

Radiography Program

APPLICATION Booklet

Summer (May) Program

For more information

IRSC Health Science Division 772-462-7550

Healthscience@irsc.edu

IRSC OVERVIEW

INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE (IRSC) is a public, comprehensive college with a statewide and national reputation for excellence. Located in Florida's Treasure Coast region, each of the College's five campuses provide unparalleled educational environments.

IRSC serves approximately 30,000 students annually and offers more than 100 programs leading to Bachelor's degrees, Associate degrees, technical certificates and applied technology diplomas. Continuing a 60-year tradition of responsiveness to community needs, IRSC is committed to advancing educational, cultural, career training, workforce and economic development in its service area.

IRSC was distinguished as the 2019 winner of the prestigious Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, an honor that recognizes outstanding quality in the areas of completion & transfer, labor market outcomes, learning, equity and more. IRSC is one of the few colleges in the nation to earn the Achieving the Dream™ Leader College designation. The College is identified by the United States Department of Education as the most affordable college in Florida and the third-most affordable college in the country.

EA/EO

Indian River State College provides equal employment and educational opportunities to all without regard to race, color, national origin, ethnicity, sex, pregnancy, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status, genetic information, and any other factor protected under applicable federal, state, and local civil rights laws, rules and regulations. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies:

Adriene B. Jefferson, Dean of Northwest Center,

Equity Officer/Title IX Coordinator

Massey Campus • 3209 Virginia Ave. • Fort Pierce, FL 34981

772-462-7101

Radiography Program Accreditation

The Indian River State College Radiography program is fully accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT). The next onsite review is scheduled for October 2025.

JRCERT
20 N. Wacker Drive
Suite 2850
Chicago, IL 60606-3182
Phone #: (312) 704-5300

Fax #: (312) 704-5304 Email: mail@jrcert.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Radiographer	1
Application Checklist	1
Online Application Process	3
Introduction	3
Applicant Review	4
Criteria for Selection	5
Acceptance into Program	6
Background Checks and Drug Screening	6
Non-Acceptance into Program	7
Program Expenses	7
Financial Aid/Scholarships	7
Program Curriculum	8
Radiography Program	<u>S</u>
Frequently Asked Questions	11
Core Performance Standards	13

RADIOGRAPHER

A radiographer is a highly-skilled professional who is an important part of the healthcare team. They aid the Radiologist (a physician) in obtaining information that is useful in diagnosis. The radiographer operates state-of-the-art radiographic equipment and provides the patient with quality care. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, employment in this field is expected to grow faster than average.

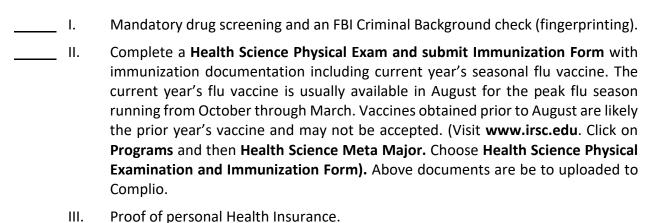
APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Completion of the items on this checklist alone does not guarantee acceptance to the Radiography program. Students are selected on a selective admission basis. Completion of the checklist is the applicant's responsibility. Contact the Radiography Department at 772-462-7540 for more information.

1.	Complete the <i>Indian River State College Application for the Radiography program</i> online at www.irsc.edu and pay the non-refundable \$30 fee.		
2.	Priority selection is based on a point system. Refer to page five for recommended general education courses students should complete and pass with a grade of C or better.		
3.	General Education courses taken in the spring term, (after the application deadline date) <u>will not</u> be considered for allocation of points (refer to page five for a list of these recommended courses).		
4.	Request high school, former school(s) and/or college(s) official final transcript(s) and forward to Student Records at IRSC by the application deadline date.		
5.	3.0 overall cumulative GPA by the Application deadline date.		
6.	Preference will be given to Residents of Florida.		
7.	Meet with an Academic Advisor at any campus to review program requirements.		
8.	View the Radiography Program Information presentation video located on the program's webpage <u>prior to deadline date</u> .		
9.	To have a deeper understanding of the profession, please view a video produced by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT). https://vimeo.com/28774366		
10.	Review the Core Performance Standards (page 13).		
	Also, check out the ASRT's Rad Academy: Discovering Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy https://www.asrt.org/radcademy/home		

All applicants will be reviewed after the application deadline. Students will be notified by the Health Science Division of their provisional acceptance into the program **via the email address provided in the Radiography Application.**

Do not proceed with drug/background screening or physical until notified.



APPLICATION PROCESS

Prior to beginning the application process:

- 1. Read the Radiography Application Booklet.
- 2. Complete and submit the **IRSC Application** for the Radiography program (\$30 non-refundable fee; keep a copy of your receipt.)

Note: If at any time during the application process you have a change in personal information (name change, address, phone number or emails), submit the changes through **MyPioneerPortal** and the Health Science Division at 772-462-7550.

INTRODUCTION

The Radiography program is offered through the IRSC Health Science Division. Applicants should carefully review the application procedures outlined in this booklet. Admission to the Radiography program is on a selective admission basis. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the application process is complete.

Candidates who wish to be considered for the Radiography program at Indian River State College must complete the procedures outlined on the checklist on page one. Students should also review the Associate in Science Degree requirements, related general education courses and the course pre- and co-requisites outlined in the IRSC College Catalog.

It is the student's responsibility to see that admission requirements are met. No notices will be sent.

APPLICANT REVIEW

Admissions/Records must receive all transcripts prior to the application deadline date. <u>No</u> documentation will be considered after the application deadline date.

- 1. IRSC Admission status must be complete.
- 2. 3.0 overall Cumulative GPA
- 3. Points are given for the completion and passing grade (grade C or better) of the **General Education** courses listed in the **Criteria for Selection** section of the application booklet.

Final consideration for admission into the Radiography program will be based upon the Health Science Admissions Committee review and scoring of the criteria above.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Academic performance in the general education courses for the A.S. Degree in Radiography and cumulative college grade point average are indicative of the probability of an applicant's completing the academic portion of the program successfully. It is recommended that students complete the following courses before applying to the program. Selection is based on grades achieved in the courses listed below.

Students are selected based on a point system (see below). Applications are selected based on these scores until all seats are filled.

A = 4 points

B = 3 points

C = 2 points

COURSE POINTS	# CREDITS	X POINTS	TOTAL
ENC 1101			
Any Core Math			
BSC 2085			
BSC 2085L			
BSC 2086			
BSC 2086L			
POS1041, AMH2020 or AMH2010			
TOTAL			

Subject to change

All of the applicant review criteria must be met by the application deadline, or the applicant file will not be reviewed and scored. The most qualified (highest scores) are selected.

NOTE: Meeting admission criteria does not guarantee acceptance into the program. Students are selected on a competitive basis.

ACCEPTANCE INTO PROGRAM

Those applicants who have met the minimum requirements and achieved the highest scores will be notified by the Health Science Division of their provisional acceptance into the program. Final acceptance into the program is contingent upon satisfactory results from a drug screen and Federal Bureau of Investigation National Background Checks (FBI/NBC). Information for obtaining these tests/reports will be provided in the provisional acceptance notification package which will be sent to the applicant's email address. **These reports should not be submitted with initial application materials**.

Criminal Background Checks and Drug Screening

Refer to the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu. Click Programs and then Health Science Meta Major. Go to Radiography and select Background Check and Drug Screening Requirements.

Health/Medical Record

A completed medical health form must be approved by the Health Science Division. This health record will contain results from a physical examination and laboratory tests including immunization records.

Applicants who do not meet the standards of good physical and mental health, as required by clinical facilities for safe patient care, may reapply and be considered for application to a Health Science program after resolution of health problem. An updated health record, verified by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or an ARNP must be submitted.

Indian River State College and partnering clinical sites require all health science students who register for clinical courses to have personal health insurance. Students will be asked to show proof of personal health insurance by presenting their insurance policy number, the name of the insurance provider and the telephone number of the provider to clinical preceptors or administrators. If students do not have health insurance or do not provide proof of health insurance, they will not be eligible for clinic rotation which will result in termination from program. Personal health insurance is offered through the Health and Wellness Department. Call them at 772-462-7825 for more information.

NOTE: The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) requires any applicant for certification who has been convicted of a crime to disclose that information prior to the formal application to sit for the national certification examination. Applicants may pre-apply for the ARRT examination prior to admission to the Radiography program. In addition, the Florida Department of Health (FLDOH) also requires disclosure of applicable background history.

Student Drug Screen, Background Check, and Medical Records

When submitted, these records will become the property of the College, and will not be available for copying or for use to meet the requirements of outside employers. Students who are out of the program for six months or more must submit new records.

NON-ACCEPTANCE INTO PROGRAM

Applicants who do not qualify for the program will be notified and may call the Office of the Dean of Health Science for clarification on how to strengthen their application. Applicants may also choose to discuss options with an advisor or counselor in Advising Services.

PROGRAM EXPENSES

A list of approximate costs is located on the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu Click Programs and then Health Science Meta Major. Go to Radiography and select Expenses. In addition to these costs, the candidate should allow for room, board, transportation and personal living expenses. Note that non-Florida resident tuition is a higher rate per credit hour, which will increase total fees accordingly.

FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIPS

Financial Aid (grants, loans, work-study) is available to those who qualify. Complete the *FAFSA and IRSC Supplemental Financial Aid Application* to determine eligibility. For more information, contact the IRSC Financial Aid Office at 772-462-7450 or toll-free at 1-866-900-3243 (FAID).

Scholarships designated for students in the Health Science programs may also be available. *Health Science Scholarship Applications* are available through MyPioneerPortal. The **application deadline** for all Health Science Scholarships is during the month of May.

For more information regarding scholarships that may be available to Radiography students, email the Scholarship Development Coordinator, Sherri Monds, at smonds@irsc.edu.

RADIOGRAPHY PROGRAM CURRICULUM - 77 credits

*General Education **courses** should be taken prior to acceptance into the program or must be completed while enrolled in the program. All core curriculum (RTE prefix), English, math, and natural science courses require a grade of "C" or higher. Students must complete all degree requirements to graduate. See the College Catalog for specific requirements for the A.S. degree in Radiography.

Students must complete all degree requirements to graduate. See the College Catalog for specific requirements for the A.S. degree in Radiography.

Classes in the Radiography program meet four to five days per week for four to eight hours per day. Students need to arrange travel and other commitments to arrive at class or clinical assignments on time. Classes generally begin at 8:00 a.m. Clinical rotations generally begin at 7:30 a.m. or 8:00 a.m. and end at either 4:00 p.m. or 4:30 p.m. However, there may be occasions when rotations may be scheduled between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Occasional weekend and evening rotations are required. Students should be prepared to travel to any of the clinical education sites located within the four- county service district of Indian River State College: St. Lucie, Martin, Okeechobee and Indian River counties. All clinical education sites are located within a one-hour driving distance from the Massey Campus.

Effective Fall Term 2000, a statewide articulation agreement between the public university systems and the state colleges of Florida provides for the articulation of selected Associate in Science degrees to selected baccalaureate degrees (State Board of Education Rule 6A-10.024). One of these programs is Radiography. Consult **Advising Services** to determine specific requirements.

The Radiography Curriculum is located in the IRSC College Catalog: website at www.irsc.edu.

https://irsc.smartcatalogiq.com/en/current/Catalog/AAS-Degrees-Certificates/Radiography/Associate-of-Science-Degree-in-Radiography

RADIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

Completion of the Radiography program leads to an Associate in Science Degree. Graduates are eligible to sit for the national certifying examination given by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT).* The program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. The curriculum includes general education requirements as well as in-depth instruction in radiographic procedures, pathology, patient care and radiographic physics. A competency-based clinical education component is conducted at seven local hospitals. Graduates from the program may choose to continue their education at the university level, or may choose to specialize in other imaging modalities such as: Ultrasound, Nuclear Medicine, Radiation Therapy, computed Tomography, Interventional Radiography or Magnetic Resonance Imaging. For additional information, contact the Radiography program at 772-462-7540 or 772-462-7541.

Program Philosophy

The profession of radiologic technology is dedicated to the conservation of life, health and the prevention of disease. Radiologic technologists are regarded as extremely important professionals in today's society, their contributions to society offer the satisfaction of pride, service, and rewards in human gratitude. The Indian River State College Radiography program is dedicated to meeting the educational needs of the student and the health care community.

Radiography Program Purpose Statement

In support of the College's Mission, the purpose of the Indian River State College Radiography program is to graduate students with the entry-level skills necessary to succeed as a radiographer in the healthcare community.

Students/graduates of the IRSC Radiography Program will:

- Communicate clearly and effectively with other healthcare professionals and patients.
 - Students will demonstrate appropriate oral communication skills in the clinical setting.
 - Students will demonstrate adequate written and oral presentation skills in the classroom environment.
- Demonstrate clinical competency through the application of various types of radiographic procedures and radiation safety practices to produce diagnostic radiographic images, while providing high quality patient care.
 - Students will apply appropriate positioning skills.
 - Students/graduates will produce images of diagnostic quality.
 - Students will demonstrate appropriate radiation safety practices while attending clinical courses.
 - Students will demonstrate appropriate patient care while attending clinical courses.
- Demonstrate the problem-solving and critical thinking skills necessary to adapt to various patient conditions and to evaluate diagnostic image quality.
 - Students will be able to evaluate radiographic images and solve mathematical equations.
 - Students will be able to adapt positioning and technical factors for trauma patients.
- Exhibit professional values and attitudes in the classroom and clinical setting.
 - o Students will exhibit professional values and attitudes in the clinical setting.
 - Students will exhibit professional values and attitudes in the classroom.

Program Effectiveness*

- Students will successfully complete the radiography program.
- Graduates will successfully pass the ARRT exam on their first attempt.
- Graduates will be satisfied with the quality of the IRSC Radiography program.
- Graduates will be employed within 12 months of graduation.

^{*}The current Program Effectiveness Data (PED) is available by contacting the JRCERT at www.jrcert.org. This information is also included on The Program's website (See Graduate Outcomes).

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a radiographer?

A radiographer is a highly skilled professional who is an important part of the health care team. They aid the radiologist (a physician) in obtaining information that is useful in diagnosis. The radiographer operates state-of-the-art radiographic equipment and provides the patient with quality care.

Where will I perform in the clinical setting?

Students will be assigned to a JRCERT-approved clinical education sites. Currently, our sites include: Lawnwood Regional Medical Center & Heart Institute in Fort Pierce; Cleveland Clinic Indian River Hospital in Vero Beach; Raulerson Hospital in Okeechobee; St. Lucie Medical Center and Cleveland Clinic Tradition Hospital in Port St. Lucie; and Cleveland Clinic North Hospital and Cleveland Clinic South Hospital in Stuart. Students will also rotate through a variety of outpatient clinical settings. Requests for clinical assignments will be considered, but are not guaranteed.

How often will I be required to attend clinicals?

Students begin clinicals in the first semester of the program. During the first year of the program, students attend clinicals on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays (Spring and Fall). Second-year students attend on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays (Spring and Fall). Summer clinical rotations are two days per week. Students will be assigned to occasional afternoon clinical rotations and will be scheduled for minimal weekend clinical rotations during the sophomore year. Clinical shifts are generally eight hours in length. Students are responsible for providing their own transportation to clinic.

What about radiation protection?

It is the regulation of the IRSC Radiography program to provide reasonable radiation protection to students occupationally exposed to radiation. Contact the Radiography Department to request regulations regarding radiation protection.

How are applicants selected for the program?

Sixteen to twenty students are selected to the program based on the college cumulative GPA and progress made toward the general education requirements of the program. Preference is given to applicants who complete the General Education courses that are considered for allocation of points in the "Criteria for Selection" section of the application booklet prior to the admission deadline date.

Is there a health requirement?

Yes - all those accepted into the program will be required to complete the IRSC Student Health Form. This form documents a physical examination to be completed by a physician or a nurse practitioner and required immunizations. Students are required to obtain CPR Certification for Health Care Providers prior to the start of the program. (American Heart Association only). Admitted students must document proof of health care insurance.

Why should I choose the IRSC Radiography program when other education opportunities are available?

The Radiography program at Indian River State College has state of the art radiologic equipment on-site for students to practice radiography on anthropomorphic phantoms. The graduates perform very well on the national certification exam administered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT). Our graduates are employed at many hospitals and imaging centers in our four-county service area and beyond. The program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT). The most recent accreditation letter and the current Program Effectiveness are available on the Radiography program website.

Why is JRCERT accreditation so important?

IRSC's Radiography program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. The JRCERT is the only organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to evaluate and accredit educational programs in radiation in radiography and radiation therapy. When students choose a JRCERT-accredited program, they can be assured that they will have access to the knowledge, skills, attributes and clinical education necessary for entry into their chosen profession and to practice their profession anywhere in the United States.

JRCERT accreditation assures:

- Educational Excellence: The IRSC Radiography program keeps pace with the complex educational requirements of today's radiographers. The program adheres to *national standards* developed by and for the profession.
- Patient and Professional Safety: JRCERT accreditation safeguards patients by setting high standards for the professionals who administer ionizing radiation.

Do I need a computer for this program?

IRSC has been recognized nationally for its use of technology. Students will need computers to access online instructor resources (via Blackboard) and for classroom testing. All students are required to own a notebook/laptop computer with a display resolution of at least 600x800 (required) or 1024x768 (strongly recommended). In addition, each computer must be "wi-fi" (wireless internet) capable. The laptop (PC or Mac) must use current versions of Internet Explorer, Microsoft Edge, Chrome or Firefox as the web browser (Safari and any other web browsers are not supported and may prohibit full functionality.) *Minimum* hardware 1 GHz or better CPU, 256 MB RAM, 5 GB Free Hard disk spaces required. Due to limited functionality, Chromebooks are not recommended.

Radiography Program—CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Introduction

The following general position description is provided as a guide for advising those students interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies and tasks required for certification and/or licensure as a radiographer. Ultimately, it is the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each healthcare facility.

Qualifications & Competencies

A student entering the radiography program must have the following qualifications and competencies, which are related to observation, communication, motor, intellectual-conceptual, integrative, and quantitative, and behavioral/social attributes. Technological compensation may be made for disabilities in certain areas, but students should be able to perform in a reasonably independent manner, with or without accommodation.

Visual: Candidates must be able to observe and participate in procedures in basic radiographic imaging (for example, routine imaging of the chest, abdomen, extremities, fluoroscopic and operation room procedures). In order to make appropriate clinical decisions, students must be able to visually assess a patient, discern various shades of grey (as on a black and white computer monitor) and other graphic images, and digital or analog representations of human anatomy, such as radiographic images with or without the assistive devices. Students must be able to read small print. The functional use of vision is necessary.

Oral-Auditory: Students must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients. They must also be able to communicate effectively and efficiently with other members of the health care team. In all situations, students must be able to understand and convey information essential for the safe and effective care of patients in a clear, unambiguous, and rapid manner. Students must also be able to receive and relay information in a caring and confidential manner. Students must be able to hear low-volume noises (e.g., whispers) and to hear in situations when they are not able to see an individual's face (e.g., when protective/surgical masks are worn by others). They must be fluent in and able to read, write, converse, and comprehend the English language. Students must be able to listen and respond to telephone conversations. Students must be able to effectively hear sounds through a stethoscope.

Physical/Motor: Students must possess the motor skills necessary to perform palpation, auscultation, and other diagnostic maneuvers. Candidates must be able to execute motor movements that are reasonably required to provide general patient care such as placement of intravenous catheters, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, application of pressure to control bleeding and the ability to manipulate various types of imaging equipment. These skills require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and integrated use of the senses of touch and vision. Candidates must be able to lift, move and carry objects in excess of 50 pounds and manipulate and handle imaging equipment and other types of medical devices from floor level to a height of 48 inches. They must be able to walk and work in small spaces and various physical environments. Students must be able to function effectively during an 8-hour shift without sleep.

Cognitive: Students must be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate, and synthesize in a timely fashion. Students must comprehend three-dimensional relationships and understand the spatial relationships of structures. They must have a concept of time and be able to record times to the second from a clock or watch. Students must be able to follow written and verbal directions. They must have the ability to legibly document, in writing, all relevant patient information in prescribed format or method designated by the healthcare facility/clinical education site.

Social: Students must possess the emotional health required for the utilization of their intellectual abilities for the exercise of good judgment, for the prompt completion of all responsibility's attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients, and for the development of effective relationships with patients. They must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads and function effectively under stress. They must be able to adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems related to patients. Students must be able to interact with individuals from varying social, cultural, and economic backgrounds.

Curriculum Requirements: Students must be able to successfully complete, with or without reasonable accommodation, all required components of radiography curriculum.

Test and Evaluation: In order to evaluate the competence and quality of students, the IRSC Radiography Program employs periodic written and practical examinations as an essential component of the radiography curriculum. Successful completion of these examinations is required for all candidates as a condition for continued progress through the curriculum and ultimate completion of the program. Reasonable accommodation will be made in the form or manner of administration of these evaluations when necessary.

Clinical Assessment: Demonstration of clinical competence is also of fundamental importance to the career curriculum progression of the student. The process of evaluation of the clinical performance of students is an integral and essential part of the curriculum. Although reasonable accommodation may be made, participation in all clinical experiences and the evaluation of competence is required.

Attendance: Class attendance is deemed an important component of the educational experience. Reasonable accommodation will be provided, but attendance requirements must be satisfied for successful completion of all courses.

Accessibility Statement

In compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, professional disability specialists and support staff at the Student Accessibility Services (SAS) facilitate a comprehensive range of academic support services and accommodations for qualified students with disabilities.

IRSC offers many resources at on-campus labs. The SAS works with online students to ensure accessibility. A quick link is located to the SAS in the Institutional Resources section in the course control panel. Students who wish to request an accommodation should contact the SAS immediately at 772-462-7782 or 772-462-7808.

Reasonable Accommodations

The Americans with Disabilities Act does not exempt the student from these Core Performance Standards. These standards are viewed as essential to the profession. However, whenever possible, reasonable accommodations will be made to students with disabilities. The Indian River State College Radiography Program uses the policies and/or regulations of the Florida Department of Health along with the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists, the American Society of Radiologic Technologists, and the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology, as a guide with regard to what accommodations will be provided. Students must work with the SAS staff in conjunction with the Radiography Program Director, Clinical Coordinator and/or instructor of record in order to be considered for accommodation. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Student Accessibility Services office.

The following is a sample list of accommodations that are not allowed in the Radiography Program because they are not in compliance with the essential job functions of a radiographer as outlined in the Core Performance Standards above. These include, but are not limited to:

- Students are not allowed additional time for skills with specific time frames.
 - Obviously, patients would suffer due to life threatening conditions in emergency situations if treatment were delayed.
- 2. Students are not allowed unlimited time to complete a written or computer exams or quizzes when a designated time has been established for an assessment.
 - This request is not considered reasonable because a candidate should be able to complete an exam or quiz within a finite amount of time.
 - Exams and quizzes are designed, at least in part, to measure the ability to quickly recall information.
- 3. Students are not allowed to have written or computer exams given by an oral reader.
 - The ability to read and understand small English print is an essential function of the profession, and written exams are designed, at least in part, to measure that ability.
- 4. Students must answer all written or computer test questions as written. No explanation of the question can be provided by the instructor, test proctor or any other individual.
 - Additional descriptions of test questions would not be a reasonable accommodation because reading and understanding written English is an essential part of communication as a healthcare provider.
 - Students must be able to understand and converse in medical terms appropriate to the profession.

LATEX ADVISORY – Latex-based products are used in all health care facilities.