

# Radiation Technology









### Certificate in Radiation Therapy

#### Have You Considered a Career as a Radiation Therapist?

Radiation Therapy (or radiation oncology) is the medical use of ionizing radiation to treat cancer and control malignant cell growth. Radiation Therapy is commonly combined with other modes of treatment for cancer, such as surgery, chemotherapy, and hormone therapy.

#### **Certificate in Radiation Therapy Program**

The Radiation Therapy certificate program is a full-time, 15-month program. It is intended for Radiographers who seek additional specialization. The program is also open to other qualified applicants in the nursing or allied health fields. Upon successful completion of the program, students are eligible to sit for the ARRT Radiation Therapy board exam. The application window is from January 1 to May 31; the program starts each September.

#### Mission Statement

"To Make Man Whole" reflects the mission statement of Loma Linda University and Medical Center. It is the mission of the program to encourage the personal and professional growth of students through the integrated development of intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual aspects of each student as they prepare to serve mankind.

#### **Radiation Therapy Goals and Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the LLU Radiation Therapy Program, students will demonstrate critical thinking by being able to integrate theory and practice, and by being able to adapt to any atypical clinical situation. Students will be clinically competent and will demonstrate this by performing the interpretation and execution of treatment plans, quality assurance procedures, and the monitoring of changes in patients daily conditions accurately. Students will be able to communicate effectively through the use of proficient oral and written communication skills. Students will demonstrate professionalism by treating all persons with respect, being responsible and accountable for their actions, and by adhering to the rules of confidentiality.

#### **Clinical Training**

For clinical training, each student is assigned to an affiliated medical centers. In addition to Loma Linda University Medical Center, we have clinical affiliates located in Southern California. Each student is responsible for transportation to the clinical assignments.

#### **Job Demands**

The essential job functions of a Radiation Therapist require certain physical, mental, & emotional attributes. Physical demands include lifting, carrying, bending, manipulation of equipment, patient assistance, walking, & possible prolonged standing. The ability to read written orders, computer screens, patient records, and equipment controls is critical. The ability to communicate with patients, physicians, and coworkers is used daily. Mental & emotional demands include critical decision making, interaction with patients of varying ages, diversity, and health conditions,

#### Loma Linda University: Educating Radiology Professionals

Loma Linda University offers a number of programs in the medical imaging field. Besides Radiation Therapy, we offer programs in Medical Radiography, Computed Tomography, Imaging Informatics (online), Cardiac Electrophysiology, Magnetic Resonance, Nuclear Medicine, Sonography, and Dosimetry. We also offer an online Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Radiation Sciences, a Bachelor's degree in Healthcare Administration, and an online Radiologist Assistant Master's degree program.

#### **Professional Registration and Certifications**

Upon completion of the certificate requirements, the student is eligible to sit for the qualifying examinations in Radiation Therapy of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT).

#### **Financial Information**

Tuition and fees are subject to change each year. Students should be prepared to be responsible for all tuition fees, books, living expenses, and transportation. Financial aid is available. Loan application can begin before being accepted.

## Certificate of Radiation Therapy's Gainful Employment Disclosure(s)

The following link will provide information regarding the cost of the certificate, financing available, median debt, normal timeframe for completion, and job placement rates for students that have completed this program. Go to: http://alliedhealth.llu.edu/sites/alliedhealth.llu.edu/files/docs/disclosures/rtt/Gedt.html

alliedhealth.llu.edu

#### **Admission Requirements**

Admission to this program is dependent on the student fulfilling certain educational requirements, completing career observation experience, and submitting transcripts and letters of recommendation.

#### **Educational Background**

The applicant must fulfill one of the following requirements:

- a. Be an ARRT-Registered Radiologic Technologist with an Associate's degree (recommended) and/or graduate of an accredited Radiologic Technology program and have college credits in:
  - College Algebra (taken within 3 yeras)
  - Human Anatomy and Physiology with labs, two-course sequence
  - Radiation Protection
  - Patient Care Methods
  - Radiation Physics
  - · Current CPR certification
  - General Psychology
- b. Be a Registered Nurse or graduate of an accredited Allied Health program (2 years minimum training) and have college credits in:
  - College Algebra (taken within 3 years)
  - Human Anatomy and Physiology with labs, two-course sequence
  - · Medical Terminology
  - · Patient Care Methods
  - · Radiation Physics
  - · Radiation Protection
  - Principles of Radiology
  - General Psychology

#### **Observation Experience**

A minimum of 40 hours of career observation in a Radiation Oncology Department is required. A letter from the chief Radiation Therapist documenting hours of attendance and procedures observed is required. Observation forms are available online.

#### **Documentation**

Transcripts of college courses, letters of recommendation, records of training, and evidence of registry or licensing (when applicable), must be made available before the applicant can be accepted.

#### **Accrediting Associations**

Loma Linda University is regionally accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities, and the Radiologic Health Branch of the Department of Health Services. The program is also accredited by JRCERT (Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technologies)

#### Curriculum

During the 15-month Certificate Program in Radiation Therapy Technology, students take formal classes along with instruction in a clinical setting. This includes participation, under close supervision, in the actual procedures within the Radiation Therapy Department. The program is full-time (40 hours per week) arranged around lectures and coordinated with participating clinical affiliates.

#### **Application Procedure**

A new class in Radiation Therapy Technology begins each Fall. Plan to apply at least six months ahead of your intended starting date. All applications must be completed on line at www.llu.edu. To speed up the application process:

- Please read the online application instructions carefully. Be sure that your application is complete, including the statement of purpose and the application fee.
- 2. Make sure that you give three people the Letter of Recommendation form to fill out, and include an envelope for them to return the form in.
- Make arrangements with your high school and each college that you have attended to have them send your original transcripts directly to: Admissions Office, School of Allied Health Professions, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA 92350.

#### **Acceptance Process**

Interviews are conducted during the first two weeks in June. All applicants will be interviewed by the program director, other faculty members, clinical staff, and a representative of the School of Allied Health Professions. If you are within a reasonable driving distance you should plan to arrange for a personal interview. After all applicants have been interviewed, the selection committee for the Radiation Therapy Program meets to make the final selections. Acceptances are usually decided by the first of July and confirmation of each decision is mailed to the respective applicant from the Office of Admissions for the School of Allied Health Professions.

#### Financial Aid

Apply early for financial assistance even before receiving your acceptance into the program. You should begin your financial aid process by November 10. Applications for Cal Grants (California residents only) must be postmarked no later than March 2. LLU's Student Financial Aid office will help you obtain the necessary applications and guide you through the process of applying for aid. Contact them at: Office of Financial Aid, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA 92350, telephone: (909) 558-4509.

#### Housing

On-campus housing is available for men and women. For information on the men's dormitory (Daniell's Residence), call (909) 558-4562. For information on the women's dormitory (Lindsay Hall), call (909) 558-4561.

**Contact Information** 

**Program Director** Carol Davis

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http://www.llu.edu/allied-health/sahp/radtech/radtherapy.page?

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## LLU at a Glance

>> Founded in 1905 >> A Seventh-day Adventist institution integrating health, science, and Christian faith >> Offers over 200 programs in the health sciences >> Houses eight schools: Allied Health Professions, Behavorial Health, Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, and Religion >> About 4,000 students >> Over 1,300 faculty >> 2,000 professional researchers >> \$46 million dollars in private and public grants generated each year >> Many service learning opportunities

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