



American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Candidates Must Meet the Five-Year Rule Credential Achievement Requirement *Prerequisites 5A and 5B will be eliminated on Dec. 31, 2004*

(ROCKVILLE, MD, March 10, 2004) — Candidates who passed one ARDMS exam in 1999 and have not yet earned the credential relating to that examination must take the corresponding ARDMS exam by Dec. 31, 2004 in order to receive their credentials.

ARDMS policy stipulates that candidates must complete both the principles & instrumentation (physics) exam and a corresponding specialty-area examination within five years in order to receive the ARDMS credential in that respective specialty.

This policy also applies to Registrants who are seeking an additional credential(s). For example, if an individual holds the RDMS credential and is seeking to earn the RVT credential, both examinations for the RVT credential must be taken and passed within five years.

The five-year rule does not apply to those who already hold a credential (RDMS, RDCS, RVT) and want to take further clinical specialty examinations that fall within that credential.

Those who do not complete and pass both examinations required for a credential by Dec. 31, 2004, must retake all examination(s) previously passed for that credential. ARDMS credentials are not awarded until both examinations have been successfully completed and passed.

Elimination of Prerequisites 5A and 5B

Prerequisites 5A and 5B will be eliminated on Dec. 31, 2004. After this date, all applicants will need to apply under a different prerequisite. Applications sent under Prerequisite 5A or 5B must be received in the ARDMS office on or before Dec. 31, 2004 to be considered for review. Materials received after that date will not be accepted.

All individuals applying to ARDMS must apply under one of the five prerequisites contained in the *ARDMS Information & Examination Application Booklet* (pages 13-15). Each prerequisite has separate requirements detailing the educational and clinical ultrasound/vascular experience required, along with the documentation that must be submitted in order to be considered for review.

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The American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS), incorporated in June 1975, is an independent, nonprofit organization that administers examinations and awards credentials in the areas of diagnostic medical sonography, diagnostic cardiac sonography, vascular technology and ophthalmic biometry. ARDMS programs are accredited through the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). ARDMS has more than 43,000 certified individuals in the U.S., Canada and throughout the world.