

****NOTE: The Nuclear Medicine Technology program will be offered through the 2008-2010 Ball State University Undergraduate Catalog. After 2010, the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program will no longer be offered.**

The following will provide you with policies, procedures and information for the Ball State University Nuclear Medicine Technology Program. Please read this information in its entirety and also refer to the pink information sheet.

1. The mission, goals and philosophy of the Ball State University Nuclear Medicine Technology Program is in conjunction with Ball State University, Ball State University Department of Physiology & Health Science and Clarian Health. The following is the mission of the program:

"The purpose of the Ball State University Nuclear Medicine Technology Program is to produce competent, registry eligible technologists who demonstrate professional concern for their patient."

2. The program goals are:
 - 1) To offer high quality educational experiences that give individuals the opportunity to achieve professional competencies.
 - 2) To prepare the students to sit for the national registry examinations of the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board and the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.
 - 3) To conduct the program in an environment that:
 - a. stimulates intellectual growth and curiosity
 - b. instills integrity and a sense of responsibility
 - c. encourages the pursuit of quality
 - d. supports the attainment of personal and professional goals
 - e. enhances scientific inquiry
 - f. exposes the student to state-of-the-art technology
 - 4) To graduate competent nuclear medicine technologists to help meet the manpower needs of health care facilities in Indiana and other states.
 - 5) To provide a well-rounded education as a foundation for future advancement.
3. Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Policy
Ball State University provides equal opportunity to all students and applicants for admission in its education programs, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex (except where sex is a bona fide qualification), sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, national origin, ancestry, or age.
4. Job availability in nuclear medicine technology is ever changing and cyclical in nature. At times there are many jobs available in the central Indiana area. At other times, there may be fewer jobs available and graduates may have to consider relocating. The BSU Nuclear Medicine Technology Program faculty provides information on available jobs to students but the faculty and BSU do not guarantee job placement.
5. An extensive amount of verbal and written communication and self motivation is required in this program. The program is accelerated and students are required to immediately begin interacting and attempting procedures, are expected to read and follow directions and will be continually instructed on ways to improve performance during the entire program. ***Please seriously reconsider your career options if you do not believe you are suited for this type of educational environment.***
6. The clinical phase is provided in an accelerated format and is very structured to incorporate all of the required clinic and academic courses. The clinical phase demands your full time and attention for the entire 14 months to successfully complete all nuclear medicine technology courses. ***Please give great thought to the demands of the program prior to declaring a major, applying to the program and/or accepting a position.***

7. If you need assistance in making an informed decision in choosing Nuclear Medicine Technology as a career, you may contact the Program Director and arrange for an optional clinical site visit to directly discuss any major concerns or questions you may have. Potential applicants are encouraged to fully research and investigate the profession prior to declaring a major, applying to the program and/or accepting a position. Please research the additional websites found at the end of this handout.
8. Students are required to have personal access to a computer with Word and PowerPoint, a printer, USB flash drive (memory stick) and Internet. Many courses and assignments require the use of a computer, printing and Internet access outside of the clinical education sites. Course presentations require the use of a flash drive. Students may be required to access course information and/or assignments from BSU Blackboard or other sites. All computer, printing, Internet and any other associated costs are the responsibility of the student. The program is not responsible for providing computer, printer, Internet and/or any other supplies or access.
9. The Ball State University Nuclear Medicine Technology Program is designed to teach entry-level nuclear medicine skills and academic information to prepare you to take the national nuclear medicine certification examination.
10. Nuclear Medicine Technology has some potential risks/hazards related to the job. Students are required to learn and perform venipuncture and inject radiopharmaceuticals (inserting needle into patient's vein). Students in the clinical setting may be exposed to ionizing radiation, blood, and body fluids including vomit, urine, feces, etc. on a daily basis. Nuclear Medicine Technology students are required to assess patients and provide general nursing care to patients while in the nuclear medicine department.
11. The curriculum for the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program is set up to be primarily full time, day shift. The typical schedule is Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. plus homework required at night. Occasionally, the beginning of the day rotations will vary to begin earlier or end later. You will receive a schedule of your class and clinical rotations at the beginning of each semester. The times and rotations cannot be altered once you begin the clinical portion of the program.
12. There are rotations to clinical sites outside of Methodist Hospital including Danville, Muncie, Anderson, Kokomo, New Castle and other facilities. You will need a reliable form of transportation. Due to the organization of the clinic schedule, we cannot necessarily "pair" you with someone for carpooling purposes. Students are responsible for all transportation costs, including gas, to and from the clinical sites.
13. Once in the clinical portion of the program, the schedule varies from the Ball State University schedule in order to encompass as much clinic and classroom time as possible in the 14-month period. Students will be given a vacation schedule the 1st day the program begins. Students will usually have one week off in August, Thursday and Friday of Thanksgiving week, one to two weeks over Christmas, and one week off in conjunction with Ball State's Spring break. Students are not scheduled to work weekends unless they request make up or additional time. Even though Ball State campus students may break for longer and/or at different times, students in the clinical portion of the program will not break any more than those times listed above and vacation will not be approved at any other times.
14. Due to the increasing diversity and multi-cultural environment in the workplace, please be advised that the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program will observe the holidays determined by the primary clinical education site, Clarian Health/Methodist Hospital. Recognized holidays include: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you have concerns or questions regarding diversity and a multi-cultural environment, please contact the Program Director.
15. The academic courses involve study outside of the classroom and clinic since they are accelerated. You should plan to spend at least one to two hours of study outside of the classroom and the clinic each day in order to be prepared. Students must obtain a grade of "C" or above in all radiography courses to remain in the program.

16. A professional hierarchy is present in the hospital that students must work within which includes peers, registered technologists, physicians, program faculty and numerous other health care professionals. An extensive amount of verbal, non-verbal and written communication is required as well as critical thinking, problem solving, acceptance of constructive instruction, organization and time management. Students must be able to make and verbalize rationale for decisions on a daily basis.
17. Students receive evaluations on clinical performance (work with actual patients) throughout the program. Evaluations will include student strengths as well as areas for improvement.
18. Students are required to follow policies and procedures while in the program intended to teach professional work ethics including dress code, attendance, punctuality, etc. All policies and procedures will be provided to accepted students during the first week of the clinical program orientation.
19. The clinical education sites are smoke free. No smoking is allowed anywhere on the facility property, including personal vehicles in the parking lots. No additional "smoke breaks" are provided beyond the lunch break.
20. The dress code is conservative and no facial or tongue piercings are allowed other than three pairs of stud earrings (3 earrings in each ear.) No artificial, sculptured, acrylic or fake nails of any kind are allowed. False eyelashes are not allowed. Hair must be of a cut and color that is conservative and acceptable to the program faculty. The length of student hair does not matter but hair must be secured back away from the face while in clinic so hair does not come into contact with a patient or obstruct the student's vision. Tattoos which might be considered offensive are prohibited and any visible tattoos must be covered.
21. Students are not permitted to use cell phones, including texting, or check personal email at the clinical education sites.
22. The courses during the clinical portion of the program may be conducted differently than on campus. Students have academic classes taught in classrooms at Clarian in addition to working in the clinic environment with actual patients. Since we work with a much smaller group of students, different types of learning activities are used.
 - The courses focus on critical thinking and problem solving skills.
 - Initially in class and clinic, you will be learning totally new concepts, which will be unfamiliar to you. In clinic, observation is a key element in establishing the baseline learning curve.
 - Student attendance, punctuality and participation in class and clinic is expected and required. It is mandatory that students bring the required text to each class. Sharing of textbooks or handouts is not allowed.
 - Handouts are provided but complete instructor class notes may not be provided. Students are expected to take notes.
 - Research, technical papers, journal reviews, case studies, written and oral presentations and group work are essential elements of the program to demonstrate knowledge, understanding and application of principles and to develop and increase critical thinking and problem solving skills.
 - Testing is done utilizing many different question types such as multiple choice, true/false, short answer and questions on exams performed by students on patients in clinic.
 - Since students are demonstrating cumulative knowledge required to complete the program and take the national certification examination, tests may be worth more points than what you are used to on campus. Tests are not typically curved or dropped from the student's overall grade, and comprehensive finals are given.
 - Testing is also done in clinic on exams performed on actual patients. Clinic is not just on-the-job training with no more testing. Testing is actually constant for the entire 14 months.
23. You may complete required preclinical courses at colleges/universities other than Ball State provided that the course is accepted and considered an equivalent by Ball State University. Please contact the Primary Advisor for the Department of Physiology & Health Science at 765-285-5961 if you need assistance in determining course equivalencies.

24. Anyone wishing to apply to the clinical portion of the program must first be an admitted and current Ball State University student. Go to <http://www.bsu.edu/web/admissions/>, select "Step-by-step Guides for New and Transfer Students" and follow the instructions. Any student must have been officially admitted to BSU by December 1 of the year immediately prior to the clinical phase of the program. BSU may take up to four weeks to process your application. Please keep this in mind in order to meet the date of admission deadline. If you were previously admitted but have been inactive for a semester or if you are a newly admitted student who has not signed up for any courses, BSU may not consider you a current student. If you have previously applied and/or have been admitted to Ball State, it is your responsibility to confirm your status as a current student with BSU. If you have any difficulty, contact the Department of Physiology & Health Science immediately. All transfer hours must be evaluated and appear on the DAPR (Degree analysis Progress Report) and Ball State transcript by the program application deadline. Admission to the university does not guarantee admission to the clinical portion of the program.
25. The most current grade from a course will be used to figure your GPA regardless of whether it is higher or lower than the previous time(s) the course was taken.
26. If you are accepted to the program and are still completing preclinical courses, you will be accepted on a conditional basis. In order to retain your clinical spot, all remaining preclinical course grades must meet the requirements of a "C" or above for Math/Science courses, a passing grade for all other courses, and no less than a 2.5 overall GPA in all required preclinical courses. All preclinical courses must be completed by the end of the spring semester prior to beginning the clinical phase of the program.
27. The number of applicants and the accepted GPA varies each year. The admissions process is competitive and typically more qualified students apply than can be accepted into the program. Admission scores are greatly influenced by the Math/Science GPA since it is the highest weighted factor in the admission process. Students who are not accepted may elect to continue courses on campus to complete a baccalaureate degree and reapply the following year or may elect to repeat specific preclinical courses to raise their Math/Science and/or overall preclinical course GPA.
28. Refer to the program website at www.bsu.edu/physiology-health/nucmedtech for specific admission requirements and the Program Check Sheet.
29. To apply, go to the main office of the Department of Physiology & Health Science in Cooper CL 325 to obtain the most current, original program application form and instructions. Allow enough time prior to the program application deadline of the first business day of February to obtain the required official transcripts, DAPR, etc.
30. Applicants are ranked using the following formula: $(\text{GPA of required preclinical courses} \times 8) + (\text{GPA of required preclinical math/science courses} \times 17)$. This translates into the GPA of the required preclinical courses being weighted 32% and the GPA of the math/science courses being weighted 68% of the admission score/ranking.
31. The Admissions Committee usually meets in February to select the class, which begins in May of each year. The number of students selected each year for the clinical phase of the program is determined based on the current job market and the number of clinical spots available at the clinical education sites. The nuclear medicine technology program accepts up to a maximum of ten (10) students. Three program alternates are also designated and will be contacted if there is a program opening. Notification of acceptance or non-acceptance is sent to all applicants, usually by Spring Break. If you are offered a position in the program, you will receive a letter outlining exactly what to do to accept the position. An orientation letter will be sent in March outlining information for ordering uniforms, registering for classes, purchasing books, when and where to report, etc.
32. There is no student housing at Clarian Health/Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. There are however, many apartment complexes within a short distance of the clinical sites and information will be provided in the orientation letter. Students do not have to relocate to Indianapolis but it is strongly recommended due to the time-consuming travel, clinic and class schedule.

33. All accepted students in the clinical portion of the program are required to possess basic health insurance coverage at their own cost for the entire time they are in the program since students are not considered employees of the hospital and are not covered under any of the clinical education site's Employee Health services. All accepted students in the clinical portion of the program are provided with professional liability insurance through the university.
34. Students are not prohibited from working jobs outside of their class or clinical work but students are reminded of the extremely time consuming and physical demands of the program. If you choose to work an outside job, you must adjust your work schedule to accommodate your clinical schedule. It is extremely difficult to work a full-time, outside job while in the program.
35. In order to participate in the clinical phase of the program, all accepted students must successfully complete a background check performed by Clarian Health. Information is included at the end of this handout.
36. Due to the accepted standard of patient care in the workplace, all students who are offered and accept a clinical position in the program must provide proof of documentation of required immunization/tests as determined by the clinical education sites and Clarian Health/Methodist Hospital for the entire time that they are a student. No exceptions will be granted. Information will be provided with the admission letter. Hepatitis B vaccine is strongly recommended but not mandatory. Mandatory immunizations include:
- Tetanus, Diphtheria
 - Rubella (German measles)
 - Rubeola (Red measles)
 - Mumps
 - Varicella (Chicken Pox)
 - Tuberculosis—Intradermal tuberculin test (PPD)
37. Since a degree in one of the allied health sciences disciplines attests to the mastery of knowledge and skills, graduates must possess the essential knowledge and skills to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and render a wide spectrum of patient care in a safe and effective manner. The Allied Health Sciences Programs faculty have therefore specified nonacademic criteria. All applicants/students accepted into the Nuclear Medicine Technology, Radiography or Radiation Therapy Programs are expected to meet the Technical Standards for Admission and Retention in order to participate in the programs. All students accepted to the clinical portion of the program will be required to sign a statement certifying they can meet the technical standards that apply to the program to which they have been admitted. The Technical Standards for Admission and Retention are included in this handout and further information will be provided with the admission letter.
38. Prior to beginning the clinical phase of the program, all accepted students must provide proof of completion of an American Heart Association "Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers Course". The course must have a two-year expiration date on the card. If you have already taken the appropriate course, your card must have a date that expires after graduation from the clinical portion of the program. If the card does not have an expiration date past graduation from the clinical portion of the program, you will need to retake the course. The American Heart Association course is the only course that will be accepted. The course can be completed in one or two days. Check with your local heart association, hospitals and fire departments for course availability. You may also go to www.americanheart.org, CPR & ECC, Find a Class Near You, Select "BLS for Healthcare Providers" under Select a course. Information will be provided with the admission letter.

39. **Full disclosure of any charges or convictions for a misdemeanor or felony is required on the application to the clinical portion of the program.** You must disclose any charges or convictions regardless of how long ago they occurred even if you have been told nothing will show on your record, the charges were dismissed, etc. other than the exceptions listed below. For example, a charge and/or ticket and/or conviction for underage drinking must be disclosed even if you have been told it will not show on your record.
- **If you have questions on whether or not you need to disclose information and/or preapply to the ARRT, it is your responsibility to contact the program director of the program in which you wish to apply prior to submitting the application packet.**
 - Individuals who have been charged or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony must preapply to the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) and receive clearance from the ARRT prior to applying to the clinical phase of the program.
 - A ticket is a charge. If you have received a ticket for anything other than those items listed under exceptions you must complete the ARRT preapproval process.
 - Written preapproval to take the examination must be attached to the program application by the application deadline.
 - Exceptions:
 - Offenses committed while a juvenile and processed in the juvenile court system.
 - Traffic violations which did not involve drugs or alcohol.
 - Charges that were dismissed if there were **no** court conditions required for the dismissal. Dismissed does not mean the charge never occurred; it is simply the disposition of how the case was closed. If you had to attend a class, pay a fine, perform community service, probation and/or stay out of trouble for a period of time, etc. that is a court condition and you must declare the charge and apply for preapproval through the ARRT.
 - Disclosure of charges or convictions will not automatically disqualify your application.
 - If you do not disclose prior charges or convictions on the program application and a validated charge or conviction appears on your background check or is discovered later, your application will be disqualified and/or clinical spot will be revoked.
 - For more information and/or instructions, please contact the Program Director for preapproval information well in advance (at least 3 months) of the program application deadline. You can also go to www.arrt.org, select Ethics, Pre-application Process, Open Pre-application for more information. **Please note the Ethics Pre-Approval Review may take up to 12 weeks to be completed.**
 - If you have previously applied to the program and already have a clearance letter from the ARRT, you do not have to preapply again provided no other charges or convictions have occurred. You may just attach a copy of the previous clearance letter. If new charges or convictions have occurred you must preapply with the ARRT again.
 - If you have ever participated in a pre trial diversion program or had any other requirements set by a court such as taking a class, community service, stay out of trouble for 6 months, etc., you need to obtain a letter from the court and/or a copy of the court docket verifying your completion of the requirements to send in as documentation to the ARRT when completing the ARRT preapproval process.
40. For more information on the radiologic sciences, please go to the following:
- American Registry of Radiologic Technologists, www.arrt.org
 - American Society of Radiologic Technologists, www.asrt.org
 - Ball State University, www.bsu.edu/physiology-health/nucmedtech
 - Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov
 - Indiana Society of Radiologic Technologists, www.isort.org
 - Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology, www.jrcnmt.org
 - Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board, www.nmtcb.org
 - Society of Nuclear Medicine, www.snm.org
 - Program Director, Lynn Fulk, BS, CNMT, RT(R), ARRT, lfulk@clarian.org

ESTIMATED CLINICAL PORTION OF THE PROGRAM COSTS

The costs below are for the clinical portion of the program (14 months) and do not include the 28 hours of preclinical courses. Costs do not include housing or transportation. All costs are estimated and tuition is based on in-state distance education fees. Students are eligible for all regular BSU financial aid. An increase in tuition of approximately 5% is typically announced just prior to the summer session so the total estimated costs listed here may increase.

REQUIRED PRIOR TO BEGINNING PROGRAM	APPROXIMATE COST
Documentation/administration of immunizations/tests: Tetanus (last 10 years), Rubella, Rubeola, Mumps, Varicella (chicken pox), intradermal tuberculin test (PPD) no earlier than February of the same year), Hepatitis B	\$75.00
CPR course for Healthcare Providers	\$50.00
SUMMER SESSION	
Uniforms based on 5 pants, 5 tops, 1 lab coat, 1 pair shoes and 6 uniform patches	\$300.00
Tuition: 7 hours x approximately \$235/hour	\$1,645.00
Books: All books are used for all successive semesters.	\$475.00
FALL SEMESTER	
Tuition: 14 hours x approximately \$235/hour	\$3,290.00
SPRING SEMESTER	
Tuition: 12 hours x approximately \$235/hour	\$2,820.00
NMTCB Examination application fee or ARRT	\$145.00 or \$150.00
ALL-SUMMER SESSION	
Tuition: 3 hours x approximately \$235 hour	\$705.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS FOR THE CLINICAL PORTION OF THE PROGRAM (14 MONTHS)	\$9,510.00

**TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND RETENTION
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY
NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY, RADIATION THERAPY AND RADIOGRAPHY PROGRAMS**

If you have any type of impediment/disability (ADHD, learning, physical, psychiatric or anything else) with which you need assistance, **you must contact the BSU Disabled Student Development office**. DSD information is available at <http://www.bsu.edu/dsd/>. Per the DSD website, "Since disability is not always easy to define, good information is imperative. There are medical conditions that are not always ADA disabilities. Documentation must be supplied by all students requesting accommodations. Disabilities may be non-visible or visible, including congenital conditions. Documentation is required in all cases. Documentation must be comprehensive and age-appropriate." (<http://www.bsu.edu/dsd/accommoprocess/>, Process for Receiving Accommodations) "Nonspecific diagnoses, such as individual "learning styles, learning differences, academic problems, computer phobias, slow reader, and test difficulty or anxiety," in and of themselves do not constitute a learning disability." (<http://www.bsu.edu/dsd/article/0,1969,214923-14589-36522,00.html>, Documentation Guidelines, Documenting Learning Disabilities)

In order for any accommodations to be requested by the student and be considered, the student must file the impediment/disability with the Ball State University Office of Disabled Student Development and follow all DAD procedures. The student must have the impediment/disability validated and documented by an appropriate qualified professional according to the policies established by BSU. If a student wishes to request special accommodations you must follow the procedure listed on the DSD website at <http://www.bsu.edu/dsd/accommoprocess/>. **Students are encouraged to contact the DSD office to allow enough time to process your request.**

These non academic criteria, **technical standards**, will apply to students *admitted and enrolled* in the Ball State University Nuclear Medicine Technology, Radiation Therapy and Radiography Programs.

Nuclear medicine technologists, radiation therapists and radiographers are health care professionals who possess the knowledge and skills to utilize diagnostic and therapeutic doses of radiation, and associated instrumentation, in the production of medical images, and for the treatment of specific diseases in the human body. These individuals also provide basic nursing and medical care and assist with emergency patient treatment where indicated. Therefore, to be admitted to one of the above listed programs or to be retained in the program after admission, all applicants should possess:

1. Sufficient strength and motor coordination required to stand and walk up to 90% of the day.
2. Sufficient visual acuity, such as is needed in the accurate preparation and administration of contrast media, radiopharmaceuticals, and other medications as directed and for the observation necessary for patient assessment and nursing care.
3. Sufficient auditory perception to receive verbal communication from patients and members of the health team and to assess health needs of people through the use of monitoring devices such as intercom systems, cardiac monitors, stethoscopes, intravenous infusion pumps, fire alarms, etc.
4. Sufficient gross and fine motor coordination to respond promptly and to implement the skills including the manipulation of equipment, positioning and lifting patients required in meeting health needs related to these professions. In addition, students must be able to lift and transport film holders, lead blocks, or radionuclide generators weighing up to 50 pounds.
5. Sufficient communication skills in English (speech, reading, writing) to interact with individuals to communicate their needs promptly and effectively, as may be necessary in the patient's interest.
6. Sufficient intellectual and emotional functions to exercise independent judgment and discretion in planning and implementing care for patients or to assess medical emergencies and respond quickly to summon qualified medical personnel.

The programs reserve the right to require the applicant or student to physically demonstrate any of the above listed skills.

DETAILS REGARDING BACKGROUND CHECKS

All accepted students must successfully complete a background check performed by Clarian Health in order to participate in the clinical phase of the program. Accepted students will be required to provide relevant information and sign an authorization for the background check to be completed in order to confirm their position in the program. This is done to assist in providing a safe and violence free environment for patients, visitors, employees, and volunteers.

To fully understand the circumstances that can disqualify you from being a student at Clarian, please be aware of how we define the following terms and use them in this document:

- **Conviction:** Any violation of a law or ordinance for which a prospective student was found guilty by a judge and/or jury or to which the prospective student pleaded guilty.
- **Falsification:** Providing or omitting information contrary to that obtained in a background investigation (unless the background investigation is proven to be inaccurate) and/or providing false, incomplete or misleading information.

The following convictions will disqualify an accepted student from entering a Clarian educational program:

1. A sex crime
2. Exploitation of an endangered adult
3. Failure to report battery, neglect, or exploitation of an endangered adult
4. Theft, if the prospective student's conviction for theft occurred less than ten (10) years before the prospective student's application**
5. Murder
6. Voluntary manslaughter
7. Involuntary manslaughter within the previous five (5) years**
8. Battery within the past five (5) years**
9. A felony offense relating to controlled substances within the last five (5) years**
10. Abuse or neglect of a minor, child or dependent
11. Failure to report the abuse of a minor, child or dependent
12. Any act that, if it occurred at the organization, could compromise the safety or well-being of patients, employees, visitors, or volunteers of the organization

**Time frames are measured from the date of conviction.

In addition, Clarian will not accept any individual:

1. Who has abused, neglected, or mistreated a patient or misappropriated a patient's property, as reflected in the state nurse aide registry, or
2. Whose name appears in a state Sex Offender Registry

Clarian does not accept individuals who have been convicted of criminal offenses related to healthcare or have been debarred, excluded, or otherwise made ineligible for participation on federal health care programs.

Clarian does not accept any individual into an educational program who has been incarcerated and released unless that individual has prior approval from the program director.
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