

# MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING (MRI)

## Advanced Certificate

<http://sandburg.edu/Academics/Degree-Certificates/Magnetic-Resonance-Imaging/index.html>

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Advanced Certificate is a one-semester program that prepares radiographers to perform MRI procedures in hospitals and imaging centers.

Magnetic Resonance Imaging is a specialized imaging modality that utilizes computer technology in conjunction with magnetic fields and radio frequency signals to obtain sectional images in any body plane. MRI's ability to distinguish differences in tissue composition has made it the modality of choice in imaging the central nervous system and a variety of soft tissue structures. The curriculum covers all subject areas listed in the A.R.R.T Content Specifications to prepare for the examination in Magnetic Resonance Imaging.

### Working Conditions

MRI technologists may work in a variety of health care facilities, although most are employed in hospitals or imaging centers. Technologists typically work 40-hour weeks that may include evening, weekend or "on-call" hours dependent upon their employment setting. Please refer to the Essential Skills & Abilities of a MRI technologist to determine if you are able to meet these functions with or without reasonable accommodations.

### Employment

As the cost of equipment declines and smaller units become available, MRI and other radiologic procedures are increasingly being used in physicians' offices and walk-in clinics, which increases the demand for technologists to operate the machinery. With the life expectancy increasing, the demands of an aging population increases the need for health care providers. It is expected that employment of Radiologic and MRI technologists will increase by about 28% from 2012-2020, faster than the average for all occupations. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

### Accreditation/Approval

Carl Sandburg College is accredited through the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools – The Higher Learning Commission, 30 LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL. 60602-2504.

### Licensure

Graduates are eligible to apply to take the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) Post Primary Examination in Magnetic Resonance Imaging. This certification is nationally recognized and enables the student to pursue employment throughout the United States.

### Admission Requirements: Selective

The Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Program has limited enrollment and a selection process for admission into the program. Students must apply and be formally accepted into the program prior to enrolling in any Magnetic Resonance Imaging courses. Students can apply online to the Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Program June 1 - October 1. The application deadline date is October 1 for Spring enrollment. We notify applicants approximately two weeks after application deadline date whether they have been accepted or not into the program.

1. If you have never attended Carl Sandburg College, complete a general application for admission to the College - <http://www.sandburg.edu/admissions/steps-enroll>
2. Submit official transcripts from high school and all post-secondary educational institutions.
3. Graduate from an A. R. R. T approved radiography program with a 2.5 or higher cumulative G. P. A. on a 4.0 scale.
4. Provide evidence of active registration with the A. R. R. T or registry-eligible status.
5. Complete the online application for the Magnetic Resonance Imaging program.
6. Students admitted must attend the program orientation session.

Program admission is competitive and fulfillment of the basic requirements does not guarantee admission. Class size is limited and is determined by the number of available clinical sites within each community-college district. Participating community college districts (in addition to Carl Sandburg College) include: Black Hawk, Heartland, Illinois Central, Illinois Valley, John Wood, Lincoln Land, Parkland, Richland, Sauk Valley, Scott (IA), Southeastern (IA), and Spoon River.

RDT 255 practicum requires immunizations with titers, TB skin test, current Healthcare Provider CPR certification, drug screen, background check and physical. Students are responsible for all fees incurred. Please refer to the Computed Tomography Program Cost Sheet. Please note that findings on the criminal background check and drug screen may void the conditional admission and prevent entrance to the program. Findings on the physical examination and drug screen may prevent placement at the clinical sites. Technologists employed in MRI may seek enrollment in the online classroom-only portions of the program, if desired.

### College of Nursing & Health Professions

2400 Tom L. Wilson Blvd.  
Galesburg, IL 61401  
Phone: 309.341.5299

### For Additional Information Contact:

The Welcome Center  
Phone: 309.345.3500  
[welcomecenter@sandburg.edu](mailto:welcomecenter@sandburg.edu)

### For Graduation Requirements:

See the graduation policies and procedures ([http://catalog.sandburg.edu/academicinformation/#graduation\\_policies\\_and\\_procedures](http://catalog.sandburg.edu/academicinformation/#graduation_policies_and_procedures)) page for details.

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### Program Curriculum

RDT.262	Sectional Anatomy for Diagnostic Imaging	3
MRI.250	MRI Physics & Instrumentation	4
MRI.252	MR Imaging Procedures	3
MRI.255	MRI Practicum	6
<b>Total Program Requirement</b>		<b>16</b>

NOTE: In order to graduate, each student must complete all required courses with a grade of "C" or better.

NOTE: RDT.262, MRI.250 and MRI.252 are online courses.

**Kristina Gray**

Interim Dean, College of Nursing and Health Professions