

Notes for Educators

A Newsletter for the ARDMS Educator Community



ARDMS[®]

SPRING 2020

Sonography Program Spotlight: Eastern Florida State College DMS



Created in 2015, Eastern Florida State College DMS earned accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) in 2017. Located in Melbourne, Florida on the eastern coast, EFSC offers an abundance of degrees and certifications that involve technical and vocational training. With a program consisting of 19 major courses, 7 support courses and 6 general education courses totalling 77 credits, EFSC's goal is to prepare competent entry level sonographers in cognitive, psychomotor, and behavior learning domains.

ARDMS: What is one defining moment or story that best represents what your program means to you and your community?

EFSC DMS: Our students are prepared to enter the workforce with both general sonographic registries (Abdomen & Obstetrics/Gynecology). In addition, they are prepared to sit for the ARDMS Breast registry by competing extensive breast sonographic competencies and objectives. Also, our school has established additional Advanced Technical Certificate programs in Vascular and Adult Cardiac sonography, to meet the imaging needs of our community. Thus, our graduates will have the ability to provide the highest quality care to our patients.

ARDMS: What will your program look like in 5-10 years?

EFSC DMS: EFSC's goal is to create a "One-stop-shopping" for sonography professionals. In addition to our general sonography Associates of Science (AS) degree program, EFSC also offers a Vascular Sonography Advanced Technical Certificate (ATC) in the summer. An ATC for Adult Cardiac

Sonography will be offered in the Fall of 2020 and will be two semesters in length. Credits from the AS and ATCs can be transferred into our Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree.

ARDMS: How does your program adapt to and prepare for innovation in the Sonography field?

EFSC DMS: Our program prepares our graduates to fill the healthcare needs of the sonography field by providing our students with the proper tools to become a solid citizen. Our goal is to have our graduates recognize that hard work, coupled with compassion and empathy, along with the acquisition of multiple ARDMS registries, will allow them to provide the best care possible to our patients.

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To the heroes who don't wear capes...thank you for your commitment to your patients, for your sacrifice, and for your hard work during COVID-19.



The staff at the **American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS)**, the **Alliance for Physician Certification & Advancement (APCA)** and the **Point-of-Care Ultrasound Certification Academy** would like to offer this video to show you our gratitude. Sonographers, you are invaluable and appreciated!

COVID-19 Updates

For COVID-19 information links and resources curated by sonography organizations, [click here](#). To see how COVID-19 is impacting ARDMS, [click here](#).

AI's Transformative Impact: Ultrasound Education



There are many variations of the “A” in AI – artificial, assistive, augmenting, anticipatory, and autonomous. While seemingly different on the surface, they have one significant commonality. They all belong to one of the most disruptive technology categories – machines with smarts. AI combines Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Natural Language Processing (NLP), Image Recognition, Big Data Processing, and Analytics.

AI already impacts how we live, work and play. Siri creates a shopping list and plays our music with a simple ask. Your social media channels offer you a very specific coupon to entice you at just the right time. Governments monitor traffic patterns and identify potential threats. Even airlines map flight paths to decrease fuel consumption. While already ubiquitous in our everyday lives, AI is having a profound impact on healthcare – specifically on how we’re teaching sonography.

Consider this – in February, the FDA announced that it has authorized the first cardiac ultrasound software that uses AI to be available for U.S. healthcare providers soon. Caption Guidance “uses artificial intelligence to provide real-time guidance and diagnostic quality assessment of images, empowering healthcare providers, even those without prior ultrasound experience, with the ability to capture diagnostic quality images.” This is a game-changer for how we train in healthcare.

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Certification Corner

COVID-19 Information

While we hope no Sonography program is affected by the virus, it is understandable that clinical attendance may be disrupted, and a plan should be in place. We trust programs will do their best for their students to minimize disruption and ensure the ability to complete clinical competencies and program requirements. Individual institutions need to make decisions on how they plan to conduct

classes and assist students with meeting internship and clinical rotation requirements. If ever there was a time for innovation, it is the present!

We will work with programs and their students as needed to ensure students aren't penalized for world events outside of their control. Situations will be reviewed and managed on a case by case basis, as we have in the past for individuals impacted by hurricanes, natural disasters, and other devastating events. This is and has always been our policy.

These are unprecedented times so while there are currently no exceptions to the prerequisite requirements, ARDMS will continue to monitor the COVID-19 outbreak and will update these guidelines and/or policies as warranted.

Important information about application processing:

- Due to COVID19 the Inteleos office is currently closed, and the staff is working remotely; therefore, we are unable to retrieve and process any checks. We are opening exceptions and allowing Program Directors to pay in bulk using a credit card authorization form. To obtain a credit card authorization form, please contact us by calling 1-800-541-9754, option 1 or you may send an e-mail request to ApplyOnline@ARDMS.org.
- To not delay the review of applications, please advise your students that all documentation must be uploaded to their MY ARDMS/MYAPCA accounts. To upload application documents, they must login to their account. They'll be able to access the "Upload Documents" page by clicking the "My Resources" tab.

Note for Program Directors of CAAHEP Accredited Programs:

If a student's or entire class' graduation will be postponed due to the current COVID-19 situation, please leave their status as N/A, and send an email to prereq2app@ARDMS.org with their new expected date of graduation. Do not create a new Paperless Application Form as this will create confusion for the students.

We realize that this outbreak impacts everyone in one way or another and want to reaffirm that we are here to help and work with you. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Customer Care Team via our [Contact Us page](#) or calling 1-800-541-9754, option 1.



Looking for a Job in Ultrasound?

Here are two featured open positions:

[Echo Cardio Technologist \(Waterbury, CT\)](#)
[Ultrasound Technologist RVT or RPhS \(Carmel, IN\)](#)

To view more, visit [UltrasoundJOBS by ARDMS](#) and search sonography-specific positions in your area. [Create an account](#), upload your resume, browse the Career Learning Center and build custom job alerts to fit your needs.

Volunteer with ARDMS/APCA!

At Inteleos, we have depended on more than 600 volunteers to help create the global standards of excellence in healthcare and patient safety by:

- Developing Exams
- Communicating about ARDMS
- Guiding Students

[Click here](#) for information on volunteering with ARDMS or [click here](#) for information on volunteering as a physician with APCA.



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Hiring? Post a Job!

UltrasoundJOBS by ARDMS will help you find the right professional by delivering enhanced features including a Feature Jobs option and Ultrasound SmartBrief Add-on. **[Create an account today!](#)**

Sound Off Today!



In our **Spring 2019** edition we featured an article for your students on how to fine tune their resumes. To continue to offer articles on issues that are relevant to you and your sonographers, we need your feedback!

Send an email to **Communications@ARDMS.org** and tell us what you want to hear about today!



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