



Bachelor of Science 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 forms of treatment for cancer such as surgery, chemotherapy, and hormone therapy.

Bachelor of Science in Radiation Therapy Program

The Bachelor of Science degree in Radiation Therapy is a full-time program with two track options to choose from: **ARRT** or **non-ARRT**.

The **ARRT** track is intended for graduates of an accredited radiologic technology program who completed the required transferrable prerequisite and GE coursework and who seek additional specialization. The ARRT track is 21 months (7 quarters) for radiographers. The application window is October 1 to April 1 for a fall start.

The **non-ARRT** track is intended for those who are not radiographers but have completed the required transferrable prerequisite and GE coursework. No prior degree is required for the non-ARRT track. The non-ARRT track is 24 months (8 quarters). The application window is October 1 to April 1 for a summer start.

Upon successful completion of the program, students in both tracks are eligible to sit for their ARRT Radiation Therapy board exam.

Loma Linda University and the Department of Radiation Technology cannot guarantee graduates gainful employment or passing a professional credentialing examination once a degree is completed. Once a graduate has exhausted their attempts or time to pass a professional credentialing exam, the Department of Radiation Technology is unable to have you repeat the program as a part of the remediation required to regain eligibility to sit for the professional credentialing examination. Please contact the program director for any questions regarding gainful employment or the professional credentialing examination.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Bachelor of Science in Radiation Therapy program is to prepare professionals in the field of Radiation Therapy with students receiving broad education and training in all aspects of the profession. This will include critical thinking, clinical competence, effective communication, and professionalism as they apply to the field of Radiation Therapy. The program encourages intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual development by emphasizing these goals in its curriculum, which are reflected in the mission statement of Loma Linda University Health – “To Make Man Whole.”

Radiation Therapy Goals and Program Learning Outcomes

1. Student will demonstrate critical thinking.
 - a. Student will be able to monitor changes in patient condition.
 - b. Student will be able to interrupt isocenter shift from CT sim data to treatment planning data.
2. Student will be clinically competent.
 - a. Student will perform daily QA.
 - b. Student will be able to check that dosimetry data is accurately transferred to an electronic chart.
 - c. Student will be able to recognize treatment changes.
3. Student will be able to communicate effectively in English.
 - a. Student will demonstrate effective verbal communication skills.
 - b. Student will demonstrate effective written communication skills.
4. Student will demonstrate professionalism.
 - a. Student will treat all persons with respect.
 - b. Student will demonstrate knowledge of HIPPA.
 - c. Student will demonstrate responsibility and accountability for actions.
5. For JRCERT requirements, the program will achieve the following:
 - a. Student will complete the program.
 - b. Graduate will take and pass the ARRT exam.
 - c. Graduate will have job placement within 6 months.

Clinical Training

For clinical training, each student is assigned to an affiliated clinical site. 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, and emotional attributes. Physical demands include lifting, carrying, bending, manipulation of equipment, patient assistance, walking, and 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 and emotional demands include critical decision making and interaction with patients of varying ages, diversity, and health conditions.

Admission Requirements

- Prerequisite and GE courses met as noted below (C- grades are not transferable for credit)
- 24 hours of career observation in a Radiation Oncology department
- GPA of 3.0 or better (higher is more competitive)
- Current BLS through the American Heart Association (adult and child)
- Admissions essay
- Three letters of recommendation
- Interview

At this time this program is not eligible to accept International Students. For more information, please email intlstds@llu.edu.

Prerequisite Requirements

Applicants must have completed the following prerequisite courses at an accredited college or university prior to entering the program:

- Human Anatomy and Physiology with labs, complete sequence
- College Algebra or higher (completed within 5 years with a B or higher)
- Medical Terminology
- Introduction to Physics (no lab required)
- General Psychology or Developmental Psychology
- Radiation Physics, Radiation Protection, Principles of Radiography, and Patient Care Methods (available as part of the program for non-ARRT students in the first summer quarter prior to the ARRT students starting in the fall quarter)

General Education/Domain Requirements

Applicants must have also completed the following GE courses at an accredited college or university prior to entering the program:

Arts and Humanities (minimum 16 quarter units)

Units must be selected from at least three of the following content areas: civilization/history, art/music, literature, language, philosophy, religion, or general humanities. A minimum of 3 quarter units in an area is required to meet a "content area."

Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning (minimum 12 quarter units)

Domain met with prerequisite requirements listed above.

Social Sciences (minimum 12 quarter units)

- General Psychology or Developmental Psychology
- Select additional units from at least one more of the following content areas: anthropology, economics, geography, political sciences, and sociology.

Written and Oral Communication (minimum 9 quarter units)

- English composition, complete sequence that meets the baccalaureate degree requirements of a four-year college or university
- Other areas of study in communication, if needed, may include courses in computer information systems, critical thinking, and public speaking.

Health and Wellness (minimum 2 quarter units)

- A didactic course in health or nutrition (e.g., personal health, personal nutrition, population health, global health, or community nutrition)—minimum of 2 units
- Physical education—must include at least two separate physical activity courses totaling a minimum of one quarter unit.

Electives

Electives may be needed to meet the minimum requirement of 192 quarter units to earn a baccalaureate degree. A maximum of 105 quarter units may be transferred from a community/junior college.

- ARRT-certified students will earn 91 units in the program (prerequisite units required: 101 quarter/68 semester)
- Non-ARRT students will earn 105 units in the program (prerequisite units required: 87 quarter/58 semester)

Electives may be selected from the aforementioned GE domains.

Program Requirements

Applicants are required to complete a background check and possess a current Health Care Provider CPR card (adult and child) offered by the American Heart Association upon admission into the program. To remain in the program, students must maintain a 2.5 GPA and adhere to the program's professional code of conduct. Some clinical sites require students to complete a drug test.

Observation Experience

A minimum of 24 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 BS in Radiation Therapy program, 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) and arranged around lectures and coordinated with participating clinical affiliates.

Application Procedure

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

1. 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 to provide the names and email addresses of at least three references (academic and/or professional) on your application to ensure they receive the Letter of Recommendation form to fill out and return to SAHP Admissions.
3. Make arrangements with your high school and each college that you have attended to have them send your official transcripts directly to Loma Linda University.

Acceptance Process

Interviews are conducted during the first two weeks in April. 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 May, and confirmation of each decision is mailed to the respective applicant from the Office of Admissions for the School of Allied Health Professions.

Financial Information

Tuition and fees are subject to change each year. Please review LLU's Find a Program website for the most up-to-date information on the cost of attendance: [Non-ARRT & ARRT Certified](#). Students are responsible for all tuition fees, books, living expenses, and transportation. Financial aid is available. Loan application can begin before being accepted. For financial aid information, call 909-558-4509 or e-mail finaid@llu.edu.

Contact Information

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LOMA LINDA
UNIVERSITY

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, Behavioral 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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