Radiation Therapy

Degrees Offered
Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging & Therapeutic Sciences
Post-Baccalaureate Professional Certificate in Radiation Therapy

Length of Program
The didactic component is composed of 40 semester hours and complies with the American Society of Radiologic Technology curriculum. Some of the courses in the curriculum include Treatment Planning, Patient Care, and Radiation Therapy Physics.

A UNMC radiation therapy student gains clinical experience by rotating through the following cancer centers:

- CHI Health - Bergan Mercy
- CHI Health - Immanuel
- CHI Health - Lakeside (Midwest Cancer Center)
- CHI Health - Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center
- Jennie Edmundson Hospital
- Nebraska Methodist Hospital
- Shenandoah Medical Center
- Nebraska Medicine
- Nebraska Medicine Village Pointe Cancer Center

Admission to the Program

Admission Requirements
1. Graduate from an accredited Radiography program. Students in their final months of study are eligible to apply.
3. Undergraduate cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
4. Radiography program GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
5. Complete a shadow experience with a Radiation Therapy Program Representative. (Email (labarten@unmc.edu) to schedule a shadow experience.)


Enrollment in each program is limited and competitive. Evaluation of the qualifications of each applicant and the final selections for admission are made by the admissions committee of each program, which comprises program faculty and administration.

For admittance into the second certification program at UNMC, the technologist must have completed an accredited radiography program, be certified, registered, and in good standing in their profession (ARRT).

Admission to the Radiation Therapy Program requires the applicant to successfully complete the following prior to matriculation:

University / College Required Prerequisites
Total of 80 semester hours of transfer credit; a maximum of 60 semester hours of credit from an accredited Radiography program and 21 semester hours of specific prerequisite course work (see below). If a Radiography program is less than 60 semester hours, additional transfer credit from a regionally accredited institution will be required to meet the 80 semester hour total.

Successful completion of 21 semester hours at an accredited college or university. The required semester hours must include the following:

Language/Social Sciences (9 semester hours)
- English Composition required
- Oral Communication required

Course work used to meet this requirement may include but is not limited to literature, composition, communication, speech, foreign language, philosophy, psychology, sociology, art, history, religion.

Mathematics (3 semester hours)
- College Algebra, Statistics, or higher mathematics

Natural Sciences (9 semester hours)
- College Physics required
- Human Anatomy & Physiology required

Course work used to meet this requirement may include, but is not limited to, anatomy, physiology, biology, chemistry, physics, or earth sciences.

Advanced Placement
A maximum of 6 College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or Advanced Placement (AP) semester hours will be accepted for transfer. CLEP semester hours in math and science will not be accepted & no more than 3 CLEP or AP hours of English Composition will be accepted.

All science courses must be basic science courses for science majors.

The Radiation Therapy program also requires documentation of collegiate level Medical Terminology.

College prerequisites, course requirements, and program requirements are subject to change.

Clinical Environment
- Accepted students are guaranteed timely and appropriate clinical placement.
- Accepted students will be required to complete a background check and substance abuse testing prior to matriculation into the program.
- Depending on clinical site, additional requirements may need to be met or updated.

How to Apply
For information on how to apply to the Radiation Therapy Program, visit the "How to Apply (https://www.unmc.edu/alliedhealth/education/rtt/admission/apply.html) website. For information on application deadlines and interview dates, visit the "Application Deadline (http://www.unmc.edu/alliedhealth/education/ deadlines.html) website.

Degree Requirements
Required courses, totaling 40 semester hours, are completed as part of a 12-month curriculum. All required courses must be completed with a minimum passing grade of 70% unless specified otherwise in the syllabus to meet graduation requirements. Students must transfer in a minimum of 80 semester credit hours, 21 semester credit hours of which come from specific prerequisite coursework and a maximum of 60 semester credit hours for their radiography curriculum. A minimum total of 120 semester credit hours is required for the Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging & Therapeutic Sciences degree, and completion of
the 40 semester hours in radiation therapy for the Post-Baccalaureate Professional Certificate.

The UNMC radiation therapy program has a first time ARRT pass rate of over 99.9% and 100% pass rate over the last 15 years.

Radiation Therapy is a rewarding profession with ever-changing technology and extensive patient contact. This career allows for a challenging work day as well as time for a personal life. If you feel you are a compassionate, motivated person who appreciates technical precision, this career may be for you.

Technical standards required to be a Radiation Therapist.

Certification
The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) is the credentialing organization that recognizes individuals qualified in the use of ionizing and non-ionizing radiation to promote high standards of patient care in diagnostic medical imaging, interventional procedures and therapeutic treatment. The ARRT tests and certifies therapists and administers continuing education and ethics requirements for their annual registration.

ARRT Primary Disciplines of Certification
The ARRT provides certification in three primary disciplines of radiologic technology; Radiography, Nuclear Medicine Technology, and Radiation Therapy.

Upon completion of the Radiation Therapy program at UNMC, graduates are eligible to apply for the national examination for certification offered by the ARRT.

For more information about the ARRT and requirements for certification and registration please contact:

The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (http://www.arrt.org)
1255 Northland Drive
St. Paul, MN 55120-1155
Phone: 651.687.0048

About the Profession
A radiation therapist is an integral part of the cancer care team that manages and cares for cancer patients and is responsible for simulation, daily treatments, and patient evaluation. Utilizing state-of-the-art technology and developing supportive bonds with patients and their families are truly rewarding aspects of this challenging career.

Radiation Therapy is a clinical specialty using high energy x-rays to treat different types of cancer and non-malignant conditions. Radiation therapy may be used alone or in conjunction with surgery and/or chemotherapy.

Career Outlook
The number of cancer patients in the United States is projected to increase due to the aging population. Approximately 60% of all cancer patients will receive radiation therapy as part of their course of treatment. Over the next decade, the need for certified radiation therapists is expected to increase, especially in rural communities.

Career opportunities available to certified radiation therapists include: clinical patient care, administration, education, research, medical dosimetry, and equipment applications and sales.

Curriculum
The content of the Radiation Therapy curriculum follows the ASRT Radiation Therapy Professional Curriculum. The courses provide extensive didactic and clinical components to prepare the graduate for an exciting career in the field of radiation oncology.

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<td>MITS 408T or MITS 608T RADIATION THERAPY PHYSICS</td>
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<td>MITS 424T or MITS 624T CLINICAL ONCOLOGY I</td>
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Credit Hours 15

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