Please see FAQ section (page 9) for details or follow up with a HEP advisor for individualized inquiries.	
<b>Service Members Total Points Possible</b>	
<b>/ 2 pts</b>	
<b>Healthcare Experience/Certification in a Medical Setting (choose ONE of the following experiences)</b>	
All experience must take place in a medical setting with direct patient contact. A medical setting is a hospital, clinic, nursing home or other environment where licensed practitioners diagnose, treat, and prevent acute and chronic illness or injury. If using a license or certification to gain points, copies of license or certification must be uploaded with your application to qualify for points.	
Minimum of 100 hours documented (paid or unpaid) work experience.	/ 6 pts
Minimum of 200 hours documented, post certification, paid work experience.	/ 8 pts
Minimum of 300 hours of demonstrated paid work experience in an in-patient imaging department. Examples include radiography aide, radiography transporter, radiography scheduler, or radiography assistant.	/10 pts
<b>Healthcare Experience/Certification Total Points Possible</b>	
<b>/10 pts</b>	
<b>Phase I Total Points</b>	
<b>/62 pts</b>	

# Frequently Asked Questions

## How soon should I begin working on my AHCAS application?

AHCAS opens in late August of each year. Be sure to select the application for the correct fall term you are intending to start. You may begin building the common pieces of your AHCAS application in the fall. This allows you to complete personal information, enter your academic history and review AHCAS requirements. You will not be able to select PCC or view the AHCAS application for PCC until January 2nd. Once the PCC Radiography Application opens in January, you will be able to view and begin working on your PCC specific requirements in AHCAS.

## How do I submit official transcripts as part of my AHCAS application?

Submit official transcripts from all colleges attended, including PCC. It is recommended to send transcripts at least two weeks before the deadline. AHCAS takes 7-10 business days to post transcripts, and transcripts must be posted prior to the application deadline. **If you are currently enrolled in prerequisite courses, you must wait until Winter term grades have posted on your official transcript before requesting your transcripts to be sent.** Applicants who have transcripts from previous colleges (and are no longer taking classes there) should send those transcripts immediately. Do not wait to send your transcripts until you submit your AHCAS application. This may extend the time it takes AHCAS to process your application and may cause you to miss the application deadline. For a detailed guide on sending transcripts and to check transcript status, please visit: [help.liaisonedu.com/](http://help.liaisonedu.com/).

## How will I be notified of my AHCAS application status?

**All program application correspondence will be sent to the designated email used in your AHCAS application.** Check your email often and remember which email address you used to sign up for your AHCAS account. Once admitted to the Radiography Program, all program related correspondence (including Financial Aid, post-selection requirements, etc.) will be sent through your MyPCC email address (located in the upper right-hand corner of your MyPCC account). Applicants are responsible for checking their email address that they used to sign up for AHCAS **and** their MyPCC email regularly. Applicants are also responsible understanding admissions related dates and deadlines.

## Once I complete the program will I be licensed or certified?

Once you complete the program you will be eligible to take the national certification examination. After passing the national certification exam, you will be certified by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT). Licensure is awarded on a state-by-state basis and is required to practice in most states.



## How many PCC graduates pass the ARRT certification exam on their first attempt?

The ARRT Certification exam pass rates, program completion data, as well as 5-year average job placement information can be found at: [pcc.edu/programs/radiography/documents/radiography-program-effectiveness-data.pdf](https://pcc.edu/programs/radiography/documents/radiography-program-effectiveness-data.pdf).

## How do I set up a job shadowing experience and/or healthcare experience?

There are several ways applicants can acquire healthcare experience:

- Reach out to a medical imaging department to inquire about available shadowing options.
- Read through the [job shadowing form](#) for detailed directions and considerations.
- Contact volunteer services departments in local hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, adult foster care facilities, etc., to find volunteer opportunities. Please refer to the Radiography program website to view a list of [hospital affiliates](#).
- Obtain a professional healthcare licensure/certification (such as CNA) and begin working in that capacity.
- PCC offers a cooperative work experience education program that helps students explore potential career paths. To learn more, please visit: [pcc.edu/resources/careers/co-op/](https://pcc.edu/resources/careers/co-op/).
- It is important to discuss healthcare experience with your assigned HEP pathway advisor and/or follow up with the [PCC Career Services Office](#).

## How can I earn points for my military experience?

Applicants can earn points for U.S. Military service (Active, Veteran, or Reserve status). Discharged applicants must provide their DD214, member 4 copy documenting honorable discharge. Active military service members may upload a letter from their commanding officer on letterhead from the respective military branch documenting their active service status. For more information, please follow up with your assigned HEP advisor.

## If I have a criminal record, can I still be accepted to the PCC program?

Specific offenses can prevent students from being licensed as a Radiologic Technologist. For more information regarding misdemeanors and felony offenses that may impact your ability to apply to work in this field, please contact the ARRT to discuss the pre-approval process at: [arrt.org](https://arrt.org).

## What other math courses can be used meet the MTH 95 requirement?

The current requirement for the radiography program is to take MTH 95 or higher or equivalent placement. Other courses that can be used to meet this requirement includes, but is not limited to, MTH 98, 105Z, 111Z, 112Z, or STAT 243Z. Reach out to a HEP pathway advisor with specific course transfer inquires.

## **If a prerequisite that I have taken in the past now has the letter Z attached to it, do I need to retake it?**

No. If your course has not expired, applicants will not need to repeat courses. For example, prerequisite courses such as MTH 111Z used to be MTH 111 and would not need to be taken again. Courses such as WR 121Z, WR 122Z, STAT 243Z, and more are part of Oregon Common Course Numbering. Visit the Common Course Numbering page by going to [pcc.edu/common-course-numbering/](http://pcc.edu/common-course-numbering/) for more information and a list of current course changes. Reach out to a HEP pathway advisor with specific course transfer inquiries.

## **What if I take a prerequisite course pass/no pass?**

Individual prerequisite courses must be successfully completed with a letter grade of "C" or higher. Pass/no pass grading options are not accepted as proof of successful course completion.

## **How do I know if my community engagement will be counted?**

Community engagement experiences vary. PCC is specifically looking for following: Did your experience focus on serving people? Did your experience benefit a specific population in need? Was your experience unpaid? If you answered yes to these three questions and upload the supporting documentation, your experience will be counted in the phase I evaluation. Community engagement hours must be separate from healthcare experience or service member experience hours. Please be sure to upload the [Community Engagement Form](#) to your AHCAS application.

## **How do I know if my healthcare certification will be accepted for points in phase I?**

Review the [Approved Healthcare Certifications for the Radiography Program](#) form for your specific certification. Reach out to a HEP pathway advisor for specific certification inquiries.

For more frequently asked questions about the Radiography program, please visit the radiography homepage: [pcc.edu/radiography](http://pcc.edu/radiography).

For additional information, please fill out our Radiography "Connect with us" form: <https://www.pcc.edu/programs/get-in-touch/?discipline=Medical+Imaging>

# Radiography Technical Standards

The following standards are capabilities related to successful practice in the Radiography profession. These are non-academic criteria and include physical capabilities required of radiography applicants and radiography professionals. Applicants **must be able to meet these standards** in order to successfully complete the program. Please read each item carefully to determine if you are able to meet each requirement.

## Communication Ability

The ability to communicate in English both orally and in writing as it relates to:

- Obtaining and recording patient history.
- Explaining or discussing procedures.
- Discussing patient consent forms.
- Providing clear verbal instructions to patients either face to face or from the radiography control area, which is a distance away from the patient.

## Visual Acuity

The ability to see fine lines and to distinguish gradual changes in blacks, grays and whites is necessary to evaluate:

- Radiographic images in dimmed lighting.
- Assess the direction of the central ray to the anatomical part being imaged.
- Read department protocols for imaging procedures, examination request, monitors and any written directions or orders.

## Hearing Ability

The ability to hear sounds is necessary in order to:

- Respond to patient questions, concerns and needs.
- Hear faint or muffled sounds when the use of surgical masks is required.
- Hear faint or muffled sounds since operator control areas are separated from the x-ray table and patient.
- Monitor equipment operation or dysfunction, which may be indicated by low sounding buzzers or bells.

## Motor Functions Ability

Good manual dexterity, motor skills and eye-hand coordination are necessary in order to:

- Manipulate machine locks and controls.
- Don surgical gloves, fill syringes and handle sterile trays and equipment.
- Operate both mobile and stationary medical imaging equipment.
- Provide strength to move and operate equipment and patient carts and wheelchairs.
- Stand unassisted for long periods of time.
- Provide strength to transfer and position patients without placing patients at risk.
- Reach overhead in order to manipulate an x-ray tube that hangs from the ceiling.

If you would like to request accommodations, please contact PCC's [Accessible Ed & Disability Resources](#) for assistance. If you are accepted into the program and your functional abilities change, please meet with the Medical Imaging Department for assistance.

**Portland Community College is an affirmative action equal opportunity institution. Students are admitted without discrimination as to age, race, religion, gender, sexual preference, national origin or marital status.**