



Middlesex Community College
Mammography
Post-Primary Certification Program
Information Packet
Spring 2017

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<http://mxcc.edu/future-students/selective-admissions/>

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Introduction

Middlesex Community College's Mammography program is designed to prepare certified Radiographers for immediate employment in the workplace as Mammographers in hospitals, clinics, and medical offices. The program emphasizes that quality patient care will be provided by individuals who have received instruction based on educational and instructional guidelines consistent with the profession.

Middlesex Community College Mission

In all it does, Middlesex Community College strives to be the college of its community. By providing high quality, affordable, and accessible education to a diverse population, the college enhances the strengths of individuals through degree, certificate, and lifelong learning programs that lead to university transfer, employment, and an enriched awareness of our shared responsibilities as global citizens.

Accessibility & Disability Services

Middlesex Community College is committed to equal access for persons with disabilities. Academic adjustments are provided to students with disabilities to assure equivalent access to academic and campus programs. For more information about academic adjustments and how to request them, please contact Ms. Hilary Phelps, Disability Support Services Coordinator (office: Founders Hall room 121; phone: 860-343-5879; email: hphelps@mxcc.edu). Ms. Phelps works with students to discuss individual requests, review the type of adjustments and services that MxCC will provide, and inform them about any documentation that may be necessary to arrange for certain adjustments. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Ms. Phelps at least one month before classes begin to avoid any delay in providing academic adjustments, especially when the college must arrange for external resources to provide the adjustments. Please also note that academic adjustments cannot be given retroactively. For further information, please visit www.mxcc.edu/disability-services.

Program Information

The Middlesex Community College Mammography Certificate program is a one-semester program for certified Radiographers interested in a career as a Mammographer.

Students are trained to meet the standards contained in the Practice Standards for Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Technologists Mammography Practice Standards; http://media.asrt.org/pdf/governance/practicestandards/ps_mamm.pdf

Following the successful completion of all Program requirements and obligations to the college, students are awarded Certificate in Mammography and may sit for the professional Registry exam sponsored by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT). A minimum score of 75 on the national post-primary certification examination is required for certification as a Mammographer.

The program adheres to MXCC Student and Faculty Non-Discrimination policies in that there is no discrimination of student or faculty on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, age, sex, marital or veteran status, sexual orientation, physical disability, or any other legally protected status.

Our graduates are allied health professionals who administer ionizing radiation and high frequency sound waves for diagnostic, therapeutic or research purposes. A mammography technologist performs breast imaging procedures and related techniques producing data at the request of and with interpretation by a licensed independent practitioner. The mammographer performs the breast imaging procedures that create mammographic and sonographic images needed for diagnosis. Employment opportunities include education, sub-specialization, sales and applications, and administration.

Accreditation

Middlesex Community College is accredited through the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) and authorized by the Connecticut Board of Regents.

Advisement

Questions regarding Program advisement should be directed to:

Judy Wallace
Professor of Biology/Anatomy & Physiology
Coordinator, Mammography Program
(860) 343-5780
jwallace@mxcc.edu

Office Location: Wheaton Hall, room 209

Application Process

The Mammography Certificate program is a selective admissions program. All application materials (including all final official transcripts) must be sent to the Admissions Office at Middlesex Community College no later than **November 1, 2016**. *Late applications and transcripts will not be accepted.*

All applicants are required to submit the following by the November 1, 2016 deadline:

- ✓ **General Middlesex Community College application** with \$20 application fee.
- ✓ **Signed and completed Mammography Application.** The application is available online at <http://mxcc.edu/future-students/selective-admissions/> or may be picked up at the Admissions Office (Founders Hall).
- ✓ Copy of **current certification document** from ARRT.
- ✓ Copy of **current license** to practice as a Radiographer in your state of practice (if applicable).
- ✓ **Official college or university transcripts** from all colleges ever attended. If you have completed courses at Middlesex Community College you do not need to submit a Middlesex transcript. If you completed your Radiography education through a **hospital-based program**, a complete academic transcript of that program is required.
- ✓ **Proof of high school completion.** This may be done by submitting official high school transcripts or a photocopy of your high school diploma or **GED certificate**.
- ✓ **Three letters of recommendation.** Letters should be from former or current employers or professors. All letters should be submitted on school or company letterhead and should include the applicant's full name within the letter **& must be submitted in a sealed envelope with the recommender's signature across the seal**. Please note: **NO** peer or hand-written letters of recommendation will be considered.
- ✓ **Immunization Records**
 - This includes documentation for Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) and Varicella and/or titres.
 - Students must also have a 2 step – Tuberculosis test record documentation within one year of the start of the program or a Quantiferon Gold test within one year of the start of the program.
 - Clinical sites also require a non-reactive PPD test (Mantoux not more than one year old) and flu shot of all students. Additional immunizations may apply and will be shared with students at the time of their acceptance into the program.

All transcripts must be final transcripts. *All transcripts (including those with course withdrawals, course failures, and remedial/developmental courses) must be submitted regardless of the age of the transcripts and applicability to the Mammography program. This includes any college credits earned while in high school.*

Interview Process

After the application deadline has passed, the Mammography Review Committee will review all applications to determine if the applicant is eligible for consideration. Eligible applicants will be contacted by the Office of Admissions if selected for an interview. Not all eligible applicants will be contacted for an interview.

Interviews will take place in November 2016.

Selection Process

The program starts in the **spring 2017** semester. Decisions will be available in **December 2016**.

Students are ranked by the interview committee based on their answers to a prescribed question format. The top scoring interviewees are submitted for background checks. Based on the background checks, these candidates will be invited to join the program. Those students not chosen during the interview session may apply for the next available term.

Applicants who are not selected will need to submit a new application if they want to be considered for admission to the program the next available term. Several Mammography application credentials will need to be resubmitted, including three (updated) letters of recommendation. Please review the college website for any updates regarding the admissions guidelines and process. Applicants may contact the Office of Admissions at (860) 343-5719 or email (MX-AdmissionsHelp@mxcc.edu) to see what general application information is still on file.

MXCC Mammography Program of Study

The program of study reflects a curriculum plan that all matriculated students enrolled in the Mammography program are required to complete.

Students must earn a “C” or higher in all program courses. Students who fail to complete required courses or meet the minimum grade requirement may be dismissed from the program. There may be pre-requisite courses that must be successfully completed prior to taking listed courses. *It is the responsibility of the students to know and meet all requirements.*

Semester 1, Spring (8 credits)	Credits
Principles of Mammography	4
Mammography Clinical Experience	4

Total Program Credits: **8 credits**

Program Mission Statement

The Middlesex Community College Mammography Program is dedicated to educating and training students to become certified, professional, and competent technologists in the field of Mammography.

The mission statement is realized through the attainment of the following goals:

1. Students will be clinically competent.
2. Students will use critical thinking skills in both routine and non-routine clinical situations.
3. Students will demonstrate professional behaviors.
4. Students will communicate effectively.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will correctly apply positioning skills for routine patient procedures.
2. Students will make necessary adjustments in positioning for non-routine patient procedures.
3. Students will select appropriate technical factors for routine patient procedures.
4. Students will modify technical factors for non-routine patient procedures.
5. Students will practice radiation safety.
6. Students will use effective oral communication skills.
7. Students will practice written communication skills.
8. Students will demonstrate professional behaviors.

Technical Standards

Technical standards are the physical, cognitive, and emotional skills required to successfully complete the program and perform the functions of a Mammographer. If selected, applicants will be required to undergo a physical exam and submit documentation that the accepted candidate can meet these requirements or provide reasonable adjustments.

1. **Motor Skills:** The student must possess sufficient motor capabilities to execute the movements and skills required to safely perform the functions of a radiographer/mammographer. These include, but are not limited to:
 - Standing and walking without support are required up to 100% of the time while assigned to the clinical setting,
 - Must be able to squat and rise without assistance,
 - Reach up to six feet off the floor,
 - Perform physically strenuous tasks to include raising patients in bed, moving, transporting, lifting, or transferring patients to/from tables, stretchers, beds or wheel chairs,
 - Manipulate, move, and adjust various equipment,
 - Perform all physical requirements with sufficient speed and accuracy while upholding established standards of procedure quality and patient safety.
2. **Sensory Ability:** The student must possess the ability to obtain information in the classroom, laboratory, or clinical settings through observation, auscultation, palpation and other measures, including but not limited to:

Visual Acuity

- Correctable near vision 20/40 in both eyes,
- Correctable far vision 20/40 in both eyes,
- Ability to use computer terminals, other digital equipment, and various technological controls,
- Ability to monitor a patient and equipment during procedures,
- Ability to assess computerized/radiographic images,
- Ability to interpret and access the environment.

Hearing

- Correctable hearing to pass a whisper test at 10 feet,
- Ability to hear audible signs of patient distress, equipment operation/malfunction, overhead announcements, and safety warnings.

3. **Communication Ability:** The student must be able to effectively communicate with peers, faculty, clients and their families, and other health care providers. This includes but is not limited to:
 - Ability to read at a competency level that allows one to safely carry out the essential functions of an assignment (examples: hand written chart data, printed policy and procedures manual),
 - Ability to effectively interpret and process information,
 - Effective verbal and written communication with clients and their families, and other health care professionals,
 - Effective verbal communication to provide optimal customer service, obtain accurate clinical history information, and direct patients during radiographic procedures,
 - Literacy sufficient to access information and to document and communicate effectively via computer.

4. **Behavior:** The student must be capable of exercising good judgment, and tolerating close and direct physical contact with a diverse population. This includes but is not limited to:
 - The ability to foster and maintain cooperative and collegial relationships with classmates, instructors, other health care providers, clients and their families,
 - The ability to multi-task, handle stressful situations, and adequately respond to urgent client care and emergency situations,
 - To treat all clients and their families with maximum respect, empathy, and dignity.
5. **Critical Thinking:** The student must possess sufficient abilities in the areas of calculation, critical problem solving, reasoning, and judgment to be able to comprehend and process information within a reasonable time frame as determined by the faculty and the profession. The student must be able to prioritize, organize and attend to tasks and responsibilities efficiently. This includes but is not limited to:
 - Conceptualize human anatomy in three dimensions,
 - Ability to collect, interpret, and analyze written, verbal, and observed data,
 - Utilize basic mathematical concepts and arithmetic formula to perform exposure factor calculations and other technical problems related to radiographic image quality,
 - Ability to prioritize multiple tasks, integrate information and make appropriate decisions,
 - Ability to act safely and ethically in the clinical college laboratory and in all clinical environments,
 - Understand and apply didactic theory of radiographic principles to their respective clinical applications.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS ACCEPTED INTO THE MAMMOGRAPHY PROGRAM

CLINICAL SITES

Clinical learning experiences are planned as an integral part of the program and are held at a variety of healthcare settings, such as hospitals, extended care facilities, and selected community health centers. Students are responsible for arranging their own transportation to and from assigned clinical sites. Clinical experiences may be assigned during daytime, evening, or weekend hours. Assignment of clinical sites is at the discretion of the faculty. Clinical sites could be within an hour radius of the college, and may require a mandatory parking fee.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

Several clinical sites are now requiring that criminal background checks be completed on any students who will be attending a clinical rotation at those facilities. Students who are found guilty of having committed a felony/misdemeanor may be prevented by a facility from participating in clinical experiences at particular clinical sites. If you cannot participate in a clinical rotation at an assigned facility, you may not be able to complete the objectives of the course and of the program.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

All Mammography students must comply with all medical requirements (including drug screen) and will be given supplemental information during the interview process.

WAIVER OF LICENSURE GUARANTEE

Upon successful completion of the Mammography program, the graduate is required to take the professional registry exam sponsored by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. Completion of the Mammography program does not guarantee a passing score on the exam.