

CARTI RADIATION THERAPY PROGRAM

www.carti.com

(501)-660-7621

The Profession

The radiation therapist performs or assists in all aspects of radiation therapy treatment delivery and documentation. Following the prescription of a physician who is a radiation oncologist, the radiation therapist uses sophisticated equipment to deliver high-energy ionizing radiation to a localized target volume within the patient. Working closely with cancer patients and their families, the radiation therapist is part of the radiation therapy team responsible for ensuring high quality, compassionate care for oncology patients.

The increasing use of radiation in medicine and the expanding role of the radiation therapist have brought about the need for qualified radiation therapists. Employment is available in most parts of the country with a starting salary range of \$50,000 to \$60,000 per year. Program Officials will provide students with information about job opportunities.

The Program

The Program is a Certificate program accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) (www.jrcert.org), licensed by the Arkansas State Board of Private Career Education (www.adhe.edu/private-career-education) and an approved institution for veterans education. A veteran may be entitled to educational assistance from the Veterans Administration. The educational program consists of classroom instruction two days a week and clinical rotations held three days a week—Monday through Friday—for 12 consecutive months beginning each August. The classroom is located at the CARTI Cancer Center in Little Rock, AR. Clinical educational rotations include all CARTI facilities in Little Rock, North Little Rock, Conway and Searcy. Along with program faculty, American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) registered radiation therapists teach and supervise the student's clinical education. In addition, students spend time in both the dosimetry and nursing departments. Students are expected to be full-time while enrolled in the program.

The curriculum is based on the professional curriculum for the radiation therapist, established by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists. The program includes, but is not limited to, lectures in oncology, pathology, patient care, psychology, radiobiology, radiation physics, radiation protection and safety, treatment planning, and technical radiation therapy. In addition, the program is supported by clinical education rotations involving tumor localization equipment, high-energy linear accelerators, and dosimetry planning devices.

The Radiation Therapy Program at CARTI does not participate in the federal student financial aid program. The H. O. McKenzie Scholarship was established to provide tuition assistance for a limited number of qualified CARTI students and is awarded approximately six months into the program year. For additional scholarship opportunities, you may visit <https://foundation.asrt.org/what-we-do/scholarships>. Each student is provided medical liability insurance under the CARTI policy. Health insurance is not provided but students are encouraged to obtain health insurance.

As of 2013, the program had graduated over 240 students with a 97% first-time passing rate on the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists national certification examination in radiation therapy, with 99% passing after additional attempts. The overall attrition rate for the program is less than three percent.

The Facility

CARTI is an independent, multi-specialty, not-for-profit cancer organization. Cancer specialists and healthcare professionals join together to bring the fight to cancer. The organization provides a full-spectrum of treatment options for all types of adult cancers and blood disorders for patients throughout Arkansas.

CARTI opened its doors to cancer patients in April 1976. The organization employs a variety of healthcare professionals, including ARRT-registered radiation therapists, medical physicists, dosimetrists, oncology nurses, medical engineers, radiographers, social workers, and a complete ancillary support staff, as well as radiation oncologists, medical oncologists, surgeons and radiologists.

CARTI provides and maintains leading edge radiation therapy equipment. The centers are equipped with Varian Linear TrueBeam Accelerators, MosaiQ Record and Verify System, and Phillips CT Scanners. Other equipment includes a high dose, remote afterloading Gamma Med Ili unit, BrainLab ExacTrac Imaging, ADAC treatment planning systems and Variseed MMS Prostate Planning. Students have an opportunity to rotate to all locations and utilize all equipment for educational purposes.

Program Prerequisites

Prerequisites include the following General Education Requirements and the Radiologic Technology Curriculum.

General Education Requirements

Applicants are required to hold a minimum of an Associate's Degree which includes the following semester credit hours from an accredited institution of higher education with a minimum 2.0

Cumulative GPA and must fulfill all college requirements regarding acceptance of transfer credit:

<u>Content Area\Typical Course Title</u>	<u>Minimum Semester Credit</u>
SCIENCE AND MATH:	
Pre-Calculus	3
OR	
College Algebra and Trigonometry	6
General Physics	3
Anatomy and Physiology I & II	4 - 8
LIBERAL ARTS:	
English Composition I	3
English Composition II	3

COMMUNICATION:
Speech or Oral Communication 2

COMPUTER SCIENCE:
Computer Fundamentals/Applications 3

SOCIAL SCIENCE:
Psychology 3

Only grades of "C" or higher are accepted in prerequisite coursework. Actual course titles may vary among institutions.

Radiologic Technology Curriculum:

The applicant must be a graduate (or graduate eligible) of a JRCERT accredited program in Radiologic Technology (Radiography) with a minimum 3.0 GPA.

Radiation Therapy Professional Curriculum

All courses as listed below must be successfully completed to be eligible for graduation.

Course Title	Program Credit Hours
Fall Semester	
Orientation to Radiation Therapy	2
Principles & Practices I	2
Patient Care in Radiation Therapy	2
Radiation Oncology I	3
Radiation Physics I	4
Clinical Practicum I	3
Clinical Practicum I Lab	1
	17
Spring Semester	
Radiation Oncology II	3
Principle & Practices II	2
Radiation Physics II	4
Radiation Biology	1.5
Clinical Practicum II	3
Clinical Practicum II Lab	1
	14.5
Summer Semester	
Radiation Physics III	2
Quality Management	1
Principles and Practices III	1
Clinical Practicum III	3
	7

Program defines clock to credit hours as: didactic 1 to 1 ratio, clinical 8 to 1 ratio and lab 2 to 1 ratio.

Certification

Graduation from the radiation therapy program with a minimum of an associate degree satisfies academic eligibility to apply for the ARRT national certifying examination in radiation therapy. Candidates who pass this examination become Registered Radiation Therapists, R.T (T) (ARRT). Successful program completion does not itself insure registration. Each student is responsible for familiarizing himself/herself with the applicable registration requirements.

Application Procedures and Deadlines

Class size is limited and all applicants may not be selected for participation in the program. CARTI does not grant advance standing nor will an applicant be admitted who is not a graduate of a JRCERT accredited program in radiology.

Application for Admission: Application for Admission form is required and can be downloaded at www.carti.com or contact the program office at 501-660-7621.

Official Transcripts: Official transcripts from each college/university and the JRCERT accredited Radiology Program you attended must be mailed directly to CARTI Radiation Therapy Program from the college/university's Registrar Office. Transcripts "issued to the student" are not accepted.

The Application form and official transcripts must be postmarked by the first working day in March to be considered for the Fall class. Completed form and official transcripts should be mailed to: CARTI Radiation Therapy Program, P.O. Box 55050, Little Rock, AR 72215.

Upon receipt of the application form and all required official transcripts, student information will be reviewed to ensure that minimal qualifications for interview have been met. Interview qualifications include completion of, or current enrollment in, both a JRCERT accredited Radiologic Technology program with a CGPA of 3.0* or better and Program Prerequisite Curriculum for General Education with a 2.0* GPA or better. Once these qualifications have been met, the applicant is sent an interview packet which contains additional requests for information and relevant deadlines. Consideration will be made for those applicants who have successfully completed the application process in a previous year.

Applicants are considered without regard to race, color, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion, national origin or disability status as a criterion in deciding against any individual in matters of admission, transfer, dismissal, tuition assistance, and administering of educational and program policies.

As a condition for admission to the program, students are required to pass a criminal background check, drug screening and driving record review. These reviews will be conducted during the first week of the program year and will be provided by CARTI at no cost to the student. Information on the process of these tests will be provided during orientation and is available in the Student Handbook at www.carti.com. Previous misdemeanor or felony convictions may affect final admission to the program as well as eligibility for state license and certification examination following graduation.

**For interview purposes, GPA is calculated based on transcripts received as of March 1st of application year.*

Fees

Students are required to pay \$7,500 tuition for the 2019-2020 academic year. (Tuition amount is subject to change. Contact program officials for the most current tuition information.) Students will also be required to purchase radiation therapy textbooks currently costing approximately \$700 as well as a \$50 Lab fee. In addition, students must provide their required uniforms, scientific hand calculators, and the certification fee for the ARRT national certifying examination.

CARTI Radiation Therapy Program is accredited by the JRCERT. The JRCERT website publishes program information as well as The Standards for an Accredited Educational Program in Radiologic Sciences.

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CARTI Radiation Therapy Program Mission

Our mission is to provide competent and compassionate entry level radiation therapists to meet the needs of today's changing healthcare community in an educational atmosphere of distinction.

This brochure describes the program requirements for the 2019-2020 academic year. While it is expected that most of the requirements will apply for future classes, some changes are may occur. You are advised to contact the Program office to receive the latest information.

For the latest information:
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