

# Notes for Educators

*A Newsletter for the ARDMS  
Educator Community*

  
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**Digital Badges: Now Available!**

We are excited to share that, this year, ARDMS and APCA introduced an added Registrant benefit – a digital badging program for our credentials, certificates and physics examinations. We partnered with Credly (the badges are managed by Credly’s Acclaim platform) to offer a new way for you to promote your achievements to employers and colleagues on social media and other digital platforms.

**What is a digital badge?**

The badges are digital versions of ARDMS- or APCA-awarded credentials, certifications, certificates and physics examinations. They act as a quick on-line reference, offering the viewer a description of what was awarded, the steps taken to earn it, skills tied to the earner’s accomplishments and links to additional information about the badge and qualifications.

**What are the benefits of digital badging?**

- Share your badge on LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter to promote the ARDMS credential(s) you earned! [Learn more.](#)
- Download your badge image and URL to embed in a resume, website or email signature; your badge can be added to anything that can be hyperlinked!
- Personalize your Acclaim profile to highlight your strengths and abilities.

**What is the process for claiming a badge?**

Claiming an ARDMS digital badge is simple! After an ARDMS credential, certificate or physics examination is awarded, you will receive an email from Credly’s Acclaim platform with instructions on how to claim the badge. Note: if you were issued multiple badges, you will receive multiple emails. They are not spam!

[Learn more about ARDMS digital badges.](#)

**Your Resume. Your Story.**

What’s your favorite story?  
Why is it your favorite?  
How does that story make you feel?

We challenge you to consider these questions as you approach writing your resume because your resume IS your story. It is a written account of your educational and professional qualifications and experiences that you are sharing with the world. Your job is to ensure that the readers of your resume feel it is a New York Times best seller kind of story. One that gets their attention and stays with them!

**The Characteristics of Your Resume**

So, how do you craft a resume that stands out and leaves a mark?

1. Your story should be focused. Select the focal point you want the reader to concentrate on: your qualifications and capabilities. It should be easy for the reader to zero in on this information. Irrelevant content will make it appear as if your story has blanks or white spaces; you’re trying to fill in.

**2019 Spring Educator Spotlight:**  
**Pamela Brower, BHSC, RVT, RVS**



Since 1992, Pamela Brower has been an active ARDMS Registrant. She has a Bachelors in Health Science (BHSc) from Nova Southeastern University. In 2008, she was awarded the Endowed Chair for Teaching Excellence. Pam has served as a Department Chair of a CAAHEP accredited sonography program for 20 years. Before Pam retires this year, she has decided to share her story with us on how she became a sonographer and her experience as an educator.

**ARDMS:** What attracted you to the field of sonography?

**Pamela:** After high school, I was a respiratory therapist for many years, which gave me the opportunity to cross train in vascular sonography in 1987. I absolutely loved vascular sonography; it just clicked. I enjoyed the ability to learn something new. Although vascular sonography was challenging, I loved working with patients one-on-one and with the physicians to provide diagnostic avenues for patients. I have never regretted migrating to sonography.

To read more of Pamela’s story, please click [here!](#)

**Sonography Program Spotlight**

Have you ever been part of a sonography program that you thought was special? ARDMS is committed to celebrating the accomplishments and diversity of sonography programs. If you would like to nominate a sonography program to be featured in the next *Notes for Educators* newsletter, please complete [this form](#) and email it to [EducatorResources@ARDMS.org](mailto:EducatorResources@ARDMS.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

**Certification Corner**

Q: How many and what forms of ID are acceptable when applying/submitting an application?

A: An ID is not required to be submitted if the students are applying for an examination under the Paperless Perquisite 2 Program, the application would automatically be approved. However, if the students are applying for the SPI examination prior to 60 days before graduation under the SPI Examination Requirement then they need to submit a copy of a non-expired government-issued photo identification (ID) with signature; the first and last names on the ID must exactly

2. It should be organized. Every story has a beginning, a middle and an ending. The information and details presented must be done so in an orderly fashion. Your resume then becomes easy to read and ensures that critical information is not overlooked. Consider the following:

- Objective statement
- Summary of education and clinical training
- Employment or unpaid work experience
- Competencies and capabilities
- Memberships in sonography or other Allied Health associations
- Credentials and licenses

All great stories begin with an introduction which would be the objective statement on your resume. An introduction provides an overview of where a story is taking the reader, as does the objective statement. It clearly states what you want in terms of a position and provides a quick summary of your end goal.

3. Know your readers. Great storytellers know that they must adjust their story depending on who is listening. You want to customize your resume to target the specific job position you are applying for. Experienced reviewers can easily spot a single one-size-fits-all resume.

**You Are Building Your Resume Before Graduation – Now Write It**

Stories form before they are written. Likewise with your resume. Resume building is happening now, every day. Activities include:

- Volunteer work at health care facilities or community health events
- Professional association memberships and becoming an active participant who networks, sits on committees, or helps with special events
- Development of skills and competencies by wisely choosing experiences that strengthen weaknesses and show initiative
- Personal activities that show creativity, problem-solving abilities and varied interests

**Make Your Resume Your Own**

Storytelling is an art form. The final product should be stylish, appealing, informative and unforgettable.

If you are a sonography student who recently graduated, you may believe there is little information to put on a resume due to lack of work experience. This perception is far from the truth! Your story should include items that have gotten you to this point. Be sure to showcase your relevant skills, abilities and talents.

For seasoned sonographers, your objective statement should be geared more towards your experience. Craft a summary of your qualifications that provides an overview of your various positions, credentials and successes. Remember, a great introduction is key to keeping your reader engaged.

Whether you are just beginning your career or it is in full swing, your resume is your story to tell. Be proud of your accomplishments and don't be afraid to share them!

**Share Your Story!**

ARDMS is searching for Sonography Educators to tell their personal journey of becoming an ultrasound professional and educator and their contributions to the sonography community. Sharing your journey will inspire others! Nominate yourself or someone you know to be selected for a featured spotlight in the Notes for Educators. Submit your nominations to [Communications@ARDMS.org](mailto:Communications@ARDMS.org)



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match the first and last names in your ARDMS/APCA record. Please note that at the test center, they will need to present one valid photo identification (ID); see [Test Center Identification Requirements](#)

Q: How much time does it take for an application to be approved when applying?

A: If the students are applying for a Specialty Examination within 60 days before graduation and the steps are followed correctly (see [Visual Guide](#)), the application should automatically be approved. \*Please note students should not apply for exams till after the Program Director has submitted them for the Paperless Prerequisite 2 Program. However, if the students are applying for the SPI examination under the SPI requirement, review of the application can take up to five business days from date the documentation is received in the office.

Q: When submitting transcripts, do they need to be official or can they be unofficial?

A: The only instance where the students might be required to submit a transcript is if they apply for the SPI examination under the SPI Examination Requirement and it may be unofficial.

The required documentation for the SPI Examination Requirement is listed below:

1. An official or unofficial transcript (see transcript requirements below) reflecting successful completion of a graded general, medical or sonographic college, post-secondary or higher education physics class (with a grade of C or above);

OR

A CME certificate denoting successful completion of a general, medical or sonographic physics seminar, physics review course, or physics correspondence course, denoting a minimum award of 12 ARDMS-accepted CME credits. The certificate must meet ARDMS CME documentation requirements (visit [ARDMS.org/CME](http://ARDMS.org/CME) to view ARDMS- accepted CMEs). The CME credits must be earned within two (2) years prior to application submission.

2. A copy of a non-expired government-issued photo identification (ID) with signature; the first and last names on the ID must exactly match the first and last names in your ARDMS/APCA record.

**Transcript Requirements**

- Name of Applicant and school must be printed on the transcript; handwritten information will not be accepted.
- The class or course name must specifically indicate Physics, Physical Principles and/or Instrumentation in the title and be printed on the transcript. Supplementary information will not be accepted.
- Transcript can be unofficial or official.
- If submitting a foreign transcript or degree, a formal course by course foreign transcript evaluation report must accompany the application summary and indicate the aforementioned requirements.
- Transcripts indicating only a number grade must include a grade key printed on the transcript showing the equivalent letter grade. Supplementary information will not be accepted.
- A grade report will not be accepted in lieu of the transcript (unofficial or official).

To promote knowledge sharing and open communication, we have added a new feature to *Notes for Educators* – the **Certification Corner!** Here you will find answers to questions we've received from you directly or FAQs from the *Contact Us* section of the ARDMS website.

Don't stay in the dark! Submit your question(s) to Aimie Pak at [Aimie.Pak@ARDMS.org](mailto:Aimie.Pak@ARDMS.org) so we can address them here in a future issue!

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