



TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE  
**DIAGNOSTIC ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY  
PROGRAM APPLICATION 2023**

Pending approval by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges

# DIAGNOSTIC ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

Spring 2023

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Diagnostic Echocardiography Program (DE). This information packet includes the admission requirements, the point system for selection, the curriculum, and information to help you through the application process.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has approved a 24-month curriculum for the DE Program. On completion of the provided curriculum, students will graduate with an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in Diagnostic Echocardiography. The Vascular Technology Enhanced Skills Certificate is completed concurrently with the DE (A.A.S.) degree in the last year of the program. Students graduating from this program will be eligible to sit for the Registered Cardiac Sonographer and Registered Vascular Sonographer examinations administered by the Cardiovascular Credentialing International Corporation (CCI).

TJC is an open admissions college; however, acceptance into the Diagnostic Echocardiography Program is limited. Acceptance into the program is based on criteria utilizing a point system and reviewed by an admissions committee. Because of limited enrollment in the program, all applicants who meet the basic admission requirements will not be interviewed nor accepted into the program.

Students planning to apply for admission to the Diagnostic Echocardiography Program must submit a complete application to the Program Director (Rogers NHS Building, Room 240) no later than May 25, 2023.

Mandatory orientations are required for all interested applicants. The following is the timeline (Note: Subject to be modified as needed)

- Mandatory orientation for all applicants: **June 9, 2023** at 10 a.m., RNHS 1.131
- Interview (for top 16 applicants only): **June 17, 2023** at 8 a.m., Second Floor RHNS
- 2nd Orientation for selected 8: To be announced (date and room pending)  
All meetings are in the RNHS Building 1200 E. Fifth Street, Tyler 75701.

*Every effort is made to assure accuracy of the information in this packet, but be aware that stipulations set forth are subject to change.*

For questions or more information, please call 903.510.2668 or email [wesley.speake@tjc.edu](mailto:wesley.speake@tjc.edu) or [suzanne.garrigan@tjc.edu](mailto:suzanne.garrigan@tjc.edu).

Sincerely,  
Wesley Speake, BS, RVT, RDMS  
Department Chair  
Diagnostic Echocardiography



# DIAGNOSTIC ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

## Mission Statement

The Diagnostic Echocardiography program at TJC is committed to serving the local community and students in providing for the training of necessary job skills and the proper education needed to fulfill the duties of a diagnostic cardiac sonographer. The DE program is also committed to graduating students capable of attaining the status of Registered Cardiac Sonographer. The program provides access and equal opportunity to all qualified individuals who apply.

## About Us

The profession requires judgment and the ability to provide appropriate health care services. Sonographers are highly skilled professionals qualified by technological education to provide patient services using diagnostic ultrasound under the supervision of a doctor of medicine. The sonographer may provide this service in a variety of medical settings where the physician is responsible for the use and interpretation of ultrasound procedures. Sonographers assist physicians in gathering sonographic data necessary to reach diagnostic decisions.

TJC will offer a Diagnostic Echocardiography (DE) Program beginning in the Fall of 2023. The profession of DE includes cardiac sonography and vascular technology.

A balanced curriculum of general didactic and clinical courses offers the student an opportunity for cultural development as well as occupational competence. Clinical instruction is given at East Texas area hospitals and clinics. Once accepted into the program, the student will be assigned to a clinical education site by the director/instructors. There is no monetary compensation given by the clinical site or TJC.

**To be successful in the DE Program, students must have the following essential skills and competencies:**

- Performing competent sonograms
- Independent judgment
- Directing patient interaction
- Provide quality patient care
- Basic clerical skills
- Ability to sit and stand on your feet
- Physician interaction
- Have full use of both hands, wrists and shoulders
- Traveling to clinical sites
- Distinguish audible sounds
- A personal commitment
- Lift more than 50 pounds routinely
- Professionalism

# DIAGNOSTIC ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

## Admission Criteria

Although TJC is an open-admissions institution, the DE program is a selective admissions program. To be eligible to apply to the program, applicants must meet the criteria detailed below. Because more students apply to the program than the program can accommodate, meeting the application criteria does not guarantee admission. Final selection will be based on the applicant pool and space available. These criteria supersede any other information.

### May 25, 2023 – Admissions Application Deadline

The following is the application process for the DE program:

#### 1. Transcripts

- One official transcript must be sent directly to TJC Registrar's office and one to the DE department chair, with the application packet from issuing schools/agencies. College transfer students must submit official transcripts from all colleges in which applicant has enrolled.
- TJC students must submit official transcript after spring grades are posted; unofficial transcripts may be submitted prior to May 25.
- **Note: Deadline for all transcripts is May 25, 2023, or applicant is ineligible for admission.**

#### 2. ACT Scores and TSI Completion:

- Submit the ACT score results (composite score and science reasoning score of 17 or above).
- If the ACT scores are documented on the official transcripts, no additional information required.
- **Note: ACT scores, TJC admission application, and all transcripts must be on file in the TJC Admissions office, in addition to the copies required by the DE program. This is the responsibility of the applicant.**

#### 3. Prerequisites

All prerequisites must be completed with a grade of "C" or greater. Any course substitution must be approved by the DE department chair.

- PHYS 1405 Elementary Physics
- BIOL 2404 Anatomy and Physiology
- MATH 1314 College Algebra or higher
- ENGL 1301 English

#### 4. Interview

Top 16 eligible applicants will be interviewed. The interview will be conducted by an interview committee for the applicant only.

#### 5. Practicum Rotations

Practicum rotations begin in the first semester. Traveling is required for most of the practicum educational sites. **You must be 18 years or older by the first day of Clinical I (Aug. 21, 2023) to participate in the DE practicum rotations.**

## 6. Special Notes

- The CPR certificate must be submitted by **Aug. 21, 2023** for the 8 accepted applicants only.
- Further information will be provided for those with completed applications during the second DE orientation (to be announced).
- Students who are accepted into the DE program will be notified with a letter from the Dean of Nursing and Health Sciences by **June 30, 2023** (*only the accepted students*).
- **If you have ever been convicted of a crime, and have a criminal record, please contact [compliance@inteleos.org](mailto:compliance@inteleos.org) prior to applying. They will review your record and be sure you are eligible for registry upon graduation.**
- If you have enrolled, dropped and/or been dismissed from another sonography program or any Allied Health program, a mandatory meeting with the Department Chair is required prior to May 1, 2023.

## 7. Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening

Top 8 applicants will be required to take a drug screening test and criminal background test (and pass) by **Aug. 1, 2023**. This will be at the student's expense. More discussion on this topic at the first orientation, **June 9, 2023**.

## 8. Special Consideration

Student Support Services assists students with special needs. Please call 903.510.2395.

## 9. Active Duty Military

If an allied health student is deployed for active military duty after enrollment or acceptance into an allied health and nursing program, a place will be reserved for the student in the next available class to TJC upon returning within one calendar year.

## 10. Hep B Series

This is required for DE clinical rotations. See Hepatitis B Form (for 8 accepted students only).

## Direct Ultrasound Observation Hour Requirements

**Ten hours of direct cardiac ultrasound observation is required of all applicants.**

The purpose for this is to ensure that the applicant is familiar with the job duties of a diagnostic cardiac sonographer prior to committing to a two-year training program.

The applicant will submit 1) evaluations filled out by the sonographer(s) that the applicant works, and 2) procedural logs as a record of the exams witnessed on those days. The procedural log and the evaluation can be found on pages 13 & 14 of this document. The DE program website is currently being updated: [TJC.edu/de](http://TJC.edu/de).

The applicant will provide the evaluations to the sonographer along with an envelope. The sonographer will complete the evaluation, place the evaluation inside of the envelope, seal the envelope (signing across the seal) and return it to the applicant. The applicant will submit the **unopened** envelope with his/her application.

Please make a copy of the procedure log and present this document to the sonographer for direction on the evaluation and standards of the 10 hour ultrasound observation requirements.

# DIAGNOSTIC ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

## Point System for Selection

After all admission criteria have been satisfied, a point system will be utilized for selection. Students will be top-ranked by points accumulated, and the 8 top-ranked students will be selected for the DE class. Those ranked 9 through 16 will be considered alternates for any positions vacated before fall classes begin. The far right column can be used as a work sheet to calculate your estimated points.

1. Formal Education (not required, but recommended)		Points Possible
• M.A.	Maximum	6
• B.S.	Maximum	5
• B.A.	Maximum	4
• A.A.S.	Maximum	3
• A.A.	Maximum	2
2. Work Experience (not required, but recommended)		
• Healthcare related	Maximum	5
• A letter from your employer stating the date of hire and daily responsibilities or tasks (addressed to the department chair)		
• Minimum 1 year experience		
• Letters of recommendation <u>will not</u> be accepted or utilized.		
3. Cumulative GPA		
• Points earned equals GPA multiplied by 5	Maximum	20
4. Prerequisites		
• Completed grade of A (5 points), B (3 points) or C (2 points)		2-5
• PHYS 1405 Elementary Physics		
• BIOL 2404 Anatomy & Physiology		
• MATH 1314 College Algebra		
• ENGL 1301 English		
5. ACT (no writing required)		
• Science reasoning score of 17 or higher		Actual Score
• Composite score of 17 or higher		Actual Score
6. Program Curriculum (general education courses)		
• Completed grade of A (5 points), B (3 points) or C (2 points)		2-5
• Humanities: HUMA 1301 or PHIL 2306		
• Social/Behavioral Science		
Bonus points for:		Points Possible
• BIOL 2401 Anatomy and Physiology I	Maximum	5
• BIOL 2402 Anatomy and Physiology II	Maximum	5
• Medical Terminology (one 3-credit course only)	Maximum	5
• PHED 1306 First Aid (not just CPR certified)	Maximum	5

- 7. Medical Volunteer/Shadowing Hours (not required, but recommended)** Maximum 3
- 60 hours to receive points for medical volunteering/shadowing in any medical profession area (some examples but not limited to: radiology, nursing, pharmacy, transportation, etc.)
  - Documentation of hours must be signed by supervisor; use page 15 or online forms at TJC.edu/de

- 8. Interview** 100
- Top 16 eligible students will be interviewed prior to acceptance.

**For additional information contact:**

Wesley Speake, Department Chair, [wesley.speake@tjc.edu](mailto:wesley.speake@tjc.edu)

Kalie Hall, Instructor, Clinical Coordinator, Concentration Coordinator, [kalie.hall@tjc.edu](mailto:kalie.hall@tjc.edu)

Meredith Duffee, Instructor, [meredith.duffee@tjc.edu](mailto:meredith.duffee@tjc.edu)

Haley Chaneyworth, Instructor, [haley.chaneyworth@tjc.edu](mailto:haley.chaneyworth@tjc.edu)



**TJC**

# DIAGNOSTIC ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

## Application Checklist

*The completed application must include the items listed below.*

- ☐ All official college transcripts and transcript evaluation from other schools and TJC (one for the Registrar and one for the DE program)
- ☐ ACT scores
- ☐ TJC Selective Application (TJC.edu/de)
- ☐ Mandatory observation hours (timeline document and evaluation document)
- ☐ Signed forms:
  - ☐ Technical Performance Standards
  - ☐ Release of Liability Form
  - ☐ Practicum Rotation Agreement
  - ☐ Additional forms enclosed in this packet
- ☐ Work experience letter and/or medical volunteer/shadow hours (if applicable)

**Complete, in its entirety, the application packet and return to the DE Department Chair on or before May 25, 2023.**

### Mail Packet:

Tyler Junior College  
Wesley Speake, RHNS 240  
Diagnostic Echocardiography  
P.O. Box 9020  
Tyler, TX 75711

### Deliver Packet In Person:

Wesley Speake  
Diagnostic Echocardiography  
Room 240, RHNS Building





**TJC**

## **DIAGNOSTIC ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY PROGRAM**

### **Program Admittance Policy**

**Step 1:** The applicant will receive a letter of notification and TJC Health Forms from the dean of Nursing and Health Sciences by **June 30, 2023**.

**Step 2:** The applicant must submit to the department chair by **July 7, 2023** a written acceptance of placement.

**Step 3:** The applicant will be required to return all health forms: CPR card, physician's examination; a full release, signed by the physician, to perform patient care; immunization records; and Hepatitis B inoculation statement of intent. The deadline for returning the completed health forms is **Aug. 21, 2023**. Failure to submit all required health forms by the above-stated date results in forfeiture of placement.

**Step 4:** Students in the program must maintain a "C" (75%) or better in all required DE courses. A final grade of "F" constitutes failure to pass and dismissal will occur.

**Step 5:** Each DE student will be required to complete eight hours of community service during the tenure of this program. More information will be provided on this topic during the second orientation.

**Step 6:** Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (SDMS) membership is mandatory the first year in the program. The cost is \$45. More information on this topic will be discussed during the second orientation.

***\*Again, every effort is made to assure accuracy of the information in this packet, but be aware that stipulations set forth are subject to change.***

# DIAGNOSTIC ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

## Hepatitis B Immunization

*The Hepatitis series is for the 8 accepted applicants only*

Texas Administrative Code, Title 25, Part 1, Chapter 97, Subchapter B, Rule 97.64 states that a student, who is in a health science program which will involve direct patient contact, **MUST** have had all 3 Hepatitis immunizations before the beginning of the second semester of the program.

This can present a major timing problem for students who are applying to the program.

**TIMING:** The first immunization is given—the second is given one month later, and the third is to be given five months after the second one. So, this must be started six months before the end of the first semester of being in the program.

***It is highly recommended that anyone who is planning to apply to a health science program that has clinical rotations in the first or second semester get started on the Hepatitis B immunization series as soon as possible. Clinicals begin the first semester.***

If a student is accepted to the program and cannot prove that the timing for the third immunization will be no later than the first day of the second semester, that student may not enter the program.

**Proof of the first Hepatitis B immunization on or before July 10 is required.**

There are other immunization issues, but they may be quickly resolved. The Hep B situation requires immediate attention. Immunization (other than Hep B) records will be required or re-immunization will be necessary.

For any additional information, please contact the Department Chair.

**TJC**

# **DIAGNOSTIC ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY PROGRAM**

I have read and understand the Diagnostic Echocardiography (DE) Admission Packet, Technical Performance Standards and Practicum Rotation Agreement that applies toward the Class of Fall 2023.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit this signed form along with the additional required documentation to the DE program by May 25, 2023.**

# DIAGNOSTIC ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

## Practicum Rotation Agreement

### *Release of liability*

The Practicum Education is a planned learning experience for the student. Practicum education rotation schedules are assigned by the Diagnostic Echocardiography (DE) faculty. It is the student's responsibility to arrange and attend assigned practicum educational sites.

The student is expected to be punctual and in full uniform at all scheduled times, regardless of location or personal problems (ie: gas prices, car issues, etc.). There are few acceptable excuses for tardiness at any of the assigned practicum education sites. Failure to be on time and/or attend the practicum education site will result in suspension and or dismissal from the DE program.

I \_\_\_\_\_ am responsible for any events that might lead to personal injury and expense incurred during a practicum rotation. I will manage the possible added monetary, time, cost or burdens that this may create. I will be 18 years of age by the first day of clinicals.

I understand and agree to abide by the above during my enrollment in the Tyler Junior College Diagnostic Echocardiography program.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# DIAGNOSTIC ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

## Technical Performance Standards

*The DE program at TJC has adopted the following as Essential Physical Competencies and Technical Performance Standards for Sonography Students.*

These competencies include:

1. Extended walking and standing daily, ability to grasp, push and/or pull, ability to bend, stoop, moving quickly in response to an emergency, using upper body movements, ability to reach, reaching and/or lifting, carrying and moving equipment.
  - Students must be physically capable of successfully performing activities in both the practice laboratory and clinical practice area. Sufficient physical health and stamina are essential to carry out all required procedures. It is also necessary for each student to determine their physical capabilities and report to the sonography department any physical limitation that would restrict or interfere with satisfactory clinical performances.
  - Each student must demonstrate fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective patient care.
2. Other essential competencies identified for sonography include vision that allows detecting physical changes, hearing that allows responding to physical and verbal clues, a sense of touch that allows for assessment and palpation.
  - It is necessary, in order to observe, assess, and evaluate patients effectively, for each student to have sufficient use of the following senses: vision (low-lighted rooms), hearing (with a mask on), touch, and smell. Sensitivity must be demonstrated in the classroom, laboratory, and the clinical area.
3. Communication, critical thinking and interpersonal skills, while not physical competencies, are essential for the sonography student.
  - Students must demonstrate the ability to communicate verbal as well as written messages clearly and in a timely manner.
  - Each student must demonstrate the ability to interact with individuals, families, groups and communities from a variety of emotional, religious, sociocultural/ethnic and intellectual backgrounds.
  - It is mandatory that each student demonstrate sufficient ability to use judgment and the sufficient ability in the area of critical thinking and the sufficient power of assimilate, integrate, apply, synthesize and evaluate information in order to solve problems.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



### Ultrasound Observation: Log Sheet

Mandatory ultrasound observation hours for each applicant (10 hours).

Applicants Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date	Hours	Name of Facility	Signature and Credentials

## Ultrasound Observation: Evaluation of Applicant

The following evaluation will be completed by the appropriate sonographer and placed in a sealed envelope.

Facility Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please rate each evaluation criteria:

1. Strongly disagree
2. Disagree somewhat
3. Agrees somewhat
4. Agree
5. Strongly agree

Evaluation Criteria	Rate	Comments
Student arrived promptly as scheduled.		
Student was courteous and receptive to information pertaining to your facility.		
Student used standard precautions during the experience.		
Student showed an interest in watching the sonography procedures.		
Student introduced self to patients, or was introduced by the staff, and was received favorably by the patients and facility staff.		
Student was professional in attitude and appearance.		
Student was helpful, asked questions and spent time appropriately while at facility.		

Evaluation form to be returned to the student in a sealed envelope. It is the student's responsibility to enclose this evaluation in the DE application packet.

Sonographer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Credentials: \_\_\_\_\_

## DIAGNOSTIC ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

## Student Medical Volunteer/Shadow Log

Applicants Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility Name	Name and Title of Facility Representative	Representative's Phone Number	Dates of Service	Hours

Description of what tasks applicant performed:


*This form must be submitted with application packet no later than May 25.*



# DIAGNOSTIC ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

## Associate in Applied Science Degree, 2022-23 Catalog

### Prerequisites \*\*

BIO 2404	Anatomy and Physiology
PHYS 1405	Elementary Physics I
MATH 1314	College Algebra
ENGL 1301	Composition I

### First Year

#### *Semester I, Fall I*

DSAE 1203	Intro to Echocardiography Techniques
DSAE 1415	Principles of Adult Echocardiography
DSAE 1264	Practicum I
DMSO 1302	Basic Ultrasound Physics
XXXX X3XX	Lang., Philosophy and Culture Core OR Creative Arts Core

#### *Semester II, Spring I*

DMSO 1342	Intermediate Ultrasound Physics
DSAE 2303	Cardiovascular Concepts
DSAE 1440	Diagnostic Electrocardiography
DSAE 1265	Practicum II

### Second Year

#### *Semester III, Fall II*

DSAE 2335	Advanced Echocardiography
DSAE 2404	Echocardiographic Evaluation of Pathology I
DSAE 2366	Practicum III
XXXX X3XX	General Psyc, Lifespan Growth & Development

#### *Semester IV, Spring II*

DSAE 2255	Echocardiography Professionalism and Registry Review
DSAE 2337	Echocardiographic Evaluation of Pathology II
DSAE 2367	Practicum IV

**Total Semester Hours: 61**

\*\*Prerequisites must be completed by the Spring Semester prior to admittance to the DE Program.

Extra points will be awarded to students for completing BIO 2401 & 2402, Medical Terminology, and First Aid PHED 1306

## Diagnostic Sonography of Vascular Technology

### *Enhanced Skills Certificate in Vascular Technology*

#### *Semester III, Fall II*

DSVT 1103	Intro to Vascular Technology (online)
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#### *Semester IV, Spring II*

DSVT 2235	Advanced Non-Invasive Technology
DSVT 2200	Vascular Tech Application