

Radiography Program Guide for Interested Applicants

Disclosure Statement: Radiography Program Guide

Information for Interested Applicants

This Radiography Program Guide is intended to provide prospective students with an overview of the program offered by Northampton Community College. The information presented is for informational purposes only and is subject to change without notice.

Accuracy and Completeness Disclaimer

While the NCC Radiography Program strives to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information presented, we make no warranties or guarantees in that regard. Program requirements, curriculum details, costs, and other information are subject to change due to accreditation requirements, faculty expertise, or institutional adjustments.

Admissions Disclaimer

Meeting the program requirements outlined in this guide does not guarantee admission to the Radiography Program. The NCC Radiography Program has a selective admissions process, and additional factors such as academic performance, entrance assessments, and interviews may be considered.

Licensure Disclaimer

Completing the Radiography Program does not automatically qualify graduates for licensure as radiographers. Individual states determine licensure requirements, including passing a national certification exam and graduation.

External Links Disclaimer

This program guide may contain links to external websites for further information. Northampton Community College is not responsible for the content or accuracy of information on external websites.

Contact Us

For the most current information about the Radiography Program, including admissions requirements, curriculum details, and licensure considerations, please visit our website at [website address] or contact our admissions office at [phone number] or [email address].

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Is Radiography Your Calling? A Roadmap to Discovery

Choosing the right career path is a personal decision. Take your time, assess your strengths and interests, and make an informed choice that aligns with your long-term goals and aspirations.



Do you resonate with the qualities of a Radiographer?



Unleash Your Inner Scientist: Radiography demands a strong foundation in science. Biology, physics, and anatomy are crucial for understanding the principles behind imaging technology and the human body. Do these subjects spark your curiosity?



Are you driven to Heal? A genuine passion for medicine and a desire to positively impact is essential. Radiographers are vital in patient care by ensuring accurate diagnoses and contributing to life-saving treatments. Does helping others motivate you?



Thriving Under Pressure: The healthcare environment is fast-paced. Can you work independently and think critically to obtain optimal images, even in stressful situations? You'll encounter patients in critical conditions requiring a keen eye for detail and emotional resilience. Are you up for the challenge?



Communication is Key: Strong interpersonal skills are crucial. You'll interact with patients from diverse backgrounds, often when they're anxious or in pain. Additionally, radiographers collaborate with doctors, nurses, and surgeons, so professional communication is essential. Do you have a talent for clear and empathetic communication?



Are you a lifelong learner who thrives on acquiring new knowledge? The medical field constantly evolves, and radiographers must stay up-to-date with the latest advancements and best practices through continuing education.



Safety First: Radiographers are exposed to low levels of radiation. Understanding and adhering to strict safety protocols is paramount to minimize potential health risks. Are you committed to prioritizing safety in the workplace?



A Bright Future: The job outlook for radiographers is promising, with a projected 7% growth rate (faster than average) between 2022 and 2032 (<u>U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics</u>). This growth is fueled by the increasing demand for imaging services in an aging population.

Ready to Dive Deeper? This guide is just the beginning. Explore resources provided by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) to learn more about the requirements and daily realities of a career in radiography.



Can you perform the 'Essential Functions' of a Radiographer?

Radiographers play a crucial role in patient care, collaborating closely with physicians and other healthcare professionals to produce accurate diagnostic images. Vital observation, communication, motor, and cognitive skills ensure patient safety and deliver high-quality imaging services.

Students accepted into the program will be required to complete the Essential Functions of Radiographers before the start of the program. The form delves into four key areas:

Observational skills:

- Assess the patient's needs.
- Able to discern the information that is needed for the procedure at hand.
- Recognize the need for prompt medical attention in various settings and locations.
- Discern a radiographic image's details, density, and contrast to determine if it is optimal for the radiologist's interpretation.
- Distinguish among the chromatic colors.
- Be able to use peripheral vision.
- Judge the distance of objects and the spatial relationship of objects at different distances.
- Detect changes in equipment operation (i.e., overheating, incorrect meter readings).
- Secure the correct chemical container and/or medication.

Communication skills:

- Communicate with other healthcare providers.
- Perceive the patient's oral communication with the ear.
- Be able to hear high-pitched sounds (e.g., patient's monitoring equipment).
- Be able to hear low-pitched sounds (e.g., patients' breathing patterns).
- Perceive the patient's nonverbal communication.
- Secure information (i.e., questioning of the patient).
- Communicate promptly and effectively in English both verbally and in writing.
- Communicate with the patient and the public on a level they can comprehend.
- Communicate effectively, using medical terminology, with the physician and other health personnel.
- Respond to directives from others related to patient care and emergencies.
- Display compassion, empathy, integrity, concern for others, interest, and motivation.
- Obtain pertinent information from the patient's chart.
- Obtain information that the physician requests to make a diagnosis.
- Document, in writing, using medical terms, good grammar, and spelling, the information needed on the patient's requisition for an optimum diagnosis by the radiologist.
- Document the vital sign findings for the use of other health care personnel.
- Interact with others respectfully and professionally, especially in stressful situations.

Motor skills:

- Tolerate physically taxing workloads.
- Safely lift at least 50 pounds and occasionally as much as 75 pounds from a lower to a higher position.
- Be able to carry an object weighing as much as 25 pounds from one place to another.
- Be able to draw, drag, haul, or tug an object(s) weighing more than 100 pounds or the patient's weight.
- Be able to push an object(s) with steady force to thrust forward, downward, or outward, weighing more than 100 pounds or the patient's weight.
- Be able to stoop/bend, squat, crouch, kneel, crawl, climb, and reach above shoulder level.
- Sufficient gross and fine motor coordination to respond promptly, manipulate equipment, and ensure patient safety.
- Perceive the attributes of an object(s), such as size, shape, temperature, or texture, by touching the skin, particularly that of the fingertips.
- Elicit information from a patient by diagnostic maneuvers (i.e., palpation).
- Safely manipulate and use controls (i.e., the x-ray tube up to six feet from the radiographic/fluoroscopic room floor).
- Ability to use fingers and hands in repetitive actions such as picking, pinching, writing, firm grasping, and twisting/turning.
- Skillfully use precision instruments.
- Maintain an upright, erect position with the entire body supported by the feet for as long as 7 hours during the workday.
- Function efficiently while wearing lead-protective apparel.
- Safely perform procedures.
- Utilize the equipment needed to obtain temperature, pulse, respiration, and blood pressure.
- Enter data into the computer.

Cognitive functions:

- Ability to adapt to a crisis, flexible schedules, and/or change in environment.
- Function effectively under stressful conditions.
- Concentrate on the task at hand.
- Visually concentrate and/or focus thoughts or efforts for prolonged periods.
- Exercise independent judgment and discretion in the safe technical performance of medical imaging procedures.

If you require accommodation to perform any essential functions, please confidentially contact the NCC Coordinator of Disability Services at (610) 861-5342. A physician or other professional may need documentation indicating that you need reasonable accommodation. Modifications may be made with the utmost understanding that the safety and well-being of patient care take priority and will not be compromised.

What it Means to be a Certified and Registered Radiographer

A Radiologic Technologist (R.T.) denotes that the individual has satisfied the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) standards for initial certification (met the education, ethics, and examination) and the standards for continued registration. There are two integral parts to this designation:

Certification: This is granted by a certifying body, typically after passing a comprehensive exam. In the US, the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) is the main certifying body for radiographers. Certification demonstrates that radiographers have the necessary knowledge and skills to perform their duties safely and effectively.

Registration: This is often a state-level requirement, though the specific process can vary. Registration verifies that a radiographer meets any additional state-specific qualifications and allows them to practice legally within that state.

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What is the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT)?



The ARRT is the world's largest credentialing organization, seeking to ensure high-quality patient care in medical imaging, interventional procedures, and radiation therapy. After completing the program, you can sit for the ARRT registry exam. Explore 'About the Profession' to access information on the career and why credentials are essential: www.arrt.org

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How do I meet the ARRT education, ethics, and examination requirements?

Education: To be eligible to apply for ARRT certification and registration, you must complete an educational program in the same discipline as the credential you are pursuing, such as Radiography. As part of the program, you must demonstrate competencies in didactic coursework and clinical procedures.

Ethics: When applying for certification and registration with ARRT, you must comply with everything in the <u>ARRT Standards of Ethics</u>, including the Rules of Ethics. Applicants who do not follow these rules might become ineligible for certification and registration with ARRT.

Examination: ARRT exams are computer-based. Qualified candidates have three attempts to pass the exam, which are timed within three years of the first exam window opening. If you do not pass the exam within those three years or those three attempts, you will no longer be eligible for certification and registration unless you requalify. To requalify, you must meet the ARRT's initial eligibility requirements, including completing an educational program.

Accreditation, Mission, Goals, and Learning Outcomes

The Radiography Program at Northampton Community College has had recurring Joint Review Committee on Education and Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) accreditation since 1996.

Since 2017, the Joint Review Committee on Education and Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) has awarded it the maximum accreditation term of 8 years. The JRCERT accreditation process assures the public that a program meets specific quality standards. The JRCERT contact information is as follows:



Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology 20 North Wacker Drive, Suite 2850 Chicago, IL 60606-3182 (312) 704-5300

email: mail@jrcert.org

The JRCERT Accreditation Standards for Radiography and the Program's Effectiveness Data may be found online at www.ircert.org. The program is due for its subsequent accreditation in 2024.



Why is JRCERT accreditation important?

For Students: JRCERT accreditation ensures you're receiving a high-quality education that meets established standards for the field. You'll gain the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to be a competent radiologic technologist. A JRCERT-accredited degree also makes you eligible for licensure in all 50 states, opening more job opportunities.

For Employers: Many employers specifically seek out graduates from JRCERT-accredited programs. This is because accreditation signifies that graduates have met a quality benchmark and are prepared to enter the workforce effectively. Some employers, like the Veterans Administration, won't even consider candidates who don't have a degree from a JRCERT program.

For the Profession: JRCERT accreditation promotes excellence in education and patient care in radiologic technology. The accreditation process involves rigorous self-evaluation and peer review, which helps ensure that programs are continuously improving. This benefits the profession by setting high standards and providing a well-qualified workforce.



What are our mission statements?

NCC Mission Statement: Recognizing that students are the primary reason that Northampton Community College exists, we seek to provide excellent, accessible, and comprehensive learning experiences in partnership with the dynamic, diverse communities we serve.

NCC Radiography Program Mission Statement: Our mission is to provide student radiographers with an innovative and educationally sound program that will enable them to deliver quality patient-centered care, use radiation judiciously, and display professionalism throughout their careers.

NCC Radiography Mission Statement with Clinical Education Settings: Through mutual respect, in a learner-centered environment, we will collectively educate students to embrace the following components of the profession: effective communication, problem-solving, professionalism, radiation safety, and technical competency and proficiency.



What are the Radiography Program's goals and learning outcomes?

To graduate, students must demonstrate a well-rounded skillset. This includes clinical competency, like safe and accurate X-ray procedures. Effective written and oral communication is essential for interacting with patients and colleagues. Critical thinking skills allow graduates to adapt procedures, analyze image quality, and optimize settings for better results while minimizing radiation exposure. Finally, graduates are expected to uphold professionalism through solid ethics, a positive attitude, and a commitment to excellence. In outline form, the

NCC Radiography program strives to graduate students who:

1. Are clinically competent (G)

The students will be clinically competent when they are able to:

- A. Position accurately and in a timely fashion to visualize the appropriate anatomical structures (O)
- B. Select technical factors that will produce an optimal image (O)
- C. Employ principles of radiation protection (O)
- 2. Communicate effectively through word choice, level of explanation, and method of delivery. (G)

The students will be able to communicate effectively when they are able to:

- A. Write an accurate patient history. (O)
- B. Communicate effectively in written and oral formats with patients, members of the health care team, and the community. (O)
- C. Listen, understand, and evaluate what the speaker is saying. (O)

- D. Speak using effective word choice, appropriate terminology, level of explanation, and method of delivery. (O)
- 3. Analyze situations using critical thinking to foster better patient care. (G)
 - A. Employ critical thinking skills to use appropriate alternative patient positioning and equipment configurations based on patient condition. (O)
 - B. Critique the image and evaluate radiographic quality. (O)
 - C. Manipulate exposure factors to compensate for patient and image variability while minimizing patient dose. (O)
- 4. Employ the five components of a true professional: character, attitude, excellence, competency, and conduct. (G)

Demonstrate professional attitude, ethics, and sound judgment. (O)

Committing to the Educational Journey at NCC

We want you to make an informed choice. The following can help provide insight into your initiative and motivation for pursuing a rigorous educational journey leading to a promising career.

If you know or are in a class with any of the radiography students, ask them questions about the Radiography Program. The students will be completely honest with you. Be sure to ask them about the time commitment involved in the program, how much practice time was needed in the lab during off-hours, and how much time could be reasonably devoted to working while enrolled. Take advantage of the Radiography Lab Experience.



What is the Radiography Lab Experience?

We offer interested individuals 18 or older an opportunity to volunteer as patients in our lab course with our faculty and students. This experience is not necessary for the application process. Yet, it can be very beneficial in evaluating the career basics and receiving honest feedback from current students already in the program.

Sign-ups are available by the third week of the fall semester and the second week of the spring semester. If interested, e-mail the department secretary at jbare@northampton.edu, and a sign-up link will be forwarded. Please dress comfortably. You may opt to be positioned as a patient, and there may be positions that would be uncomfortable to perform in specific clothing that may restrict movement or challenge your modesty. The Lab Experience is offered at Bethlehem Campus only.



What are the didactic and clinical requirements?

The Radiography Program at NCC is an accredited program encompassing 21 consecutive months of required didactic and clinical instruction that prepares the student for their registry exam upon graduation. The NCC Bethlehem Campus houses two functioning radiographic systems, so all didactic instruction must be taken at the main campus.

Clinical education (1,568 hours) is an integral, demanding, and rewarding part of the Radiography Program at Northampton Community College. For an equitable experience, students will be assigned to train at two major hospital sites: one site during the first year and the second site during the second year. The assigned clinical education sites provide facilities for students to learn to perform a full range of radiographic procedures competently and proficiently on children, adults, and older people.



How are clinical site assignments determined?

You will be placed in one of our major affiliate hospitals when accepted into the Radiography Program. You will be expected to travel 2-5 days a week in any given semester.

We will try to place you as close to your home as possible and consider any specific requests you may have. However, relatively high numbers of acceptances from a particular geographical area sometimes exist. As a result, we may not be able to place you in a clinical site as close to home as possible or grant specific requests. Therefore, planning for possible long-distance commutes requiring reliable transportation is advised.



What is the sequence of Radiography courses?

First-Year, Fall Semester:

While the following schedule is a guide, days and times may change.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
*Radiographic Procedures I Lab 8:00-11:00	**Clinical Practice I	*Radiographic Procedures I Lab 8:00-11:00	**Clinical Practice I	*Radiographic Procedures I Lab 8:00-11:00
Introduction to Radiographic Imaging 11:00-12:30	Hospital	Radiographic Procedures I Lecture 11:00-12:30	Hospital	Fundamentals of Radiologic Sciences 11:00-12:30
Fundamentals of Radiologic Sciences 1:00-2:30	First Three Weeks on Campus		First Three Weeks on Campus	Radiographic Procedures I Lecture 1:00-2:30
				Introduction to Radiographic Imaging 2:30-4:30

All courses are on the Bethlehem campus and assigned clinical sites

^{*}Students are scheduled for only one of the three labs shown in the schedule.

^{**}Clinical Practice I: First-year students spend three weeks on campus learning safety, ethics, patient care, etc. (tested via exams). Then, they spend Tuesdays and Thursdays at clinical sites for hands-on experience. Start times for clinical practice may vary from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.,

depending on the area of rotation and the scheduling for radiographic/ fluoroscopic procedures. No matter the start time, clinical time consists of 8 ½ hours, including lunch.

First-Year, Winter Session:

While the following schedule is a guide, days and times may change.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Clinical	Clinical	Clinical	Clinical	Clinical
Practice IB				
Hospital	Hospital	Hospital	Hospital	Hospital

Clinical Practice IB: Clinical rotations begin immediately after the fall semester and end after 112 hours have been achieved. Never more than 40 hours are scheduled in one week, and there are no clinicals when the college is closed.

First-Year, Spring Semester:

While the following schedule is a guide, days and times may change.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
*Radiographic Procedures II Lab 8:00-11:00 Radiographic Procedures I Lecture 11:00-12:30	**Clinical Practice II Hospital	*Radiographic Procedures II Lab 8:00-11:00 Radiographic Procedures II Lecture 11:00-12:30	**Clinical Practice II Hospital	*Radiographic Procedures II Lab 8:00-11:00 Imaging Equipment and Radiation Production 11:00-12:30
Imaging Equipment and Radiation Production 1:00-2:30		Sectional Anatomy 1:30-2:00		

All courses are on the Bethlehem campus and assigned clinical sites

^{*}Students are scheduled for only one of the three labs shown in the schedule.

^{**}Clinical Practice II: When the semester begins, around January 16th, the students continue the Tuesday and Thursday clinical education schedule for the remainder of the semester. It is during this semester that students present their first image critiques (major, minor, and surprise), continue to log procedures, and perform competency evaluations.

Start times for clinical practice may vary from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., depending on the area of rotation and the scheduling for radiographic/ fluoroscopic procedures. No matter the start time, clinical time consists of 8 ½ hours, including lunch.

First-Year, Summer Session I and II:

While the following schedule is a guide, days and times may change.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Clinical Practice III	*Clinical Practice III	*Clinical Practice III	*Clinical Practice III	
Hospital	Hospital	Hospital	Hospital	

^{*}Clinical Practice III: It begins with a one-week on-campus seminar (tested). Then, students move to clinical rotations (M-Th, ten hrs./day, max 40 hrs./week) with a mid-shift week for diverse experience. Clinical ends after 336 hours, with the remaining time for makeup hours. There is no clinical on holidays.

Second-Year, Fall Semester:

While the following schedule is a guide, days and times may change.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	Pathology for Radiographers 8:00-9:00		Pathology for Radiographers 8:00-9:00	
*Clinical Practice IV	Digital Imaging and Analysis 9:00-10:00	*Clinical Practice IV	Digital Imaging and Analysis 9:00-10:00	*Clinical Practice IV
Hospital	Radiation Biology 10:00-11:30	Hospital	Radiation Biology 10:00-11:30	Hospital

All courses are on the Bethlehem campus and assigned clinical sites

*Clinical Practice IV: The students are assigned to their clinical education sites three days per week (MWF). Beginning this semester, students rotate to a different clinical site. This is to abide by our accreditation standard to give our students an equitable clinical experience. Students continue to practice, log procedures, perform competency evaluations, present image critique evaluations, and complete three proficiency evaluations.

The Clinical Instructor(s) or Clinical Education Coordinator randomly assigns the three proficiency evaluations to ensure the students maintain their post-competency skills.

Start times for clinical practice may vary from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., depending on the area of rotation and the scheduling for radiographic/ fluoroscopic procedures. No matter the start time, clinical time consists of 8 ½ hours, including lunch.

Second-Year, Spring Semester:

While the following schedule is a guide, days and times may change.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	Advanced Imaging 8:00-10:00			
*Clinical Practice V	Senior Review 10:00-12:00	*Clinical Practice V		*Clinical Practice V
Hospital		Hospital		Hospital

All courses are on the Bethlehem campus and assigned clinical sites

*Clinical Practice V: Students return to their 2nd clinical site (MWF) for the rest of the semester, practicing procedures & completing evaluations. Three days allow students to explore specialty areas based on their interests or weaknesses. Completion of Clinical Practice V qualifies students for graduation (if all program requirements are met).

Start times for clinical practice may vary from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., depending on the area of rotation and the scheduling for radiographic/ fluoroscopic procedures. No matter the start time, clinical time consists of 8 ½ hours, including lunch.

What does this hypothetically look like on a 21-month calendar?

		A	August-	1					Se	ptembe	er-2		
SU	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3	1	2 Labor Day	3 Pre-Clinical 7:30-4P	4 Campus 8-1P	5 Pre-Clinical 7:30-4P	6 Campus 8-4:30P	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9 Campus 8-3P	Pre-Clinical 7:30-4P	11 Campus 8-1P	Pre-Clinical 7:30-4P	13 Campus 8-4:30P	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16 Campus 8-3P	17 Clinical 7:30-4P	18 Campus 8-1P	19 Clinical 7:30-4P	20 Campus 8-4:30P	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23 Campus 8-3P	Clinical 7:30-4P	25 Campus 8-1P	26 Clinical 7:30-4P	27 Campus 8-4:30P	28
25	26 Campus 8-3P	27 Pre-Clinical 7:30-4P	28 Campus 8-1P	29 Pre-Clinical 7:30-4P	30 Campus 8-4:30P	31	29	30 Campus 8-3P			ı		
		0	ctober-	-3					No	vembe	er-4		
SU	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT
		1 Clinical 7:30-4P	2 Campus 8-1P	3 Clinical 7:30-4P	4 Campus 8-4:30P	5						Campus 8-4:30P	2
6	7 Campus 8-3P	8 Clinical 7:30-4P	9 Campus 8-1P	10 Clinical 7:30-4P	11 Campus 8-4:30P	12	3	4 Campus 8-3P	5 Clinical 7:30-4P	6 Campus 8-1P	7 Clinical 7:30-4P	8 Campus 8-4:30P	9
13	14 Fall Break	15 Fall Break	16 Campus 8-1P	17 Clinical 7:30-4P	18 Campus 8-4:30P	19	10	11 Campus 8-3P	Clinical 7:30-4P	Campus 8-1P	Clinical 7:30-4P	15 Campus 8-4:30P	16
20	21 Campus 8-3P	22 Clinical 7:30-4P	23 Campus 8-1P	24 Clinical 7:30-4P	25 Campus 8-4:30P	26	17	18 Campus 8-3P	19 Clinical 7:30-4P	20 Campus 8-1P	21 Clinical 7:30-4P	22 Campus 8-4:30P	23
27	28 Campus 8-3P	29 Clinical 7:30-4P	30 Campus 8-1P	31 Clinical 7:30-4P			24	25 Campus 8-3P	26 Clinical 7:30-4P	27 Campus 8-1P	28 Thanks	29 Giving	30
		De	cembe	r-5					J	anuary [.]	-6		
SU	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT
1	2 Campus 8-3P	3 Clinical 7:30-4P	4 Campus 8-1P	5 Clinical 7:30-4P	Campus 8-4:30P	7				1 Winter Break	2 Clinical 7:00-5P	3	4
8	9 FINALS	¹⁰ FINALS	11 FINALS	12 FINALS	13 FINALS	14	5	6 Clinical 7:00-5P	7 Clinical 7:00-5P	8 Clinical 7:00-5P	9 Clinical 7:00-5P	10	11
15	16 Clinical 7:00-5P	17 Clinical 7:00-5P	18 Clinical 7:00-5P	19 Clinical 7:00-5P	20	21	12	13 Clinical 7:00-5P	14 Clinical 7:00-5P	Clinical 7:00-5P	16 Clinical 7:00-5P	17	18
22	23	24	25 Winter Break	26 Winter Break	27 Winter Break	28	19	20 MLK	21 Clinical 7:30-4P	22 Campus 8-3P	23 Clinical 7:30-4P	24 Campus 8-1P	25
29	30 Winter Break	31 Winter Break					26	27 Campus 8-3P	28 Clinical 7:30-4P	29 Campus 8-3P	30 Clinical 7:30-4P	31 Campus 8-1P	

		Fe	bruary	·-7					١	March-	8		
SU	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT
						1							1
2	Campus 8-3P	4 Clinical 7:30-4P	5 Campus 8-3P	6 Clinical 7:30-4P	7 Campus 8-1P	8	2	Campus 8-3P	4 Clinical 7:30-4P	Campus 8-3P	Clinical 7:30-4P	7 Campus 8-1P	8
9	Campus 8-3P	11 Clinical 7:30-4P	12 Campus 8-3P	13 Clinical 7:30-4P	14 Campus 8-1P	15	9	10 Spring Break	11 Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	14 Spring Break	15
16	Campus 8-3P	18 Clinical 7:30-4P	19 Campus 8-3P	20 Clinical 7:30-4P	21 Campus 8-1P	22	16	17 Campus 8-3P	18 Clinical 7:30-4P	Campus 8-3P	Clinical 7:30-4P	21 Campus 8-1P	22
23	Campus 8-3P	25 Clinical 7:30-4P	26 Campus 8-3P	27 Clinical 7:30-4P	28 Campus 8-1P		23	24 Campus 8-3P	25 Clinical 7:30-4P	26 Campus 8-3P	27 Clinical 7:30-4P	28 Campus 8-1P	29
			April-9				May-10						
SU	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT
March 30	March 31 Campus 8-3P	1 Clinical 7:30-4P	2 Campus 8-3P	3 Clinical 7:30-4P	4 Campus 8-1P	5					1 Clinical 7:30-4P	2 Campus 8-1P	3
6	7 Campus 8-3P	8 Clinical 7:30-4P	9 Campus 8-3P	Clinical 7:30-4P	Campus 8-1P	12	4	5 Campus 8-3P	6 FINALS	7 FINALS	8 FINALS	9 FINALS	10
13	14 Campus 8-3P	15 Clinical 7:30-4P	16 Campus 8-3P	17 Clinical 7:30-4P	18 Campus 8-1P	19	11	12 FINALS	13	14	15	16	17
20	Campus 8-3P	22 Clinical 7:30-4P	23 Campus 8-3P	24 Clinical 7:30-4P	25 Campus 8-1P	26	18	19 Clinical 7:00-5P	20 Clinical 7:00-5P	21 Clinical 7:00-5P	Clinical 7:00-5P	23	24
27	28 Campus 8-3P	²⁹ Clinical 7:30-4P	30 Campus 8-3P				25	26 Clinical 7:00-5P	27 Clinical 7:00-5P	28 Clinical 7:00-5P	29 Clinical 7:00-5P	30	31
		J	une-11	L						July-12	2		
SU	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT
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8	9 Clinical 7:00-5P	10 Clinical 7:00-5P	Clinical 7:00-5P	Clinical 7:00-5P	13	14	6	7 Clinical 7:00-5P	8 Clinical 7:00-5P	9 Clinical 7:00-5P	Clinical 7:00-5P	11	12
15	16 Clinical 7:00-5P	17 Clinical 7:00-5P	18 Clinical 7:00-5P	19 Clinical 7:00-5P	20	21	13	14 Clinical 7:00-5P	15 Clinical 7:00-5P	16 Clinical 7:00-5P	17 Clinical 7:00-5P	18	19
22	23 Clinical 7:00-5P	24 Clinical 7:00-5P	25 Clinical 7:00-5P	26 Clinical 7:00-5P	27	28	20	21 Clinical 7:00-5P	22 Clinical 7:00-5P	23 Clinical 7:00-5P	24 Clinical 7:00-5P	25	26
29	30						27	28 Clinical 7:00-5P	29 Clinical 7:00-5P	30 Clinical 7:00-5P	30 Clinical 7:00-5P	31	

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SU	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	TH	FRI	SAT
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	Clinical 7:30-4P	16 Campus 8-12P	17 Clinical 7:30-4P	18 Campus 8-12P	Clinical 7:30-4P	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	Clinical 7:30-4P	23 Campus 8-12P	Clinical 7:30-4P	25 Campus 8-12P	26 Clinical 7:30-4P	27
24	25 Clinical 7:30-4P	26 Campus 8-12P	27 Clinical 7:30-4P	28 Campus' 8-3P	29 Clinical 7:30-4P	30	28	Clinical 7:30-4P	30 Campus 8-12P		-		
October-15									Nov	vembe	r-16		
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12	13 Fall Break	14 Fall Break	15 Clinical 7:30-4P	16 Campus 8-12P	Clinical 7:30-4P	18	9	Clinical 7:30-4P	Campus 8-12P	Clinical 7:30-4P	Campus 8-12P	Clinical 7:30-4P	15
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26	27 Clinical 7:30-4P	28 Campus 8-12P	29 Clinical 7:30-4P	30 Campus 8-12P	31 Clinical 7:30-4P		23	24 Clinical 7:30-4P	25 Campus 8-12P	26 Clinical 7:30-4P	27 Thanks	28 Giving	29
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8	9 Clinical 7:30-4P	Campus 8-12P	11 Clinical 7:30-4P	12	Clinical 7:30-4P	14	8	9 Spring Break	10 Spring Break	11 Spring Break	Spring Break	13 Spring Break	14
15	Clinical 7:30-4P	17 Campus 8-12P	Clinical 7:30-4P	19	Clinical 7:30-4P	21	15	Clinical 7:30-4P	17 Campus 8-12P	Clinical 7:30-4P	19	Clinical 7:30-4P	21
22	23 Clinical 7:30-4P	24 Campus 8-12P	25 Clinical 7:30-4P	26	27 Clinical 7:30-4P	28	22	23 Clinical 7:30-4P	24 Campus 8-12P	25 Clinical 7:30-4P	26	27 Clinical 7:30-4P	28
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			1 Clinical 7:30-4P	2	3 Clinical 7:30-4P	4						Clinical 7:30-4P	2
5	6 Clinical 7:30-4P	7 Campus 8-12P	8 Clinical 7:30-4P	9	Clinical 7:30-4P	11	3	4 Clinical 7:30-4P	5 FINALS	6 FINALS	7 FINALS	8 FINALS	9
12	13 Clinical 7:30-4P	14 Campus 8-12P	15 Clinical 7:30-4P	16	17 Clinical 7:30-4P	18	10	11 FINALS	12	13	14	15	16
19	20 Clinical 7:30-4P	21 Campus 8-12P	22 Clinical 7:30-4P	23	Clinical 7:30-4P	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
26	27 Clinical 7:30-4P	28 Campus 8-12P	29 Clinical 7:30-4P	30		•	24	25	26	27	28	29	30



What are the most common challenging commitments?

Clinical Attendance: Our current students will share that clinical attendance is the most challenging requirement. Any days missed must be made up, and an excess of two days per semester, regardless of whether they are made up, incurs point deductions from your overall clinical grade. Point deductions also accrue if late for clinical exceeding four times within the 21-month program.

Course Expectations: Our program requires a passing grade in every RADT course taken in succession. If a student receives a 78 or lower in any RADT course, they are dropped from the program with an opportunity to reapply. If admitted, all courses are required regardless of prior history. If the student were to fail another RADT course after re-admission, the student could no longer re-apply.

General Education Requirements for Radiography Program

The Radiography Program is highly competitive. Having the highest overall grade point average (GPA) possible is advised as an applicant since 65% of the total applicant point score is based on academics. The Career Assessment Form (CAF) is worth 5%, and the remaining 30% is based on interviews.

It is essential to understand that most applicants have completed most, if not all, of the general education requirements. As stated, 65% of the applicant's point score is based on academics. The greater the number of completed general education requirements, the higher your academic point score will be.



What are the general education requirements?

The following are the general education requirements. This is a guide and should not replace further consultation through the Admissions Office. Please visit the following website for further assistance: https://www.northampton.edu/admissions/index.html.



College Success (COLS101)

•Students are exempt if they have taken COLS150 or transferred 12+ credits with a 2.0 GPA



Human Anatomy & Physiology I & II (BIOS204, BIOS254)

- •The Radiography <u>program requires one year of HS Biology w/lab</u> with a grade of C or better.
 - ✓ If you do not have a strong background in a lab-based biology course, it is recommended to take Essentials of Biology (BIOS115) before taking API (BIOS204) and APII (BIOS254)



College Algebra (MATH140) OR Statistics (MATH150)

- grade of C or better
 - ✓ The missing two units of high school algebra may be substituted by taking college-level Elementary Algebra (MATH022) and Intermediate Algebra (MATH026) with a grade of C or better.
 - ✓ You may take a math placement test through NCC. However, be careful if you are placed in Statistics (MATH150) without satisfying the <u>two units of high school algebra</u> or equivalent <u>required by the program</u>.
- •College Algebra (MATH 140) is highly recommended if you intend to pursue a bachelor's degree.

English I & II (ENG101, ENGL151L)



✓ The 'L' for ENGL151L designates literature that would also satisfy the college's diversity requirement.



Introduction to Psychology (PSYC103)

✓ Need ENG101 pre-requisite



Introduction to Communication (CMTH102)

Elective

- √ three credits, 100 level or higher
- ✓ Medical Terminology is highly recommended



I am currently a high school student. What is the benefit of 'Dual Enrollment'?

High School applicants are evaluated based on their High School grades, the level of their coursework, and any dual enrollment courses. High School applicants are typically on a three-year path and take the general core courses during the first year.

Dual enrollment allows current High School students (usually Juniors and Seniors, but talk to your School Counselor) to take college courses taught by NCC faculty and staff while earning transferable credits toward a future degree. In addition to being a cost-effective way to get ahead on college coursework, it prepares students for what to expect at the next level. It sets them up for success in their future academic endeavors. It's open to any high school student taking college prep, vocational, or Honors/AP. Click on the following link for more information: https://www.northampton.edu/admissions/dual-enrollment/index.html.



What should be my strategy when taking general education courses?

You should do so first if you have not taken Anatomy & Physiology I & II and the Math requirement. The grades for these courses are weighted more than the other general core courses since they form the foundation for the program coursework.

It is important to remember that withdrawing from and retaking general education courses to increase one's GPA, etc., results in point reductions in the applicant's score. You want to do well in a course the first time it's taken. For example, if you take Anatomy & Physiology for the first time and expect to earn a grade of "C," <u>DO NOT withdraw and retake it for a higher grade</u>. Receiving an "A" on the second attempt will only earn one additional point, which is not worth the time and expense.

Application Process: Transcript, Career Assessment Form, and Interview

The application portal opens by October 1st and closes by February 1st. To be considered for an interview, you must submit your transcript(s) and 'Career Assessment Form (CAF)' before the February 1st deadline. If considered for an interview, you will be contacted by the program secretary to schedule an appointment.

If your application is incomplete, such as missing documents or forms, you will not be considered for an invitation to the required interview before determining acceptance into the Radiography Program. Please check your application portal to validate that all the necessary paperwork has been received. If you have additional questions, please click the following link for the Admissions Office contact information:

https://www.northampton.edu/admissions/index.html.



Interested candidates must submit all official transcripts from all high school(s) and college(s) attended. The transcripts determine placement and evaluate any transfer credit(s) from previous college(s). Once received, transcripts take 10-14 business days to process and evaluate. If not assessed before the February 1st deadline, you risk your chance of being considered as a candidate for an interview. Please refer to the following link for transcript information: https://www.northampton.edu/admissions/register-for-classes/transcripts.html.



Career Assessment Form

The 'Career Assessment Form' can be downloaded from the <u>Radiography Program Web page</u>. It consists of questions requiring personal insight and knowledge about your interest in the Radiography program and the profession. The submittal process is performed via Workday through your application portal.

It is acceptable to copy and paste the questions onto another document to complete if you include the original document containing your student information and signature of acknowledgment. Because **the form can only be uploaded once**, it is highly recommended that all documents be combined into one file and verified before uploading.



The Interview Process

After reviewing academics and the career assessment forms, competitive applicants will be invited to a required in-person and on-campus interview by late March. If absent from this

process, the application will be forfeited. It is essential to understand that this stage in the process is not a guaranteed acceptance.

It is expected to dress professionally and arrive 5-10 minutes before your interview time. Current Radiography students will be present to guide you while answering any questions about the program until your interview. The interview consists of four mini-interview stations, each lasting 8 to 10 minutes, totaling 40-60 minutes.



Acceptance Decisions

Meeting the minimum requirement does not indicate guaranteed acceptance into the program. Applicants are scored based on academics, the quality of the career assessment form, and interview performance. Decisions for acceptance into the Radiography Program are typically made within two weeks after interviews. The following indicates the definitions of decision outcomes:

Full Acceptance: Congratulations! Your application score was competitive without any significant general academic requirements to fulfill.

Denied Acceptance: Unfortunately, your application score was not competitive enough within the current application pool. Don't be discouraged! You can reapply next year.

Conditional Acceptance: We will hold a seat because your application score was competitive within the application pool. However, you must fulfill academic requirements by mid-August. The program director will communicate these requirements upon notification. Your seat will be rescinded if you do not satisfy these requirements by the time stated.

Waitlisted: Your score was either competitive and space is limited or not as competitive. If a candidate rescinds their acceptance, you may be offered a seat. In the meantime, the director will communicate any academic requirements required by mid-August. It is your choice to pursue the recommendations, but it does not guarantee a seat even if all academic requirements were completed successfully. We have had cases where all candidates who were waitlisted were accepted. We have also had instances for which no candidate waitlisted was accepted.

Admission Requirements for Full and Conditional Acceptance

Accepted candidates will receive an invitation to a mandatory health and program information session towards the end of the spring semester. If you are absent from this process, your seat will be rescinded from the Radiography Program.

Additionally, accepted candidates will be given a Radiography Acceptance Checklist Packet that provides a timeline for completing the essential program admission requirements. Some key requirements include acknowledgment of the Medical Marijuana Policy, HIPAA Policy, Essential Functions of Radiographer, and documentation of mandatory immunizations and/or titers such as the COVID-19 vaccine, influenza (FLU) vaccine, hepatitis B, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella (chickenpox).



Does the program acknowledge medical marijuana cards?

To be transparent, regarding the drug screening process and the use of Medical Marijuana, Northampton Community College recognizes its responsibility to fully inform students of NCC's policy at the time of acceptance. We understand that this policy may present complexities. We aim to ensure your success and encourage you to seek support resources if needed. You can find confidential assistance through NCC's <u>Counseling Services</u> or external organizations.

The Federal government regulates drugs through the Controlled Substances Act, which does not recognize the difference between medical and recreational use of marijuana. Under Federal law, marijuana is a Schedule 1 controlled substance, meaning that it is considered to have no medical value. Medical practitioners may not prescribe marijuana for medical use under Federal law. Businesses not complying with Federal law are at risk for criminal or civil charges and, additionally, may find issues with eligibility for Federal contracts and grants.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health is currently implementing the Pennsylvania Medical Marijuana Program, a component of the Medical Marijuana Act (MMA) that was signed as law on April 17, 2016. This program provides access to medical marijuana for patients with severe medical conditions as defined by the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Pennsylvania's Medical Marijuana statute specifically provides that an employer is not required to accommodate an individual in a safety-sensitive position if that person is under the influence of medical marijuana. Most positions involving direct patient care are considered safety-sensitive positions.

Due to the current discrepancy between State and Federal law regarding the Drug-Free Workplace Act and the MMA, students using medical marijuana will not be eligible for clinical, internship, or externship placement in any NCC health science career program. NCC recognizes the challenges students using medical marijuana might face. We encourage you to explore alternative medication options that are not prohibited by federal regulations.



Does the program offer medical or religious exemption for COVID-19?

COVID-19 is required for all Allied Health students, regardless of whether you are granted an exemption as an employee at any of our affiliated clinical sites. Medical exemptions for students may be considered case-by-case with required approval from <u>all clinical sites</u>, regardless of where you perform your clinical education experience. Religious exemptions for students are not accepted through our affiliated clinical sites.



What if I have a positive background check?

Anyone with unresolved incidents or anyone on probation will have their acceptance into the Radiography Program rescinded.

The Radiography Program requires, by both the College and hospital affiliates, a criminal background check for each student (State, FBI & Child Abuse). Accepted students who submit a report reflecting "no record" (no conviction) are considered "fully" accepted into the Radiography Program.

An accepted student with a criminal record will be conditionally accepted until the Allied Health Review Committee and the assigned Hospital provide a motion for acceptance. The Allied Health Review Committee will require a written explanation from the applicant describing the offense that led to the conviction. Upon receipt of the statement, the Allied Health Review Committee will consider the report and recommend to the Program Director regarding the applicant's acceptance into the program. Conditional applicants will be notified of their status within three days following the committee's review. The applicant may appeal the decision in writing within five working days of the decision to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, whose decision is final.

The hospital's criteria (the same as those for hiring an employee) may be more stringent than the College's. It is essential to recognize that hospitals can deny access to students with a criminal record based on their institution's criteria. Therefore, the hospital's decision to deny clinical access would override that of the Allied Health Review Committee. If an applicant is denied clinical placement based on their criminal record, their acceptance into the Radiography Program will be rescinded.

Please note that if even an applicant with a criminal record is accepted into the Radiography Program, it would be prudent for the student to complete the **American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT)** *pre-certification application* on the www.arrt.org website. The ARRT is a national credentialing organization that certifies and registers our students after program completion. The ARRT has the final say as to who may or may not sit for the national ARRT certification examination required to pursue and maintain a career in Radiography.

Conclusion

This Radiography Program Guide has equipped you with a roadmap to discover if Radiography is your calling. It has explored the essential qualities and functions of a Radiographer, explained the path to becoming a certified and registered professional through the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT), and provided details about our accredited Radiography Program at Northampton Community College, including its mission, goals, learning outcomes, curriculum structure, and general education requirements. The guide also addressed frequently asked questions regarding the application process, including dual enrollment options and COVID-19 considerations.

By reviewing this guide, you can make an informed decision about pursuing a career in Radiography. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact our admissions office. We look forward to guiding you toward becoming a successful Radiologic Technologist.