

Del Mar College

Application Packet

Nuclear Medicine Technology Program

Nuclear Medicine Technology Program

Faculty

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Nuclear Medicine Technology**

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Nuclear Medicine Technology Program

Introduction

Thank you for your recent inquiry into the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program here at Del Mar College. The program combines classroom curriculum with clinical experience at major medical facilities, which have state-of-the-art nuclear medicine departments. Our students have the opportunity to spend time at each affiliate so that clinical skills are learned. Clinical rotations are assigned throughout the program, and the hours assigned vary in number, usually 8 - 24 clock hours per week.

Nuclear Medicine offers exciting possibilities for those who truly desire a career associated with medical science and a unique position on the medical team. Job opportunities can be described as excellent in almost all areas of the country. Annual base salaries are ranging from \$39,000 to \$70,000 and does not reflect shift differentials, callback pay, or benefits such as vacation, sick leave, insurance, retirement, etc. Many medical facilities offer sign-on bonuses, as well.

New classes begin once each year with the start of the Fall semester, and there is limited enrollment by the JRCNMT. Students are accepted according to the criteria specified in this packet.

As Director of the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program, I am eager to accept your application. Should you have any questions, feel free to call me at (361)698-2830, my office is located on the West Campus in HS#3, Room 146.

Tonya Pigulski

Students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of medical ethics in all periods of attendance in the clinical centers. All clinical centers, while separately located, are considered to be an integral part of the Del Mar College campus. Any infraction of medical ethics in the clinical education sites will be dealt with under appropriate disciplinary policy of Del Mar College. It is the students' responsibility to know what the appropriate policies and procedures are at each of the clinical education sites.

Philosophy

The philosophy of the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program is based on the concept that a curriculum should include course work that prepares our students to acquire knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will move them through full and productive lives as medical imaging specialists. The foundation set forth at Del Mar College should prepare students to cope with changing environments and technology and help them meet occupational and personal challenges. The preparation offered by the Nuclear Medical Technology Program should encourage the desire and the ability to continue learning, growing, and reaping the rewards of a full, productive, and fruitful life.

Mission

To provide the Del Mar College Nuclear Medicine Technology Program students with a fully accredited program of education of the highest quality in order to prepare them with the knowledge and skills necessary to enter the field of diagnostic medical imaging as competent entry level nuclear medicine technologists or to continue their education beyond the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program. Students will accumulate technical, ethical, and professional skills required of radiographers through didactic courses, laboratory participation and clinical experiences.

Goals

- Goal #1:** The Nuclear Medicine Technology Program will provide a fully accredited course of study for earning a two year Applied Science in Nuclear Medicine Technology.
- Goal #2:** The course of study will prepare students for entry level positions in Nuclear Medicine Technology.
- Goal #3:** Students are encouraged to continue their education beyond the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program.

Program graduates are eligible to sit for a certification examination administered by the following groups:

The Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB)
The American Registry of Radiologic Technologist (ARRT)

*Application for the exam should be made during the student's final semester.

Nuclear Medicine Technology CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

1. The applicant must be 18 years of age.
2. The applicant must have earned a High School diploma or a GED certificate.
3. Results of the THEA or COMPAS. Call Testing Services at (361)698-1645 for the assessment schedule.
4. **The following forms or documentation must all be filed with the Program Director:**
 - ☞ documentation of CPR certification
 - ☞ completed application for the Nuclear Medicine Program
 - ☞ **official** college transcripts
 - ☞ completion of hospital visit
 - ☞ documentation showing you have received this criteria for admission into the Nuclear Medicine Program
 - ☞ documentation to substantiate any claims of College Honors i.e. Deans List
5. Proof of compliance with the following immunization requirements: The law requires that colleges in Texas who have health career programs require the students enrolled in those programs to obtain the following immunizations on the next page entitled “Allied Health Student-Texas Immunization Requirements.” You must begin immunization steps now to meet the **March 1st** deadline.
6. If the applicant is required to complete any remediation as a result of the placement tests, their application cannot be considered until all remediation is complete.
7. The applicant must visit a local hospital and stay no less than four clock hours in the Nuclear Medicine department.

*Alameda Imaging	888-6684
*Christus Spohn Hospital Shoreline	881-3005
*Christus Spohn Hospital Memorial	902-6690
*Radiology Associates	866-1825
8. The applicant must earn sufficient admission points to be placed on the class roster. The procedures for receiving admission points will be described in the “admission process” document.
9. The applicant must be able to fully participate in all clinical activities in such a way as to not pose a risk to the safety of the patient or clinical personnel. A medical physical exam will be required.
10. Official acceptance into the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program requires a drug screening and a criminal background check at the students expense.

Del Mar College

Nuclear Medicine Technology

Admission Process

1. The applicant will complete and submit an application portfolio, which will include each of the following items:

- ✓Nuclear Medicine application form
- ✓“Hospital Site Visit” documentation form properly signed and dated
- ✓Copies of all Official College transcripts
- ✓Documentation to substantiate any claims of High School or College Honors i.e. Deans List
- ✓Documentation showing you have received this criteria for admission into the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program.
- ✓Results of the THEA. Call Testing Services at 698-1645 for the assessment schedule.

*This completed application portfolio must be submitted to the Nuclear Medicine Program Director no later than **March 1st** for consideration for admission into the Fall semester of the same year.*

Any portfolio submitted after this deadline will automatically be considered for admission into the Fall semester of the next calendar year.

2. During the month of June of each year, the Nuclear Medicine Program Director will review all applicants that have submitted complete portfolios since March 1st of the previous calendar year.

During this review process, points earned by each applicant will be totaled. The applicants with the highest total points will fill the allotted openings for students to be admitted into the Nuclear Medicine class that will begin training with the start of the next Fall semester. (The number of students admitted into the program varies from year to year depending upon available clinical training sites.)

POINTS ARE EARNED THE FOLLOWING WAY:

- A. Completion of required Nuclear Medicine General Education, related and elective courses as listed in the general catalog of the applicant.

Each “A” earns 10 points

Each “B” earns 6 points

Each “C” earns 2 points

Each “D” earns 0 points

GPA Points:

3.5 - 4.0	=	5 pts.
3.0 - 3.49	=	4 pts.
2.5 - 2.99	=	3 pts.
2.0 - 2.49	=	2 pts.

- B. Completion of all required basic work earns 10 points total.
- C. Honors recognition in college earns 5 points total. (Documentation of honors is required.)

NOTE: The applicant may update his or her portfolio as late as March 1st of the calendar year in which the portfolio will be reviewed for points.

- 3. The Nuclear Medicine Admissions Committee will meet during June to select the new class for the Fall semester. A letter will be sent to the applicant with the Committee's decision by July 1.

If the applicant is not accepted into the program he or she will be advised to reapply for the next year. **Such a re-application must be made in writing through a letter to the Nuclear Medicine Program Director postmarked no later than the last of October of the same calendar year.** Following this date, all portfolios of applicant's not requesting re-application will be discarded.

- 4. If one of the applicants selected for the program cannot begin the program with the start of the Fall semester, he or she will forfeit their position in the class and will be required to follow the process for re-application if they wish to be considered for the next Fall semester.

In such a case, the person with the next highest number of points will be moved into the class. Each person in the applicant pool will be moved forward accordingly. This process will be repeated until all positions in the class have been filled.

- 5. All applicants who meet the criteria will receive a conditional acceptance. This conditional status is pending criminal background and drug testing. See attached policy.

Del Mar College

Nuclear Medicine Technology

Associates in Applied Science

This program provides the basic skills required of a beginning staff technologist practicing in nuclear medicine. Upon satisfactory completion of the curriculum, the graduate will be eligible to write the national certification examination administered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists and the certification examination administered by the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board.

All of the major requirement courses (NMTT) are to be taken in a sequential order or at the advisement of the department major advisor. A grade of “C” or higher is required for satisfactory completion of all courses.

To continue in the program, a student may repeat a NMTT course only one time and may repeat no more than two NMTT courses while enrolled in the program. The term “repeat” shall be interpreted to mean re-enrollment following withdrawal, drop, or unsatisfactory grade. A student will have no more than 36 months to complete all major requirements.

A student seeking entry into Nuclear Medicine must file a specific program application form and complete additional admission procedures as required. Students may not take any of the major NMTT courses until accepted into the program.

Curriculum

Prerequisite:

HPRS 1204 Basic Health Profession Skills
HPRS 1106 Medical Terminology
ENGL 1301 Composition I
MATH 1314 College Algebra
BIOL 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I
ITSC 1309 Integrated Software Applications I
SPCH 1318 Interpersonal Communication
SCIT 1418 Applied Physics
Social Behavioral Science Elective
Humanities/Visual or Performing Arts Elective

Related Required Courses:

BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II
CHEM 1406 Basic Chemistry

Major Requirements:

NMTT 1301	Introductory to Nuclear Medicine
NMTT 1313	Nuclear Medicine Physics
NMTT 1266	Practicum I
NMTT 1267	Practicum II
NMTT 2305	Nuclear Medicine Methodology I
NMTT 1309	Nuclear Medicine Instrumentation
NMTT 2266	Practicum III
NMTT 2309	Nuclear Medicine Methodology II
NMTT 2301	Radiochemistry & Radiopharmacy
NMTT 2313	Nuclear Medicine Methodology III
NMTT 2366	Practicum IV
NMTT 2367	Practicum V
NMTT 2235	Nuclear Medicine Technology Seminar

Nuclear Medicine Technology Program

Admission Requirement

Application for Admission

Certificate of Residence

THEA or COMPAS required for A.A.S.

Completed portfolio containing the following:

- Nuclear Medicine Technology Program Application
- All Official College Transcripts
- Criteria for Admission Verification form
- Completed Hospital Visit Form
- Proof of Health Care Provider CPR Certification
- Capable of participating in all clinical activities.

Del Mar College is an open admissions college; however, acceptance into the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program is by selection. Positions in this program are limited, so program faculty are not able to interview and accept into the program all applicants who meet basic admission requirements. Admissions decisions will be made on the applicants ranking through a point system.

Del Mar College Nuclear Medicine Technology

Educational Expense List

If you are a recognized resident of the Del Mar College District, the following list reflects the **approximate** education costs associated with the Nuclear Medicine program. The figures assume that you are taking all courses each semester as listed in the official degree plan found elsewhere in this document.

First Semester	Tuition and Fees	\$552.00
	Laboratory Fees & Supplies	\$400.00
	Textbooks	
Second Semester	Tuition and Fees	\$552.00
	Laboratory Fees & Supplies	\$ 48.00
	Textbooks	\$ 80.00
Third Semester	Tuition and Fees	\$429.00
	Laboratory Fees & Supplies	\$ 24.00
	Textbooks	
Fourth Semester	Tuition and Fees	\$429.00
	Laboratory Fees & Supplies	\$ 48.00
	Textbooks	
Fifth Semester	Tuition and Fees	\$306.00
	Laboratory Fees & Supplies	\$ 24.00
	Textbooks	
	Total	\$2,892.00

If you are a recognized resident of Texas, but not a recognized resident of the Del Mar College district, your total expenses will be approximately \$4884.00 out of district.

If you are not recognized resident of Texas, your total expense will be approximately \$6,369.00 out of state.

Residency requirements are contained in the college catalog. Also you may contact the Del Mar College Business Office for information relative to residency requirements. Call (361)698-1263.

Del Mar College

Nuclear Medicine Technology Program

Statement of Non-Discrimination

Pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Del Mar College will provide services and training, without discrimination, to any qualified handicapped person who meet the academic and technical standards requisite to admission and/or participation in the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program.

Technical Standards for the Nuclear Medicine Technologist

Employment Qualifiers:

1. Students must be free from contagious diseases and chemical dependence.
2. Students must be able to perform all functions and tasks required of a nuclear medicine technologist.
3. Student must not have been convicted of a felony.

Visual Observation:

Visual observation must be sufficient and adequate to allow the student to

1. Produce images to determine quality, and identify anatomy.
2. Observe patient's condition.
3. Read control panels' technique charts, patients' charts and other pertinent materials for patient care and professional practice.

Motor Function:

Motor functions must be sufficient to permit the student to:

1. Stand unassisted for long periods of time.
2. Assist patients in and out of wheel chairs and on and off of stretchers or tables.
3. Lift and handle equipment related to nuclear medicine.
4. Operate nuclear medicine equipment.
5. Assist patients in emergency situations.

Communication Skills:

1. The student shall possess verbal and non-verbal skills adequate for transmitting information to patients and others.
2. Adequate hearing from communication skills with both the hospital personnel and patients.

Behavioral and Social Skills:

Students' behavioral and social skills must be acceptable to a college and hospital setting.

DEL MAR COLLEGE DENTAL & IMAGING TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

POLICY FOR CRIMINAL BACKGROUND SCREENING

Del Mar College adheres to the policies of all clinical facilities with which the programs are affiliated for student clinical learning experiences. Many clinical facilities and school districts require criminal background screening of all students.

Purpose

Some clinical agencies used by Del Mar College stipulate in the clinical affiliation agreements with Del Mar College that students' criminal background be prescreened before they are permitted into the clinical facility. This prescreening requirements is the same as that required of employees of public and private clinical agencies. The rationale for this requirement for clinical students is based on the concept of due diligence and competency assessments of all individuals whose assignments bring them in contact with patients and employees. Competency assessment extends beyond technical skills to include an individual's past behavior as indicated by their criminal history. This approach ensures uniform compliance with Joint Commission standards pertaining to human resource management. Moreover, the public is demanding greater diligence in light of the national reports of deaths resulting from medical errors. Successful completion of a background check does not guarantee licensure or employment after graduation. Full acceptance into the program is contingent upon satisfactory results.

Timing

All background checks will be conducted as a condition of full acceptance into the Del Mar College programs. Verification must be received from the designated company **prior** to being fully admitted to the program. The results will be accepted for the duration of the student's enrollment in the program if the participating student has not had a break in the program and if the student has had no convictions while enrolled. A break in enrollment is defined as nonattendance of one full semester or more. Attendance must be verifiable through the College.

The Dental & Imaging Technology Department will designate the company selected to do the criminal background screening. The Program will not accept criminal background screening results from any company other than the designated by the Dental & Imaging Technology Department. The student will pay for the cost of the criminal background screening at the time of the screening. The cost is non-refundable.

Process

Criminal background checks will be performed by an external vendor and will review the student's criminal history. The check should include the cities and counties of all known residences. Criminal background checks must include a person's criminal history for seven years prior to the date of application. The following histories will disqualify an individual from consideration for admission in the program.

- Misdemeanor convictions/deferred adjudication or felony convictions/deferred adjudication involving crimes against persons;
- Misdemeanor convictions/deferred adjudication related to moral turpitude;
- Misdemeanor/felony convictions/deferred adjudications for the sale, possession, distribution, or transfer of narcotics or controlled substances;
- Registered sex offenders.

Individuals with any of the above histories will not be eligible to enroll in the program and if the history is discovered or a conviction occurs after enrollment, the student, will be required to withdraw from the program. A student who is convicted of a criminal offence while enrolled in the program must report the conviction to the Program Director within three days of the conviction. The term conviction for these purposes includes probated sentences and deferred adjudications.

Notes:

1. The student should be aware that the disqualifications listed above are used for employment eligibility by most hospitals in Texas.
2. Completion of a specific program will be determined by student's ability to successfully complete the required clinical rotations.
3. Clinical rotations are completed at sites specified by and contracted with Del Mar College. Del Mar College will not locate or provide alternative sites for clinical rotations for student ineligible to attend clinical rotations at specific sites.

Compliance and Record Keeping

- The vendor will notify Del Mar College Program Director of all individuals who fail a criminal background check.
- Verification sent by the vendor to Del Mar College will include only the student's name and social security number.
- The Del Mar College Program Director will send verification on adherence to the policy to the clinical affiliate prior to the clinical rotation start date. Verification is accomplished by sending a letter from the Program Director stating that these standards has been met by the student, listing the student's full name and clinical rotation start date. If more than one student is attending a clinical rotation, a comprehensive list with all of the student's names may be submitted.

Notes:

Verification information will be filed in a secured area to ensure confidentiality. In the event that the student feels that an error has been made in the results of the criminal background check, it is the responsibility of the student to contact the external vendor for a verification check and the student is responsible for any cost associated with this check. Other than error relative to identify, there will be no appeal of this policy.

**DEL MAR COLLEGE
NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY
DENTAL & IMAGING TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT
STUDENT - TEXAS IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements apply to all students enrolled in health-related programs in Texas schools, which will involve direct patient contact in program-affiliated medical care facilities. This includes Nuclear Medicine Majors. **YOU MUST BEGIN IMMUNIZATION STEPS NOW IN ORDER TO MEET THE MAY 31ST DEADLINE.**

- A. Students who were born on or after January 1, 1957, must show, prior to first patient contact, acceptable written evidence of vaccination of two doses of measles - containing vaccine administered since January 01, 1968. Serologic confirmation of immunity to measles is acceptable. Evidence of immunity must consist of a laboratory report that indicates either confirmation of immunity or infection.
- B. Students must show, prior to program admission, written evidence of vaccination of one dose of rubella (German Measles) vaccine. Serologic confirmation of immunity to rubella is acceptable. Evidence of immunity must consist of a laboratory report that indicates either confirmation of immunity or infection.
- C. Students born on or after January 1, 1957, must show, prior to first patient contact, written evidence of vaccination of one dose of mumps vaccine. Serologic confirmation of immunity to mumps is acceptable. Evidence of immunity must consist of a laboratory report that indicates either confirmation of immunity or infection.
- D. Students shall receive a complete series (three injections) of Hepatitis B vaccine prior to first patient contact. Serologic confirmation of immunity to Hepatitis B is acceptable. Evidence of immunity must consist of a laboratory report that indicates confirmation of immunity.
- E. Students shall receive two doses of varicella (Chicken Pox) vaccine, prior to first patient contact, unless the first dose was received prior to thirteen years of age. A written history by a physician or parent may be used to validate varicella disease or immunity in lieu of the vaccine. Vaccination, if necessary, must take place before the student is accepted into the program of study.
- F. One dose of tetanus-diphtheria toxoid is required within the last ten years.

Del Mar College Nuclear Medicine Technology Program Pregnancy Policy

The intent of this policy is not meant to be discriminatory in any manner.

This policy will be implemented at the time a written declaration is received.

A woman who has voluntarily informed her employer (Program Director), in writing of her pregnancy and the estimated date of conception is considered a declared pregnant student.

The student, after counseling with a faculty and medical advisor may elect to one of the following:

1. Withdraw from clinical education with an “incomplete” but remain in all didactic activities for semesters in which pregnancy exists.
2. Remain in the program under the following conditions:
 - a. The student will be issued a fetal film badge in addition to her own. She will wear both film badges at all times in the clinical or laboratory settings. The exposure to the embryo/fetus will not exceed 0.5 rem. If a woman chooses not to declare pregnancy, the occupational dose applies.
 - b. The student will supply the Program Director a statement of health from an attending physician attesting to the student’s health and ability to continue studies.

**Del Mar College
Nuclear Medicine Technology Program**

**IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS
CAREFULLY!**

Your application is not complete until you have fulfilled each of the following requirements:

1. Completed application on file in the Nuclear Medicine Office (HS#3, Room 146)
2. Copy of all Official College transcripts on file in the Nuclear Medicine Office (HS#3, Room 146)
3. Completion of hospital visitation with signed documentation on file in the Nuclear Medicine Office(HS#3, Room 146)
4. Completion of any one of the required Texas Success Initiative requirements (Call Testing Services at 698-1645 for the assessment schedule)
5. Copies of any College Honors documentation filed in the Nuclear Medicine Office (HS#3, Room 146)
6. Copy of admission criteria notification filed in the Nuclear Medicine Office (HS#3, Room 146)
7. Proof of Health Care Provider CPR certification.

Nuclear Medicine Technology Clinical Site Visit

Each applicant seeking admission into the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program will be required to visit a local hospital nuclear department to observe its operation for a minimum of four(4) clock hours.

To make a clinical site visit appointment, the applicant should follow these steps:

1. Select the hospital you wish to visit. You may choose from:

*Alameda Imaging	888-6684
*Christus Spohn Hospital Shoreline	881-3005
*Christus Spohn Hospital Memorial	902-6690
*Radiology Associates	866-1825
2. Call the hospital Nuclear Medicine department of your choice and ask to talk to the Nuclear Technology student supervisor.
3. Introduce yourself to the student supervisor and explain the nature of your call. He or she will schedule a visitation appointment.
4. The minimum visitation time is four hours. You may stay longer if you wish. Remember, the purpose of the visit is to permit you to see “behind the scenes” and to speak with those already working in the Nuclear Technology profession to hear the pros and cons of the job. So stay as long as you need until you are fairly sure that this is the career choice suited to you.
5. When you go for this visit, dress in a manner appropriate for a professional environment. **Please do not wear blue jeans or tennis shoes.** Applicants should not wear strong perfumes or colognes.
6. During the visitation, please remain in the designated area as assigned by the student supervisor. If you have questions, do not hesitate to ask. Be careful, however, of asking questions while in the presence of the patient. Wait until the patient has left the area. Due to patient privacy laws, do not discuss patient medical information with others at any time. You are required to sign and date a “Patient Confidentiality Statement” to be returned in with your packet.
7. Take this form with you when you make your visit and have the student supervisor sign in the provided space below. Return the form to the Nuclear Medicine Program Director when you are ready to turn in your application.

Tonya Pigulski, Program Director
Nuclear Medicine Technology Program
Del Mar College (361)698-2830
Dental & Imaging Technology Department
101 Baldwin
Corpus Christi, Texas 78404

Name of Applicant _____

Name of Hospital _____

Date of Visitation: _____ Appointment Time: from _____ to _____

Student Supervisor Signature: _____

