

Career Information

Nuclear Medicine Technology

Certificate Program

Professional Tasks and Working Environment

Nuclear medicine technology applies to the science of administering ionizing radiation and other forms of energy to provide technical information and assistance to a physician to diagnose and treat diseases and injuries. The Medical College of Georgia offers certificates in three career paths: nuclear medicine technology, radiation therapy and diagnostic medical sonography. Although closely related, each involves special instrumentation, techniques of application, safety practices and patient services. This sheet describes the certificate program in nuclear medicine technology.

Employment and Career Opportunities

Employment opportunities are abundant and varied for qualified nuclear medicine technologists, including work in hospitals, doctors' offices, public health projects and industrial medical clinics.

Salary Information

Median annual salaries of nuclear medicine technologists were \$48,750 in 2002, with the middle 50 percent earning between \$41,460 and \$57,000 a year. Nuclear medicine technology salaries have broad regional variation.

Programs Offered at MCG

Nuclear Medicine Technology

The certificate curriculum in nuclear medicine technology is open to registered/certified medical professionals with bachelor degrees, or persons with bachelor's degrees in the hard sciences.

After successfully completing the program, graduates are eligible to sit for the certification exams given by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists and the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board.

After three years in clinical practice, registered and certified nuclear medicine technologists are eligible to sit for the

advanced practice examination in nuclear cardiology offered in association with the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology. The certificate program in nuclear medicine technology provides entry-level lectures in positron imaging tomography (P.E.T.), but only limited clinical exposure. Extensive clinical and didactic education in P.E.T. and P.E.T./C.T. is available only through the 20- to 24-month bachelor of science program.

General Admissions Criteria

Admission is based on college grade point averages (minimum overall GPA of 2.30), personal interviews, shadowing experience and assessment of motivation and personal qualities needed to successfully complete the program.

Applicants to the Nuclear Medicine Technology certificate program who have earned a baccalaureate degree in a hard science (e.g. biology, chemistry, physics or engineering) are evaluated based on previous course work and experience. Successful applicants must present transferable college credit in human anatomy and physiology I and II with labs; algebra, pre-calculus or calculus; English grammar and composition; speech communication; general chemistry with lab; and physical science/physics with lab. These courses may be completed at any regionally accredited college or university. Preliminary course work to run concurrently with the nuclear medicine technology curricula may be considered on a case by case basis.

All students must also hold current first aid and CPR certification.

Basic computer programming knowledge is strongly recommended.

Applicants whose first language is not English must submit official TOEFL scores. A minimum score of 550 paper-based, 213 computer-based, or 79 internet-based is required for consideration.



...continued on back

Technical Standards

In addition to demonstrating personal characteristics appropriate for a health professions career, students must satisfy general and specific technical standards for this program. Please visit www.mcg.edu/sah/radsci/nmttechstand.html to review these requirements.

Computer and Internet-Supported Programs

Students must have access to a high-speed (DSL or cable) personal computer. Most student and faculty communication, projects and research require Internet interaction and many lectures are presented online for repeated viewing. MCG faculty and staff are available for technical and instructional support seven days a week.

Financial Aid and Scholarships

Financial aid and other assistance is available. MCG participates in all federal student aid programs as well as state and private programs. MCG helps students fund their education through grants, scholarships, loans, a service commitment program and/or employment.

The Medical College of Georgia is an Equal Opportunity Educational Institution.

Estimated Full-Time Academic Expenses

	<i>Tuition</i>	<i>Fees</i>	<i>Books/Supplies/Other</i>
Per semester	\$1,910*	327.50	1,000**
<i>Columbus</i>		273	
<i>Gwinnett</i>		158	

* Non-residents of Georgia pay an additional \$5,730 tuition per semester. Residents of Aiken and Edgefield counties in South Carolina receive a waiver of non-resident tuition.

** Costs vary by major. Please check with your department for details.

(Costs are for 2006-2007. All tuition charges, board, room rent or other charges are subject to change at the end of any academic term.)

Estimated Living Expenses

	<i>On- or off-campus apartment</i>	<i>Commuter</i>
9 months	\$13,869	\$9,864
12 months	18,492	13,152

Accreditation/Review

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs

35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 1970
Chicago, IL 60601-2208
(312) 553-9355

Nuclear Medicine Technology

Joint Review Committee on Education
Programs in Nuclear Medicine
Technology
One 2nd Avenue East, Suite C
Polson, MT 59860-2320
(406) 883-0003

When and How to Apply

For best chance of acceptance, application to this program should be made during the fall preceding the fall in which admission is sought to allow adequate time receipt of all required information. All application materials should be RECEIVED in MCG's Office of Academic Admissions by March 1. Applications completed after this date are considered on a remaining space available basis. Complete applications include the application, references, official academic materials, documentation of shadowing hours, and documentation of professional certifications, if applicable. If accepted to the program, documentation of current CPR and First Aid certification is required upon enrollment.

How to Get an Application

To receive an application for this program, visit www.mcg.edu/admissions, or call or write:

Office of Academic Admissions
170 Kelly Building—Administration
Medical College of Georgia
Augusta, Georgia 30912

Telephone: (706) 721-2725
1-800-519-3388

E-mail: underadm@mcg.edu

Web site: www.mcg.edu/admissions