



Northside Radiography School Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is a radiologic technologist?

A radiologic technologist, or often referred to as a rad tech, is a skilled healthcare worker who operates medical imaging equipment to produce images that assist physicians in diagnosing and treating health conditions.

What is the length of the program?

The Northside Hospital Radiography Program is an **18-month**, full-time program designed to prepare students for entry-level practice in diagnostic radiography.

Is the program accredited?

Northside Hospital is **currently seeking accreditation from the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT)**. During the accreditation-seeking phase, the program still provides all required educational and clinical components aligned with JRCERT standards.

What are the prerequisites for admission?

Applicants must have:

- **An associate degree** from a regionally accredited institution
- **Anatomy and Physiology I & II with both Lab components**
- **Medical Terminology for Allied Health Sciences** (grade of C or higher)

Upon review of the above information, competitive applicants will be invited for an admissions interview. Additional requirements may include official transcripts, immunization verification, and background checks during the application process

Is the program full-time? Can I work while enrolled?

Yes. The program is full-time, combining classroom learning with extensive clinical rotations. Because of the demanding schedule, outside employment should be limited and preferably on weekends to manage the program schedule. ALL didactic classes for the Radiography School will take place at the Atlanta campus.

What does the curriculum include?

Students receive instruction in the following areas:

- Radiographic positioning and procedures
- Radiation physics and protection
- Patient care and medical ethics
- Image evaluation
- Digital imaging
- Clinical radiography in multiple hospital and outpatient settings

Students will engage in clinical experiences within the imaging department at Northside locations, allowing them to practice essential hands-on techniques and prepare for their roles as radiologic technologists. Students should have reliable transportation to travel to designated clinical sites and to the campus for class.

Where are clinical rotations conducted?

Clinical education primarily takes place at **Northside Hospital facilities**, offering experience in:

- General radiography
- Emergency/trauma imaging
- Operating room imaging
- Outpatient imaging centers
- Orthopedics
- Specialized environments depending on availability (May include: Computed Tomography, Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Mammography, Interventional Radiography, Cardiac Cath Lab, Nuclear Medicine, and Radiation Therapy)

What certification will I be eligible for after graduation?

Graduates are eligible to apply for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) certification exam in Radiography upon successful completion of the program

What career opportunities are available after graduation?

Graduates may pursue positions in:

- Hospitals
- Outpatient imaging centers
- Urgent care clinics
- Orthopedic practices
- Private physicians' offices
- Sporting venues

With experience, education and additional training, technologists may specialize and become credentialed in Computed Tomography, Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Mammography, Interventional Radiology, Cardiac Cath Lab, Nuclear Medicine, Bone Densitometry, or Radiation Therapy.

How competitive is the admissions process?

Applicants will be selected through a competitive admission process. Admission is selective and based on:

- Academic background
- Completion of required prerequisites
- Interview performance to include Professionalism and Communication Skills
- GPA of 3.0 or higher in prerequisite courses to be considered for program admission

How much does the program cost?

Tuition and fees vary year-to-year. Costs include:

- Tuition
- Textbooks and online learning materials
- Uniforms and clinical supplies
- Background checks and immunizations
- ARRT exam fee

A detailed cost of the program tuition and fees is provided on the website.

Are financial aid or payment plans available?

Financial resources may vary. Applicants should contact human resources for information about payment options or hospital-supported financial opportunities.

What is the class schedule like?

Students can expect a blend of:

- Weekday classes on Atlanta campus 2 to 3 days per week
- Day (8:00am-4:30pm) or Evening (2:00pm-10:30pm) clinical rotations 2 to 3 days per week
- Occasional alternative clinical shifts depending on site needs

Is the program physically demanding?

Yes. Radiography requires:

- Standing for extended periods
- Assisting and positioning patients with limited mobility
- Maneuver imaging equipment
- Lift and transfer patients
- Wearing lead aprons for extended times
- Students must move and touch people for proper positioning techniques

Students must be able to meet the program's physical and technical standards.

Do I need to maintain certification after becoming a radiographer?

Yes. The ARRT requires ongoing **continuing education (CE)** and annual certification renewal. You will be required to complete 24 hours of continuing education credits every two years.

What is the expected salary of a Radiologic Technologist?

Northside will offer a competitive salary with the current market. With a little more education and training, you can add more credentials (Ex: CT, MRI, Mammo, etc..) behind your RT(R), which will increase your overall income. If employed in a hospital setting, your schedule may include days, evenings, nights, or weekends and pay will vary due to shift differential.