



## Bachelor of Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography

### Emphasis Choices

- General Vascular (27-month)
- Cardiac (24-month)

### Have You Considered a Career in Sonography?

A sonographer is a highly skilled professional who uses high frequency sound waves (ultrasound) to produce dynamic visual images of the human body. Applicants interested in the Bachelor of Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography program may choose between two emphases: General/Vascular or Cardiac.

Students completing the Diagnostic Medical Sonography bachelor's degree program with a General/Vascular emphasis will acquire highly valued skills in the various sonography specialties such as: Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pediatrics, Neurology, Breast, Vascular Structures, and Abdominal Structures.

Students completing the Cardiac emphasis will acquire highly valued skills in Cardiac Sonography, specifically focusing on the heart in an adult and pediatric setting. Loma Linda University also offers a 12-month Cardiac certificate program. This is available to those who have a minimum of an associate's degree. Please reference the Certificate in Diagnostic Cardiac Sonography brochure for more information about this program.

Students completing either program will join the ranks of distinguished alumni who have graduated from Loma Linda University's School of Allied Health Professions.

### Why LLU?

- No waiting list. Every applicant is reviewed each year on an individual basis.
- Comprehensive and compassionate instruction in the classroom and clinical setting.
- Students gain valuable diversity in their experiences through multiple clinical rotations.
- Students receive more hands-on clinical experience than other comparable programs.
- Graduates are competent in a broader range of exams than comparable programs.
- Diligent students are often awarded ARDMS credentials prior to program completion.

### Why LLU? (cont.)

- Alumni are employed at the majority of our clinical sites, providing care and guidance.
- Graduates are more prepared and desired for employment in all levels of health care.

### Program Design/Format

The program is comprised of both classroom and clinical education. Class and clinical education is from approximately 7:30 am to 4:30 pm or on a swing shift (late afternoon to early evening). The program includes rotations to multiple affiliate hospitals for additional clinical training. Students are required to provide dependable transportation and may drive up to 120 miles round trip.

The General/Vascular BS-DMS program accepts 14-16 students annually and begins each June (summer quarter). Both the Cardiac BS-DMS program and Cardiac certificate program start every September (fall quarter). A total of 5-7 students are accepted annually across both Cardiac Sonography programs.

### How To Begin Application Process and Deadlines

Applications are accepted from June 1 to January 10 for both the General/Vascular and Cardiac emphases. The priority deadline is October 15.

### JRCDSM/CAAHEP Curricular Prerequisites

All candidates must complete the following required course prerequisites within the past 5 years:

- Anatomy and Physiology, complete sequence with labs
- Medical Terminology
- Intro to Physics (no lab required)
- College Algebra (can have a higher-level class such as Pre-calculus or Statistics to fulfill this requirement for LLU)

## LLU Application Requirements

- Previously completed courses that will fulfill the domain requirements of this bachelor's degree
- Minimum GPA of 2.5 or better (a higher GPA is more competitive)
- Attend an Ultrasound program information session
- Eight (8) hours of observation in Medical Sonography (preferably at LLUMC) prior to potentially interviewing (observations for eligible applicants are typically scheduled by the program faculty before the interviews in April).

## Prerequisites for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program and Additional BS-DMS Domain Requirements

The prerequisites for the Bachelor of Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography program include completing the JRCDSM prerequisites and fulfilling the domain requirements for a bachelor's degree. Applicants must complete the following subjects at an accredited college or university prior to entering the program. The requirements for meeting these courses may have already been met by completing a prior degree, prior courses, and the JRCDSM required courses:

- **Arts & Humanities** (Minimum of 16 quarter/11 semester units)  
Units must be selected from at least three of the following content areas: civilization/history, art, literature, language, philosophy, religion, or general humanities electives. A minimum of 3 quarter units in an area is required to meet a "content area."

- **Scientific Inquiry & Quantitative Reasoning** (Minimum of 12 quarter/8 semester units)

The JRCDSM required courses must be completed within the past 5 years:

General/Intro to Physics (no lab required), Human Anatomy & Physiology with lab (complete sequence), College Algebra, and Medical Terminology meet this requirement.

- **Social Sciences** (Minimum of 12 quarter/8 semester units)  
Choose two areas from the categories of psychology, sociology, lifespan development, anthropology, economics, and geography.

The human diversity requirement is fulfilled in the portfolio core courses: RTCH 491 Portfolio I and RTCH 492 Portfolio II (approved by the University GE Committee).

- **Written & Oral Communication** (Minimum of 9 quarter/6 semester units)

English composition, complete sequence that meets the baccalaureate degree requirements of a four-year college or university.

Additional courses may include information systems, critical thinking, and public speaking.

- **Health & Wellness** (Minimum of 2 quarter/1.5 semester units)  
A didactic course (minimum of 2 units) in health or nutrition (e.g., personal health, personal nutrition, population health, global health, and community nutrition).

Physical education (must include at least 2 separate physical activity courses totaling a minimum of 1 quarter unit).

- **Electives** (to meet minimum total of 102 quarter/68 semester units for General Vascular emphasis or 96 quarter/ 64 semester units for Cardiac emphasis).

*Please Note: "C minus" grades are not transferable for credit*

## Additional Requirements

Students are required to have a current Health Care Provider CPR card offered by the American Heart Association upon the start of the program, and students must maintain it for the entire length of the program. A CPR certification is valid for 2 years, so taking a course just prior to the start of clinical will ensure the certification is valid throughout the entire program.

As a program requirement, all students must pass the ARDMS Sonography Principles and Instrumentation (SPI) exam while enrolled as a student in either emphasis. Additionally, students in all LLU Sonography programs are highly encouraged to sit for their national boards prior to graduation, making them fully credentialed and ready to enter the workforce.

## Mental and Physical Abilities

Entrance and completion of this program signifies that the candidate is prepared to practice in the Sonography profession. The candidate must be prepared to work in the standing position, do frequent walking, lift and transfer patients, communicate effectively, perform functions with both hands, and discriminate in color, depth, and dimensions. The candidate must also be able to push and maneuver portable ultrasound equipment. An essential functions list will be provided.

## National Credential & Program Accreditation

Loma Linda University's Sonography programs have been fully accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRCDSM) and the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) in general sonography and vascular and echocardiography since October 7, 1985. Loma Linda University is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs

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## 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: [General Vascular](#) & [Cardiac](#) emphasis. 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](mailto:finaid@llu.edu).

**At this time this program is not eligible to accept international students requiring a student visa. For more information, please email [intlstdsrv@llu.edu](mailto:intlstdsrv@llu.edu).**

## Contact Information:

### Program Director:

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### Clinical Coordinator:

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For more information, e-mail [studyradsci@llu.edu](mailto:studyradsci@llu.edu) or visit [www.llu.edu/sonography](http://www.llu.edu/sonography)

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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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