COLLEGE OF DUPAGE
NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM
Advanced Certificate
Summer 2024

AMY YARSHEN
PROGRAM CHAIR

Application Deadline: March 1, 2024 at 5 pm

Note: Please see specific program registration or admission packets for detailed information on when to begin completing health requirements, drug tests, CPR, criminal background checks and proof of insurance submission. Timing varies depending upon either entrance to or participation in the clinical component of a given program. Funds paid to Edward Corporate Health or to a personal health care provider/ source, CastleBranch.com, insurance companies, and funds used towards CPR completion are not eligible for any sort of refund from College of DuPage if the required course(s) are not successfully completed.

Note: Students are not accepted into this program until they receive an official acceptance letter from the Nursing & Health Sciences Division.
Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Nuclear Medicine program at College of DuPage. This packet of information has been developed to provide you with a complete overview of our program, including the process for admission.

Although Nuclear Medicine is considered an Advanced Certificate program, it is highly advised that students follow the recommended course sequence listed in this packet.

The application and all materials must be received by March 1st, preceding Summer admission, in order to be reviewed by the Nuclear Medicine Technology Admissions Committee.

If you have any questions, or I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (630) 942-3065, e-mail: varshen@cod.edu

Sincerely,

Amy Yarshen MBA, CNMT
Program Chair
Nuclear Medicine
www.cod.edu/nuclear_med

*Applications are accepted until all clinical seats have been filled. Students are encouraged to contact Nuclear Medicine Chair, Amy Yarshen at varshen@cod.edu to determine whether applications are still being accepted for a particular term.*
MISSION STATEMENT

The primary goal of the Nuclear Medicine Technology program is to educate students with didactic, laboratory and clinical experiences in preparation for a health career as a Nuclear Medicine Technologist. The graduate will deliver compassionate patient care in the use of radiopharmaceuticals and imaging technique, and function as an integral member of the health team with competence and confidence.

NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY

Nuclear Medicine is the scientific and clinical discipline involving the diagnostic, therapeutic and investigative use of radionuclides. The skills of the Nuclear Medicine Technologist are important to the Nuclear Medicine physician, other health professionals and especially the patient.

Nuclear Medicine Technologists perform the following: attend to patient needs; abstract data from patient records; calculate doses for In Vivo and In Vitro studies; prepare and administer radiopharmaceuticals; operate scanning equipment, perform computer acquisition and analysis of patient studies; and assist the physician when using radiopharmaceuticals.

NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

The Nuclear Medicine Technology program is a 15-month program. Classes are held on Wednesdays and Thursdays during the first summer semester, Tuesdays and Thursdays during the fall and spring semesters, and Tuesdays during the final summer semester. The clinical education component is conducted on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at the assigned clinical affiliate (hospital) from August through May, and on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays during the final summer semester. The clinical hours generally run from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Students report to the clinical affiliate on the assigned days. Unless by mutual consent, students are not usually assigned to affiliates more than 45 miles from the College's main campus. The student must be able to provide transportation to and from the college and clinical sites.

The program delivers more than 500 hours of classroom and lab learning activities. More than 1,200 hours of clinical education is provided over the entire 15-month sequence. The Nuclear Medicine program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Nuclear Medicine Technology. In addition, the following recognizes the Nuclear Medicine program accreditation:

- American College of Radiology
- American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
- American Society of Clinical Pathologists
- American Society of Radiologic Technologists
- Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging
- Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging- Technologist Section
- American Medical Association

Upon successful completion of the Nuclear Medicine Technology program, the graduate is eligible to sit for the certification exams administered by the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) and the American Registry of Radiologic Technologist (ARRT).

LONG DISTANCE OPTION

The Nuclear Medicine program offers a Long Distance option for students living in the following areas: Rockford, Sterling, Kankakee, Peoria, Champaign, Mattoon and Effingham. The Long Distance option allows these students flexibility and convenience to attend the college’s classroom portion (may be over weekends) and obtain clinical training at hospitals in the selected communities.

Note: The Long Distance option is contingent upon available clinical sites and the minimum required number of students. Students enrolled in the Long Distance option will have a custom schedule set up for both didactic and clinical, depending on enrollment and clinical space.
ADMISSIONS

The program can admit only a limited number of students. The number of students selected is determined by the current availability of clinical sites and may vary from year to year. Students will only attend sites that can provide adequate supervision and an appropriate learning environment. In the event that the number of qualified applicants exceeds the number of available clinical spaces, the selection will be made via the Merit Evaluation criteria, which is included in this brochure. The selection process has been established to admit the most qualified students.

In order to determine the most qualified students, a Merit Evaluation Form is completed of a student’s prior-earned college coursework or equivalent. Merit points are awarded for the following: level of college degree, pre-requisite course grades, and patient care experience. Associate’s Degree must be completed prior to start date in Summer semester.

The qualified student with the highest point totals and resides in-district will have priority for admission. Those students not admitted but who are eligible, will be placed on an alternate list. Students will be admitted in rank order with the student who has the highest number of points being appointed first.

Admission decisions are made following the March 1st application deadline. Letters of acceptance are then sent via email to each applicant who has been named by the Admissions Committee approximately 4-6 weeks from the deadline date. Each applicant must in turn, acknowledge their acceptance of appointment in writing (on a provided form) and return it via email to hsadmissions@cod.edu. The applicant is given two weeks to respond. If no response is received, seats are filled from the alternate list. Each applicant who accepts admission to the program MUST attend the Program Orientation. Information concerning the Program Orientation is included in the letter of acceptance.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADMISSION

Prior credits earned at institutions outside the continental United States must be translated and evaluated in detail for credit that is acceptable to College of DuPage. In addition, English 1101 and 1102 (Composition) and Speech 1100 must be completed prior to application deadline, as well as all other requirements listed on page 9 in order to be considered for admission. Evaluation forms can be obtained at www.ece.org.

POLICY REGARDING OUT-OF-DISTRICT APPLICANTS

Program Admission Preference:
Each program with out-of-district clinical sites (see list of participating programs below) may admit a maximum of 20% of out-of-district applicants to the program, based on merit. The 20% maximum policy would only apply to out-of-district applicants who do not have access to a particular program in the community college district in which they reside. Students coming from districts with a particular program within their district would only be considered if there were open seats after all qualified candidates from in-district and out-of-district without programs were accepted.

If there are insufficient numbers of qualified in-district applicants, the maximum percentage of out-of-district students accepted can be exceeded until the program achieves full enrollment, with the approval of the Dean of Nursing & Health Sciences.

- Computed Tomography
- Health Information Technology
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technology (MRI)
- Mammography
- Nuclear Medicine (DMIN)
- Nursing (ADN)
- Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA)
- Proton Therapy
- Radiation Therapy
- Radiography (DMIR)
Priority for Admission:

a. In-District applicants
b. Out-of-District who are part of the CAREER Consortium Agreement (meaning your residing community college does not offer the particular program in which you are applying)
c. Out-of-District applicants working full-time in-district (proof of in-district employment will be required each semester)
d. Out-of-District applicants (who are not part of the CAREER Consortium Agreement) including those students with a joint or chargeback agreement and International students

PROGRAM INFORMATION DISCLAIMER

This program information is published for that purpose only; however, the information in this packet is not to be regarded as an irrevocable contract between the student and the program. The program reserves the right to change, at any time, without notice, graduation requirements, fees and other charges, curriculum, course structure and content, and other such matters as may be within its control, notwithstanding any information set forth in this program information packet in accordance with College of DuPage policies and procedures.

Policies and Procedures

All Nursing and Health Science Division policies and procedures are found on our Division website. It is the students’ responsibility to ensure they have reviewed and understand the policies and procedures. The Nursing and Health Science Division reserves the right to change, at any time, without notice, these policies and procedures.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All students applying for the summer class of 2023 must have the necessary paperwork and prerequisites completed by **August 3, 2024**. It is the student’s responsibility to oversee this process, and inform the Program Chair of all courses that might be completed in Spring 2023 and Summer 2023. If the Program Chair is not informed, it will be assumed that the prerequisite has not been met. **Admissions deadline is 5pm on March 1, 2024.**

**NOTE:** Admission Committees for all Health Science programs have the right to deny admission to any applicant that they feel is unable to fulfill these essential functions as described.

**IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT ALL STEPS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AND THAT ALL INFORMATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE DESIGNATED OFFICES.**

**Students with incomplete information will not be considered for placement.**

APPLICATION CHECK LIST

_____ 1. Register to attend a mandatory **Nuclear Medicine** group **Advising Session** AND/OR individual communication with the program chair. **It is required that an applicant attend an advising session within a 12 month period prior to the application deadline.** A Photo ID is required for attendance at advising sessions.

_____ 2. If you have not been admitted to College of DuPage, please complete the **non-refundable $20 College of DuPage General Admissions Application** online. This application is for general admissions to College of DuPage only; it is not an application to the Health Sciences Selective Enrollment Nuclear Medicine program.

_____ 3. To ensure that all of your eligible credits are evaluated towards the admission requirements, turn in **ALL** official Transcripts from institutions that you have attended. Immediately:

a. Submit your official transcript(s) to **College of DuPage, Office of Student Records**. **If College of DuPage is the only institution you have attended, you do not need to request official transcripts.**

b. Verify receipt of your transcript(s). Log into myACCESS account, click on ‘myACCESS for Students’, select ‘My Profile’. The receipt status of your transcript will be listed under ‘Transcript Institutions’.

**NOTE:** If you have an international transcript from high school or college, it must first be evaluated. Please visit the following website

4. Complete the **non-refundable** $50 Health Career Selective Enrollment Program Application online by logging into the student portal at [https://inside.cod.edu](https://inside.cod.edu)

- Click on myACCESS for Students

- Click on the Health Careers Applications link

- Select Health Careers Application

- Select **Diagnostic Medical Imaging Nuclear Medicine Certificate** when asked “What selective enrollment program are you applying to?”

**Once the application is submitted, you may not change the term or program.** If you do not have a credit card, you can purchase a prepaid credit card from your local retailer
5. Complete the College of DuPage Residency Verification form and provide proof of residency to the Office of Student Registration Services, Student Services Center (SSC) Room 2221 by the program application deadline date.

Note:
- If this residency requirement has not been submitted to Registration by the program application deadline date, you will not be considered for admission.
- Separate Residency Verification Forms must be submitted for each program application.

6. Associate’s Degree must be completed prior to program start date in Summer semester.

7. Minimum Grade Point Average of 2.5 and only grades of “C” or above in any of the prerequisites are accepted on page 9.

8. Completion of the Algebra Math Placement Test, with a minimum score of 55 ALEKS, ONLY if your completion of college algebra course is greater than 5 years old from the application deadline date.

9. Documentation of two years of direct patient contact work OR completion of ONE of the below Health Sciences courses (stated on your Official Transcript). Proof of two years of direct patient contact documentation must be completed on company letterhead by your employer/supervisor. It is the responsibility of the student to submit the official letter to hsadmissions@cod.edu. Please submit all necessary transcripts to the College of DuPage Office of Student Records, SRC 2150 in order to receive credit for any of the below courses.

If NONE of the courses below are stated on your official transcript; you may submit a copy of your course certification completion to hsadmissions@cod.edu.

Choose ONE of the following (equivalent competency):
- FIRE 2271; Emergency Medical Technician-Basic-EMT-B
- NURSA 1105; Basic Nurse Assistant
- HLTHS 1123; Phlebotomy for Health Professionals
- HLTHS 1122; Basic Phlebotomy Techniques

“All application documents delivered to the College of DuPage pertaining to a health sciences admissions file become the property of the College of DuPage and will not be returned to applicants. This includes but is not limited to transcripts, letters of recommendation, clinical evaluation forms or outside test reports.”

After program Acceptance, students will complete the specific Health Requirements. Please click on Health Requirements Packet. However, please do not begin these requirements until instructed to do so. You will also complete a Criminal Background Check, Drug Screen, and Medical Document Manager piece through CastleBranch.com. The results of a background check are posted to the CastleBranch web site in a secure, tamper-proof environment, where the students, as well as the program chair can view the background check as well as drug test and health records.

Requests for deferred admission are not automatically carried over to the following cycle. Applicants who were not accepted for the cycle in which they originally applied are asked to pay the $50 non-refundable Health Science application fee and submit any/all supporting documents as listed on the Admissions Checklist of the Application Packet requirements (if applicable).
ACADEMIC PREREQUISITES

All of the following prerequisite coursework must be completed or equivalent experience/coursework validated prior to program entry:

1. Associate’s degree or higher.
2. 2 years direct patient contact work or training or equivalent coursework*.
   *(see next page for equivalent courses)
3. Students enrolled in the 3+1 programs with Lewis University and Elmhurst College must complete the 3 years of the required Biology Degree curriculum prior to admission. (Biology Degree Curriculum includes courses listed in both sets of Prerequisite Course boxes below).

Prerequisite Courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prerequisite Science &amp; Mathematics Core Courses</th>
<th>General Prerequisite or Program Co-Requisite Core</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Chemistry 1211 or 1551</td>
<td>e) Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Math 1431 or 1428 (5 year date restriction)</td>
<td>f) HLTHS 1110; Biomedical Terminology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra Math Placement Test must be taken ONLY if college algebra course is greater than 5 years from the application deadline date. You must obtain a minimum score of 55 on the Algebra Math Placement Test. (This is not a replacement test for the college algebra course.</td>
<td>g) English 1101, 1102, Speech 1100</td>
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<tr>
<td>c) Physics 1100</td>
<td>h) Social Science Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>d) Biology 1100 or 1151;</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 semesters of Anatomy &amp; Physiology are required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A&amp; P 1551/1571 and 1552/1572</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemistry with laboratory</td>
<td>Humanities course – 3 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>College algebra (5 year date restriction)</td>
<td>Medical terminology content</td>
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<tr>
<td>General physics with laboratory</td>
<td>Oral and written communications courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology with laboratory; human anatomy and physiology with laboratory</td>
<td>Social Science course – 3 credits</td>
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Equivalent coursework may be substituted for the above courses. Students may demonstrate competency in postsecondary coursework as permitted by institutional policy. The Nuclear Medicine program chair, the Nuclear Medicine Admissions Committee, and/or the college Records office can determine course equivalency.
**Applicants WITHOUT Two Years of Direct Patient Contact**

Applications from individuals who do not fully meet all conditions relative to two years of direct patient contact work experience, but meet ALL other requirements, **may be eligible** for appointment if one of the below course options has been met. Successful completion of one of the following Health Sciences course options listed below for any student without two years of direct patient contact work. **Please submit all necessary transcripts to the College of DuPage the Office of Student Records, SRC 2150 in order to receive credit for any of the below courses.** In addition, you can send copies of your Certification via email to hasadmissions@cod.edu.

**Health Sciences Course Options** (Choose **ONE** of the following or equivalent competency):

1) FIRE 2271; Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
2) NURSA 1105; Basic Nurse Assistant
3) HLTHS 1122; Basic Phlebotomy Techniques
4) HLTHS 1123; Phlebotomy for Health Professionals

Any circumstance that may arise regarding student admission that is not included in current program policies may be presented to the Admissions Committee for consideration.

You are reminded that the Nuclear Medicine Technology program has a limited enrollment (15 students maximum) and an early admission deadline – **March of each year.**

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**ALL CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION TO THE NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM MUST BE COMPLETED, IN PROGRESS, OR SCHEDULED AND APPROVED BY PROGRAM CHAIR NO LATER THAN MARCH 1st, FOR CONSIDERATION FOR SUMMER ADMISSION.**
NAME: ______________________ ID Number: ________ Date of application: ______

1. Applicants must have an AA Degree or Higher
   
   **College Degree:**
   Master’s or above = 4 points
   Bachelor’s = 3 points
   Associate’s = 2 points

2. Holds a current Certified Radiologic Technologist (ARRT) license from the American Registry of Radiologic Technology *(Scale A)*

3. **Pre-requisite courses** (or equivalent):
   a. Chemistry 1211 or 1551 *(Scale B)*
   b. Math 1431 or 1428 *(Scale B)*
   
   **OR**
   
   Algebra Placement Test (with a minimum score of 55 ALEKS) *(Scale A)*
   *(NOTE: The Algebra Math test will be acceptable ONLY if the MATH course is greater than 5 years old).*

   c. Physics 1100 *(Scale B)*
   d. Biology 1100 or 1151 *(Scale B)*
   e. Anatomy & Physiology 1551/1571 and 1552/1572 *(Scale B)*
   f. English 1101 *(Scale B)*
   g. English 1102 *(Scale B)*

4. Total Years of Professional Experience or Direct Patient Care Experience:
   >10 years = 4 pts
   5-10 years = 3 pts
   2-4 years = 2 pts
   0-2 years = 0 pts

   **OR**
   
   Completion of **ONE** of the following courses (or equivalent competency):
   a. FIRE 2271; Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) *(Scale A)*
   b. NURSA 1105; Basic Nurse Assistant *(Scale A)*
   c. HLTHS 1122; Basic Phlebotomy Techniques *(Scale A)*
   d. HLTHS 1123; Phlebotomy for Health Professionals *(Scale A)*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale A</th>
<th>Scale B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes = 1</td>
<td>A = 4 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No = 0</td>
<td>B = 3 pts</td>
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</tbody>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>C = 2 pts</th>
<th>D or below = 0 pts</th>
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STANDARD SKILLS IN NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY

To participate in the clinical education portion of the Nuclear Medicine Technology program, the applicant must possess additional non-academic skills. These technical standards are consistent with the duties of the entry-level technologist in a professional position and these skills, which protect the health and well-being of patients, may include, but are not limited to the following:

Please click on the following link for the list of Essential Function.

PROGRAM ORIENTATION

A Program Orientation session is held the first day of class. A document titled "The Program Design" is distributed to each student. The Program Design contains all pertinent information about the program, including requirements, rules and regulations, student recordkeeping, review of forms and procedures, grading, and evaluation, etc. Upon complete review of this document, the student will apply his/her signature, signifying that he/she has read the document and understands its contents. The students will be apprised of potential dangers of radiation, communicable diseases and related hazards by reading and signing a Release Form. The students will make arrangements to for the required health exams and obtain a health clearance form as well as completing the required drug and background checks. For the first clinical rotation, the students will be assessed a fee for Malpractice/Liability Insurance which is for 12 consecutive months and is included with the registration fee. However, to be properly covered, the student MUST be registered for class with his/her name appearing on the class roster for each semester. The student is not permitted to enter the clinical site unless duly enrolled at the college.

PROGRAM COST

Please visit the Program Costs webpage for estimated fees.

Estimate does not include provisions for travel to and from school and clinical education site, for textbooks and fees related to general education requirement courses, or for the cost of the required health requirements.

Financial Aid is available; visit the Financial Aid Office in SSC 2220 or call (630) 942-2251 or (630) 942-2252.

CLINICAL EDUCATION

Each student will be rotated to a new clinical site at the beginning of each semester of the college calendar. This clinical rotation provides the student with clinical experience on a variety of imaging systems. In addition to the usual clinical rotations, each student will spend clinical time in specialty areas to include:

- Pediatrics
- Radiopharmacy
- PET/CT
NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM CLINICAL EDUCATION CENTERS
(Subject to Change)

Bolingbrook Hospital - Bolingbrook
CGH Hospital - Sterling
*Children’s Memorial Hospital - Chicago
Edward Hospital – Naperville
Good Samaritan Hospital - Downers Grove
*Hot Shots Nuclear Medicine - Rockford
Jesse Brown VA Hospital - Chicago
La Grange Hospital - La Grange
*Molecular Imaging - Hinsdale
Mount Sinai Hospital - Chicago
Northshore University Health System - Skokie
Northwest Community Hospital - Arlington Heights
OSF Healthcare - Peoria
Riverside Medical Center - Kankakee
Rush University Medical Center – Chicago
Saint Alexius Medical Center - Hoffman Estates
Saint Anthony’s Memorial Hospital - Effingham
Sara Bush Lincoln Health Center - Mattoon
Silver Cross Hospital - Joliet
Swedish American Hospital - Rockford

*Specialty rotation one to two weeks