



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## ADMISSIONS

### Where do I start?

The Sacramento Ultrasound Institute (SUI) [website](#) is the best place to start learning about our healthcare training programs. The SUI website allows you to:

- Request information about our different Allied Health Programs and program requirements.
- Register on the [Admissions](#) page to attend a live webinar or watch a recorded Info Session.
- Evaluate prerequisite courses through the [Transfer Credit Database](#) for the **Cardiac Sonography (CS)** and general **Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS)** Program admission requirements.

After attending or watching a recorded webinar Information Session, students can request the desired program application packet via email at [admissions@sui.edu](mailto:admissions@sui.edu). Please refer to the [Admissions](#) page for current application windows and deadlines.

### Do I need to attend a webinar Information Session?

All prospective applicants **MUST** attend a live webinar or watch a recorded version of the webinar information session for the cohort they are applying for. *This is the first step of the application process.* During this hour-long information session, the SUI team will discuss in-depth program-related questions. Topics will include: application-enrollment process, program structure, tuition, program schedule, and externship expectations.

### What are the general admission requirements?

All SUI students must:

- Be a current resident of California. A government-issued I.D. is required.
- Be at least 18 (age will be verified with Individual's I.D.)
- Provide documentation of eligibility to work in the United States.
- Provide proof of appropriate educational requirements such as:
  - Copy of high school diploma or
  - Copy of high school transcript showing graduation date or GED or
  - Translated and evaluated foreign secondary diplomas by NACES-approved agencies.

### What are the prerequisite requirements for the Cardiac and general DMS program?

#### Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Cardiac Admissions Requirements:

- Meet the General Admissions Requirements.
  - Hold an associate degree or higher in any discipline.
  - Complete (defined as receiving a grade of "B" or higher) college-level coursework in the subjects listed below. SUI does not accept Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit grades to fulfill admissions prerequisites. Courses must be a minimum of five-quarter credits or 3-semester credits. All prerequisite courses together must equal 25-quarter or a 16.6-semester credit.
    - Physics (topics must include sound waves, heat, light, and motion)
    - Communications (oral, reading, or written)
    - Mathematics (Intermediate Algebra or higher-level mathematics)
    - Human Anatomy & Physiology (ten quarter credits or six semester credits)
- \* All courses must be completed by the end of the application window before applying.



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## What are the prerequisite requirements for the MRI Technologist, Invasive Cardiovascular Technology, or Radiologic Technology programs?

- Meet the General Admission Requirements.
- Program Prerequisites: None

## Can I transfer General Educational courses from other colleges to SUI programs?

SUI does **not** accept transfer courses past the 5-year recency, pass/No Pass, or Credit/No Credit. A letter grade of “B” or better is required.

The following college-level courses can be transferred:

- Anatomy & Physiology (8 semester credits for MRI Program only, 10 quarter credits for RT, and ICVT programs)
- Communication Skills (College Reading, Writing, Speech-3 semester or 5 quarter credits)
- Mathematics (3 semester or 5 quarter credits credits)
- Psychology (3 semester credits-MRI Program only)
- Medical Terminology (3 semester credits or 5 quarter credits)

*\* Transfer credit evaluation is done upon acceptance to the MRI Technologist, Invasive Cardiovascular Technology and Radiologic Technology programs. A \$75 nonrefundable transfer credit fee will be applied.*

## Can I apply to the General DMS or Cardiac Sonography Programs before completing an associate’s degree or the required prerequisite courses?

For both the general DMS and Cardiac Sonography program, students must obtain their associate’s degree and complete the prerequisites no later than at the end of application window before applying.

## Can the programs be taken on a part-time basis?

All SUI programs are designed for full-time enrollment.

## How can I find and complete the application for the programs?

After attending or watching a recorded webinar Information Session, students can request the desired program application packet via email at [admissions@sui.edu](mailto:admissions@sui.edu). Please refer to SUI’s website for each application window and due dates.

## How often does SUI enroll new students into the programs?

Visit SUI admissions page at <https://sui.edu/admissions/> to learn about the upcoming start dates and application window open dates.

## Do you require students to complete volunteering/job shadow hours?

Yes. SUI requires job shadowing/interviewing techs in their prospective fields for admission process. At SUI we strongly believe that prospective students can benefit from volunteering at healthcare centers and connect with professionals in the field to determine their healthcare career goals. Applicants are responsible for finding their own facilities to do job shadowing.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## When is the school open?

SUI is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Currently, all in-person appointments must be scheduled ahead of time.

## Are there evening classes available?

No. SUI does not have and is not planning to hold evening classes in the near future.

## Are there any online classes available?

All our program classes have transitioned into blended instruction (both online and in-person). This style of learning incorporates online synchronous and asynchronous learning, with in-person lab training, and clinical externships. Class schedules vary per program per course and will vary throughout the didactic and clinical rotations. The updated courses are shared with admitted students.

\* *The Didactic schedule for SUI programs is Monday - Thursday from 8:00AM – 3:00PM.*

\* *The MRI Program schedule Monday-Thursday 8:00AM –12:00PM*

\* *The Clinical schedule for all programs vary and is dictated by the affiliate. We ask that students commit to having open availability during the week and prioritize clinical for timely completion of their programs.*

## Can a student work while attending the program?

Many SUI students work part-time during their didactic training. Some students work full-time if they can effectively time manage their course work with their professional responsibilities. However, many students find this challenging for work-life balance due to the rigorous clinical requirements and classroom expectations.

## Do I need to take any entrance exams to get into your programs?

Yes, as part of the application process, SUI students must pass the Wonderlic Scholastic Level Exam (SLE) with a score of 20+. Here, two attempts are permitted. If students do *not* pass on their first try, the second attempt must be completed within 24 hours after the first attempt. This exam is proctored online and is 8 minutes long. The subject matter is English grammar and Mathematics, with a combination of 30 multiple-choice and fill-in the blank questions.

## Is financial aid available to students?

Financial aid is available for those who qualify. Please see the [Financial Aid](#) section of our website for more information.

SUI is currently advising prospective students to complete the FAFSA application for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 year, by visiting [FAFSA.ED.GOV](#). Please allow five-seven business days for the SUI Financial Department to receive the FAFSA application. SUI's school code is **042537**.

Individual estimate appointments will be available to applicants who have been **selected** for the program. Here, admissions will provide the tuition cost breakdown, anticipated monthly payments, and possible credits towards the program during the info sessions.

## Does SUI have immunization requirements?

For the Covid 19 vaccine: If you are not vaccinated and planning to use the exemption form, please note that SUI currently does not guarantee placements with exemptions only. You must enroll into the program with the mindset that you will get the vaccination if clinical site requests it.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## How will I know if I have been accepted to an SUI program?

Once SUI receives your completed application, students will be invited to a group interview. Faculty will review and select the students based on their exams scores, GPA, and interview responses. Every student will be notified via email whether they are accepted, waitlisted, or not selected for the program.

## PROGRAM-RELATED

### What is the difference between Cardiac Sonography and the general DMS Program?

The **DMS** Program prepares our students for Abdomen, Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Vascular registry. The **Cardiac Sonography** program prepares our students for the Adult Echocardiography registry.

### What is the difference between Cardiac Sonography and Invasive Cardiovascular Technology?

These programs have very different structures and assist different departments relating to the cardiovascular system. The **Cardiac Sonography** program prepares our students for the Adult Echocardiography registry and is strictly focused on ultrasound imaging/scanning. The **Invasive Cardiovascular** Program teaches students about the heart, monitoring and reading EKG, and provides training on catheterization. The program prepares students to become monitor, scrub or circulator technicians.

### Will I be eligible to take the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) exam upon program completion?

Cardiac and general DMS students can participate in the ARDMS exam up to 60 days prior to completing their clinical rotation.

### Are the programs offered at SUI accredited?

SUI has been institutionally accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) since August 2015.

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS-General) at SUI has been programmatically accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) since September 2021.

The Cardiac Sonography (CS) program at SUI has been programmatically accredited by the CAAHEP since May 2023.



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## CLINICAL EDUCATION

### **How does the clinical portion of the program work?**

Once admitted into one of our programs, SUI students must successfully finish their program's didactic portion and pass their Sonography Principals and Instrumentation (SPI) examination (DMS/CS), submit all required immunizations/vaccination, have current BLS certification. Then students are reviewed based on criteria; attendance, GPA, learning personality styles, location. The externship coordinating team carefully reviews each student's criteria for best learning opportunity. The clinical hours are assigned by the affiliate; hence, we require students to enroll into the program with an open schedule mindset for timely completion of the clinical education portion of the program.

### **What facilities are used for the clinical experience?**

SUI uses hospitals and medical clinics within a 125-mile radius of the SUI campus.