



Southside College of Health Sciences

1. *What are the steps to apply to the programs?*

- Completion of pre-requisites* from either high school level and/or college.
- Submit an application, official high school, and official college transcripts.
- **DMS Program only** - submit documentation of completion of a human health career program.
- Attend a program Information Session prior to submission of an application.

***Pre-requisites must either be completed before the application deadline or during the spring semester of the March 1st deadline or the summer semester of the August 1st deadline.**

2. *What are the pre-requisite courses for the program?*

Nursing

- College level pre-requisites; successful completion (C or better) of:
 - Developmental Psychology (3 credits)
 - Human Anatomy & Physiology I (4 credits)
 - English Composition I (3 credits)
 - College Math (3 credits) - Statistics recommended
 - Microbiology (4 credits)

Radiologic Technology

- High School pre-requisites; successful completion (C or better) of:
 - Algebra I
 - Biology
 - Algebra II or Geometry
- College level pre-requisites:
 - Human Anatomy & Physiology I (4 credits)
 - Human Anatomy & Physiology II (4 credits)
 - English Composition I (3 credits)
 - Psychology (3 credits)
 - College Algebra/Statistics (3 credits)
 - Medical Terminology

Diagnostic Medical Sonography

- Human Anatomy & Physiology I or II (4 credits)
- English Composition I or II (3 credits)
- Psychology (3 credits)
- College Algebra, Quantitative Reasoning, Statistics (3 credits)
- Radiation Physics or Physics (4 credits)

3. *Is there a GPA requirement?*

Nursing- minimum 2.0

Radiologic Technology-minimum 2.5

Diagnostic Medical Sonography-minimum 2.5

4. *Is there a time limit for courses I have taken in the past?*

Anatomy & Physiology I & II must be within ten years of entry for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Radiologic Technology Programs. Other courses do not have a time limit.

5. Are there co-requisites for the programs? What is a co-requisite?

Yes, there are co-requisites. A co-requisite is a college level course that has been incorporated into the program curriculum. Those courses are not required to apply but highly recommended to take prior to applying. Co-requisites can be taken at a regionally accredited institution and are not offered SCHS.

Nursing

- Human Anatomy & Physiology II (4 credits)
- English Composition II (3 credits)

Radiologic Technology

- Ethics (3 credits)
- English II (3 credits)
- Social Science (3 credits)
- Humanities (3 credits)
- History (3 credits)

Diagnostic Medical Sonography

- No co-requisites

6. I took classes at another college. Do they automatically transfer to SCHS?

Course(s) may transfer to SCHS if the following are met: a student must have earned a “C” or higher; the course must be similar in course description, match the number of credit hours, and the institution must be regionally accredited. SCHS will determine your transfer credits when an official transcript is sent from the college you attended along with your application.

7. I have taken courses at a college, and I do not think you will accept the credits. Do I still have to submit an official transcript with my application?

Yes, all college transcripts need to be submitted (in English) even if you do not believe we can transfer in the course.

8. I have taken all the pre-requisites. What is my next step?

Submit your completed application, application fee, any additional program requirements, and official transcripts (high school and post-secondary education) by the appropriate application deadline. ***The Admissions Office will not contact you if you are missing any documents from your application packet.***

9. When is the deadline for application? When do classes start?

	March 1 st (fall start)	August 1 st (spring start)
Nursing	X	X
Radiologic Technology	X	
Sonography		X

10. I will not have completed pre-requisites by the application deadline can I still apply?

Yes, you can apply. You will need to submit your application, application fee, student statement, and official transcripts (high school and post-secondary education) by the application deadline. The transcript that you submit should also reflect the current semester pre-requisites that you are taking. Once your semester is completed, have your school submit another official transcript with final grades posted.

11. How much is the application fee?

There is a non-refundable application fee of \$70 that can be paid online on the college website.

12. *What is the TOEFL? Do I need to take it?*

The TOEFL or Test of English as a Foreign Language is only required for those applicants when English is a second language. Applicants with English as a second language may find it beneficial to take the TOEFL, Test of English as a Foreign Language, to assess their English knowledge and take supplemental English as a Second Language (ESL) courses to improve language foundation.

13. *How is the program designed?*

Nursing

The Associate of Applied Science in Nursing is a four (4) term program consisting of 45 credit hours of nursing courses and 24 credit hours of general education courses totaling 69 credits. The nursing courses consist of lecture, lab, and clinical requirements.

Radiologic Technology

The Associate of Applied Science in Radiation Sciences is a five (5) semester program consisting of 51 credit hours of radiography courses and 32 credit hours of general education courses totaling 83 credits. The radiation sciences courses consist of lecture, lab and clinical.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography

The Associate of Applied Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography is a four (4) semester program consisting of 50 credit hours of sonography courses and 17 credit hours of general education courses totaling 67 credits. The diagnostic medical sonography courses consist of lecture, lab and clinical.

All programs consist of lecture, lab, and clinical hours. Lecture and lab are taught at SCHS, and clinical hours are completed at Southside Medical Center, other hospitals, and outside practices. Co-requisites can be taken at regionally accredited institution and are not offered SCHS.

14. *What is the profile of your typical student?*

Nursing

Our average incoming student has A's and B's in their co-requisite courses and previous volunteer or work experience in the medical field.

Radiologic Technology

Our average incoming student has A's and B's in their pre-requisite courses with an average GPA of 3.1.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Our average incoming student has A's and B's in their pre-requisite courses with an average GPA of 3.0.

15. *Is there a waiting list?*

We do not have a waiting list; however, we can select alternates to fill in empty slots. Any applicants placed on an alternate list will be notified if space becomes available. We do dissolve this alternate list upon the first day of class.

16. *How long will it take before I find out if I have been accepted into the program?*

SCHS Admissions will notify applicants for the Radiologic Technology and Diagnostic Medical Sonography Programs 45 days after the application deadline. For the Nursing Program, applicants will be notified four (4) weeks after they make application.

17. *If I am accepted into the program, what kind of degree will I receive?*

Upon successful completion you will be granted:

Nursing

Associate of Applied Science in Nursing is awarded. Graduates are then eligible to take the National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX)-RN.

Radiologic Technology

Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology is awarded. Graduates are then eligible to take the American Registry of Radiologic Technologist (ARRT).

Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Associate of Applied Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography is awarded. Graduates are then eligible to take the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS) in the areas of Sonography Principles & Instrumentation (SPI) and are able to take one of two specialty boards: Abdomen (AB) and Obstetrics and/or Gynecology (OB/GYN).

18. Do I need to have CPR certification when I enter the program?

You need to be CPR certified to start on the first day of class; however, you do not submit a copy of your CPR certification with your application. More information regarding CPR training will be provided upon acceptance into the program.

19. What if I am already CPR certified?

If you are already CPR certified, you will want to make sure that you have the correct certification, and it is current. SCHS requires you complete your CPR through the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, or American Health and Safety Institute. You are required to have a current CPR certification while in our programs.

20. Can I work full-time while in the program?

Even though you can arrange to do your coursework on your own time, clinicals can be held throughout the week to include weekends. It is not advised to be both a full-time student and full-time worker. Many students work in their local hospitals part-time as they go through the program to sharpen their skills and gain confidence on the clinical floor.

21. Do you have evening clinical?

Clinical rotations are primarily completed via day and evening shifts with options for weekend shifts. Students are provided a schedule prior to the first day of class. Students should always be aware that changes might occur and to be flexible.

22. Are all my clinical sites at Southside Medical Center?

No. Students also complete their clinical rotations at various hospitals and clinics.

23. Can I finish the program early?

No. The SCHS Program curriculum has been designed for the student to complete courses consecutively, therefore courses cannot be combined.

24. Do you have an LPN-RN Bridge Program?

No. We do not offer an LPN-RN Bridge Program.

25. Am I able to take any courses online?

All programmatic courses for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Radiologic Technology Programs are in-person at SCHS. The Nursing Program will have a hybrid component within the program. Co-requisite courses can be at a local community college or online (if available) and that is at the discretion of the student.

26. Is the school accredited?

Yes. SCHS is institutionally accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) and certified to operate by The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)

Nursing is programmatically accredited by:

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
Virginia Board of Nursing (VBON)

Radiologic Technology is programmatically accredited by:

The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT)

Diagnostic Medical Sonography is programmatically accredited by:

Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)

Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS)

All applicants are required to attend a program Information Session. Information Sessions are held throughout the year on a regular basis and may be virtual or in-person. The dates and times are listed on the college website at <https://www.schs.edu/admissions/info-sessions>.