



# Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Train to perform ultrasound procedures and help monitor patient health in hospitals and community clinics through this specialized program covering all the key aspects of ultrasound technology, as well as anatomy and patient care.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography, also known as ultrasound, is a technology involving the application of high-frequency sound waves toward patients to help physicians in medical diagnoses.

Diagnostic medical sonographers work as members of patient care teams, assessing patients and providing information to physicians for diagnoses and monitoring patients' health status. This is a specialized vocation requiring a high degree of technical skills and exceptional interpersonal skills.

This program teaches key aspects of ultrasound technology including obstetrics and gynecology, the cardiac and vascular systems and abdomen and superficial structures. Studies also include patient care, physics, anatomy and physiology, equipment instrumentation, medical research, quality control, and the performance of diagnostic scanning procedures. The Diagnostic Medical Sonography program consists of theory and lab courses, along with practicum rotations off-campus.

Certain courses may be offered through [Open Studies](#) during the daytime, evenings, and/or weekends, as well as in a classroom, blended, or online format. All courses must be completed within the program completion timeframe.

SAIT offers reserved seats in diagnostic medical for Saskatchewan students. Limited space available, [learn more today](#) or call 403.284.8500.

## Is this the right fit for me?

Students who experience success in this program and profession:

- fine motor skills
- critical thinking
- communication (e.g. verbal, reading, writing, and listening)
- able to work independently
- able to participate in classroom, lab, and practicum activities as scheduled by the program
- adaptable
- able to work well under stress
- able to use technology
- attention to detail
- able to maintain professional behaviour; emotional self-regulation
- able to wear Personal Protective Equipment for extended periods of time
- able to work extended hours, including nights and/or weekends and shift work
- able to tolerate the sight of human blood and tissue
- able to assist in transporting, lifting, and positioning of patients and/or equipment
- able to meet the physical demands of the job including
  - ability to use hand, wrist, and arm for prolonged periods of time
  - upper body and shoulder strength to perform repetitive tasks with arms
- able to visualize in three dimensions
- able to tolerate latex and disinfection chemicals
- comfortable with performing patient care procedures which may be sensitive or performed in close proximity.

Diagnostic Medical Sonographers work in environments where they may spend a considerable amount of time standing or sitting and performing tasks that may be repetitive. They must observe safety precautions and ergonomics to reduce the risk of exposure and injury.

Individuals with previous chronic or repetitive strain injuries have experienced re-injury or aggravation of these conditions in this program and/or as a sonographer.

Prospective students are strongly encouraged to refer to the [ALIS website for career, learning, and employment information](#) for

Diagnostic Medical Sonography, as well as the governing body's competency profile for the profession, to ensure that they are able to successfully demonstrate the skills required to achieve all the competency-based objectives for the program and profession.

## Accreditation

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography program delivered by SAIT is accredited by Accreditation Canada. The program also works closely with our Diagnostic Imaging Advisory Committee to ensure that our curriculum continues to meet or exceed provincial and national accreditation standards.

## Credential

After successfully completing this program, graduates will receive a SAIT Diagnostic Medical Sonography diploma.

Graduates are eligible to write Sonography Canada registry exams in Core (Physics), Generalist, and Adult Echocardiography. In addition, graduates are eligible to write the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography exams.

## Admission requirements

### Application dates

This program has an application deadline in order to provide time for applicants to complete the [entrance testing requirements](#).

This program does not accept international applicants.

Intake semester	Semester begins	Applications open	Domestic applications close*
Fall 2022	Sept. 6, 2022	Oct. 6, 2021	Now closed
Fall 2023	Sept. 5, 2023	Oct. 5, 2022	Dec. 1, 2022

\*Domestic applications for most programs are accepted until the start of classes but are subject to change.

## Program requirements

Completion of the following courses or equivalents:

- at least 75% in Math 30-1 or Math 30-2, and,
- at least 75% in English Language Arts 30-1, and,
- at least 75% in Biology 30, and,
- at least 75% in Physics 30

### AND,

- at least 50% on the scoring rubric for the [School of Health and Public Safety's Entrance Testing Process](#).

### [Entrance testing process](#)

All applicants must demonstrate [English language proficiency](#) prior to admission, including students educated in Canada.

SAIT accepts [high school course equivalents](#) for admission. If you don't meet the requirements, consider [Academic Upgrading](#).

SAIT evaluates international documents for admissions. After you've applied, consider our [international document assessment](#) service if your education is from outside of Canada. SAIT may also accept courses completed at certain [international post-secondary institutions](#).

## Direct entry: 5-step process

**Step 1:** Read the program information to see the qualities needed for student success.

**Step 2:** Review the information related to the necessary components of the [School of Health and Public Safety Entrance Testing Process](#).

**Step 3:** Complete the School of Health and Public Safety Entrance Testing Process non-academic admission requirement. Ensure that you meet all of the academic admission requirements listed above.

**Step 4:** [Apply to the program](#) and [submit your transcripts](#).

Admission is offered on a first-qualified, first-offered basis until the program is full.

**Step 5:** Continue to [monitor your application status](#) through [mySAIT.ca](#).

You must [submit final transcripts/grades](#) to show you have completed the courses and met the minimum admission requirements by the transcript deadline or your seat will be rescinded.

## Communication during admission

Email is the primary source of communication during the admission process. Ensure your personal email account is managed appropriately to receive our emails, files and communications.

We recommend you add [hps.info@sait.ca](mailto:hps.info@sait.ca) domain to your safe senders' list or you risk missing critical email messages.

## When do classes start?

Classes for this program adhere to the following year start and end dates based on the semester the student begins their program.

Classes begin	Year start date	Year-end date
Fall 2022	Sept. 6, 2022	June 23, 2023*
Fall 2023	Sept. 5, 2023	June 28, 2024

\*Students completing their second year of study will finish classes on Aug. 19, 2023.

## Practicum requirements

The [School of Health and Public Safety](#) has many practica partners located within Alberta and across Canada. Practicum placements in Calgary are limited and students will be required to relocate outside of Calgary for practicum.

Successful candidates will be informed of the allocation of their practicum placement by the program at a later date. There is no guarantee that students will be placed at their desired practicum location. Special considerations of personal circumstances will not be given in regards to assigning practicum placements. Students will be responsible for fees associated with practica such as entrance requirements, relocation and travel costs.

In compliance with the practica agreements with our clinical partners, successful candidates will be requested to provide proof of the following requirements:

- Current Heart and Stroke Foundation Health Care Provider Level (C) CPR
- Updated immunization records
- Security clearance - Police Information Check including Vulnerable Sector Check
- N95 respiratory mask fitting
- Health and wellness status

[Learn more](#)

## Costs 2022/23

### Domestic tuition and fees

Cost per credit: \$188

Year	Number of semesters	Tuition fees	SAIT fees	Saitsa fees*	Total
1	3	\$7,050	\$1,065	\$698.50	\$8,813.50
2	3	\$5,922	\$916	\$698.50	\$7,536.50
3	1	\$1,974	\$458	\$407.50	\$2,839.50

## SAIT fees

- Campus athletic and recreation fee:
  - Year 1: \$245
  - Year 2: \$196
  - Year 3: \$98
- Universal transit pass (Upass):
  - Year 1: \$320
  - Year 2: \$320
  - Year 3: \$160
- Student support fee:
  - Year 1: \$250
  - Year 2: \$200
  - Year 3: \$100
- Student technology fee:
  - Year 1: \$250
  - Year 2: \$200
  - Year 3: \$100

## Saitsa fees

### Student Association fee

- Maximum:
  - Year 1 & 2: \$436.50
  - Year 3: \$145.50

This is the maximum amount the student will pay. Actual fees may be less and are based on the number of credits the students take per semester.

## Health and dental fees

- Health plan: \$127
- Dental plan: \$135

Students with existing health and/or dental plans can opt-out. Please refer to [Saitsa's website](#) for information.

## Books and supplies\*

Books, supplies and uniforms are approximately \$2,700 for the first year, \$600 for the second year and \$500 for the third year.

For an estimate of the costs associated with purchasing a computer that meets the program's hardware and software requirements, see our [computers and laptops page](#)

Students are responsible for any additional expenses related to their practicum, including pre-practicum requirements as outlined by the program, and relocation costs to practicum sites outside of Calgary.

## Additional fees

- The CompTracker fee is \$75 per semester
- Students require a laptop or Apple iPad to support the CompTracker system. The device requires wi-fi capability, and the size is at the discretion of the student. Keyboards are advisable but not mandatory. Smartphones are not acceptable devices for CompTracker
- There is a required user license fee billed on a per semester basis. Each program will have a different student fee depending on how the system is used within the program. More information will be shared at orientation.
- Sonography Canada certification exam fees are approximately \$1,525. Sonography Canada association dues are \$175 per year with the option to purchase professional liability insurance.
- There is a fee associated with obtaining a criminal record check (including vulnerable sector check) and is payable to the Police or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.
- Students must have their immunizations reviewed by the SAIT Health Clinic. There is a \$75 charge to review vaccine history. Any vaccines to be administered will result in additional charges.
- There is a fee, approximately \$50-\$100, associated with an Electronic Student Permit Checking submission which is required for clinical practicum placements, payable to Synergy Gateway through the Verified software platform.

Learn more about [tuition and financial aid](#).

\*Tuition, fees, books and supply costs are subject to change.