



LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY
School of Allied Health Professions
Radiation Technology

Medical Sonography Observation

A key component for admission into our medical sonography program is observation in an ultrasound department, preferably at Loma Linda University Medical Center. We provide opportunities for prospective students at Loma Linda University Medical Center to see first-hand what the profession is about. We encourage prospective students to observe sonography procedures and to talk to sonography professionals and graduates of our programs.



Can I observe both sonography and cardiac before making a decision to apply, and can I observe before completing all the courses?

No. Observation can only be scheduled for applicants applying in the specialty they choose (Bachelor's or Cardiac Certificate) and ready to start the program in the current year, in only one area. If prerequisites cannot be completed in the current year, observation cannot be scheduled.

How many hours of observation are required?

Eight hours are required as part of the application process for the program. Students must have their observation done by the end of March and completed before their interview. It is preferred that some observation is done at LLUMC, if distance allows.

What do I wear to patient observation appointments?

Dress professionally. Lab coats or scrubs are preferred or professional dress for patient-care setting. No open-toe shoes. Tattoos must be covered. Piercings must be limited to no more than one per ear. Jewelry should be minimal due to safety reasons.

Risks and hazards

As a prospective student observer you will be asked to sign a waiver of liability before you are allowed in a clinical/hospital setting. You may be exposed to environmental hazards commonly found in a hospital radiation services setting (i.e. x-ray radiation hazards, exposure to contagious diseases, etc.). You must also adhere to the patient confidentiality policies of the facility.

How to request observation time?

Contact Marie DeLange by email mdelange@llu.edu for further instructions. Please include which track you are interested in or put unspecified if not sure. Include valid email and daytime phone number.



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Where do I park?

You will need to park in "Lot X" located near Centennial Complex building off of Stewart Street and walk over to the hospital. This may take an additional ten to fifteen minutes to walk across campus.

Where to report for observations?

When observing at Loma Linda University Medical Center, (LLUMC) report to the ultrasound department on the second floor. Identify yourself to the department sonographer in the conference room.

During your observation, you will:

- Meet with the program director or clinical coordinator, and they will answer any questions you may have.
- Observe sonography procedures on patients.
- Talk to sonography professionals and or graduates of the program.

How do I make the most of my observation time?

- Come with a basic knowledge about sonography and our programs, either from researching the profession and our program information online or by asking pertinent questions during the observation time.
- Be prepared with pertinent relevant questions during observation time for both clinical faculty and sonography professionals.
- Come with a high desire to maintain high standards for didactic and clinical performance, and present that desire during observation time.
- Engage and demonstrate a willingness to learn while you observe.
- Show professional manners, such as being on time, dressing professionally, and interacting with patients and staff in an appropriate manner.
- Show enthusiasm and motivation for successful completion of the program.

NOTE: Observation can only be scheduled for applicants applying and ready to start the program in the current year. If prerequisites cannot be completed in the current year, observation will not be scheduled

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Sonography Observation Form (BSDMS and Cardiac)

The following applicant _____ has applied to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program at Loma Linda University. As part of the application procedure, this prospective student is being asked to spend a minimum of eight (8) hours in a Sonography Department or clinic. This will, hopefully, enable him/her to have a more realistic and knowledgeable view of the profession.

Provide a brief paragraph on what you observed today that confirmed that this is the profession you want to pursue.

What one “tip” did a current student share with you that you found helpful.

___ MFM ___ Peds ___ Gen/Vascular ___ Portable

Total Hours Observed _____

Supervisor Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature: _____ **Position:** _____

Facility Name: _____ **Facility Phone:** _____

The student is to complete this form, have it signed, and put in the box labeled Marie at LLUMC.