



Please review this document in detail for upcoming changes to the prerequisites, admissions process, and bonus points for the 2025-26 catalog year.

Admission Process- General Information

Students applying to the program can qualify under one of two tracks: either an associate degree or a certificate. Please read the qualifications for each and contact the program director if you have questions regarding the best option for you or concerns about previously completed coursework.

If you don't believe you meet the qualifications, please contact the director to evaluate potential options. Please see the last page for information regarding transfer credits.

Application process

Applications are open annually from July 1st to September 1st. The program utilizes an online application, which applicants can request access to after completing orientation.

Selection Process

The DMS program utilizes a two-phase application process, with Phase I points based on pre-requisite scores for associate track students (page 3) or overall GPA for certificate track students (page 4), and bonus points (page 2).

Based on Phase I points, the top-scoring applicants will be invited to Phase II in the fall semester, which consists of a written assessment and interview to identify personal strengths and/or weaknesses related to essential qualifications, competencies, and functions for diagnostic medical sonographers. Final selections will be made based on combined phase I and phase II points and are contingent on the successful completion of any remaining prerequisites by the end of that fall semester.

Not all students who complete the admission requirements or complete phase II of the application process are admitted to the program.

Upcoming changes

Prerequisites

Changes to the Lab Sciences category

As of the 2025-26 catalog, chemistry will no longer be required as a pre-requisite, and students will instead only be able to take PHYS 1230G **with the lab** to meet the general education lab sciences requirement.

If you started your prerequisites in an earlier catalog year and have taken:

- **PHYS 1112- you will still need the chemistry course to satisfy the requirements.**
- **PHYS 1230G *without* the lab, you will need either the chemistry course or to complete PHYS 1230L to satisfy the requirements.**

As some applicants will have physics with the lab, while others will have chemistry, the scoring system will reflect points for the physics class, and either points for the physics lab **or** the chemistry class. No bonus points will be awarded for having the physics lab **and** the chemistry class.



Changes to the psychology/sociology category

The program has added two additional courses to the psychology/sociology category. Students may now choose from any of the following:

- PSYC 1110G
- SOCI 1110G
- SOCI 1130G
- PHIL 2110G

Bonus Points

Phasing out of course-related bonus points

Bonus points were previously offered for completion of BIOL 2225, BIOL 2505, BCIS 1110, and MATH 1350G. As of the 2024-25 catalog year, bonus point courses were no longer advised.

Students who completed these bonus point courses prior to the 2024-25 catalog year will continue to receive bonus points for the application cycle closing in fall 2025. As of fall 2026, course-related bonus points will no longer count, regardless of when they were completed.

Field experience and other bonus points

While course-related bonus points are being phased out, the program will continue to offer bonus points for the following categories for students in the associate or certificate track.

Field-experience bonus points require a minimum of one year* of full-time experience in direct, hands-on patient care, plus an active license where applicable.

*Veterinary experience requires a minimum of two years of full-time experience.

Field Experience bonus points	
ARDMS, ARRT(S), CCI	15
MD, DO, ARRT (RT), RN	10
CNA or other allied healthcare experience	5
Veterinary care >2 years	5
Other bonus points	
Doña Ana County Resident	2
Reapplicant	3



Associate Track Requirements

This is the more common track and is available to students who do not have an existing degree (except where specified below).

- Successful completion of high school or GED
- OR**
- Successful completion of a college degree in a non-medically related field with a GPA of 3.0 or better
- AND**
- Overall college GPA of 3.0 or better
- AND**
- Completion of the prerequisite courses with a B average or better
- AND**
- Attendance at a DMS orientation session

Phase I Scoring System (Associate)

Core Requirements (A=8pts, B=6pts, C=4pts)	
ENGL 1110G	Composition I
MATH 1220G	College Algebra
PHYS 1230G	General Physics
PHYS 1230L**	General Physics Lab
BIOL 2210	Human Anatomy and Physiology I
AHS 120 or HIT 150	Medical Terminology
Degree Requirement Courses (A=4pts, B=3pts, C=2pts)	
Choose one of the following: ENGL 2210G OR COMM 1115G OR COMM 1130G	Professional & Technical Communication Introduction to Communication Public Speaking
Choose one of the following: PSYC 1110G OR SOCI 1110G OR SOCI 2310G OR PHIL 2110G	Introduction to Psychology Introduction to Sociology Contemporary Social Problems Introduction to Ethics
Maximum total: 56 points (based on As in each category)	

**Please note- to offer an equitable point system as we transition prerequisite requirements, students who have completed a physics course *without* the lab will receive points for their chemistry coursework in place of the lab.



Certificate Track Requirements

Completion of either:

- An associate degree in an allied health field that is medically related and involves human patient care (proof of current certification in one's allied health area is required)
 - *Note: Recent allied health graduates may apply for the DMS program before they take national registry examinations provided they schedule and pass their national examination before the start date of the program.*

OR

- A Bachelor of Science degree in a medically related field and includes courses in medical terminology and anatomy and physiology.

AND

- Overall GPA of 3.0 or higher
- College-level course in algebra (MATH 1220G or equivalent)
- College-level course in general physics (PHYS 1230G or equivalent), Introductory Physics for the Health Sciences (PHYS 1112) or Radiographic Physics (RADT 105 or equivalent)
- Attendance at a DMS orientation session

Phase I Scoring System (Certificate)

Overall College GPA	Points awarded
3.8-4.0	56
3.6-3.79	52.5
3.4-3.59	49
3.2-3.39	45.5
3.0-3.19	42



Transfer Credits

Prerequisites

It is recommended that coursework in math and physics be within the last 5 years because these courses provide a foundation for the ultrasound physics and instrumentation course in this program.

Students transferring prerequisite credits must apply to DACC and provide all official college transcripts for evaluation prior to application to the program, and the institution determines transferability based on accreditation of the outside institution and comparable course offerings. Due to the scoring system for applications, prerequisite courses cannot be waived, and can only be substituted for a course that meets or exceeds the requirement. Please contact the program direction directly after completion of your transcript evaluation to ensure any additional substitutions are identified.

Sonography coursework

Students who have completed sonography coursework at another CAAHEP-accredited program may be eligible to transfer into the sonography program at DACC and receive credit for equivalent courses. Equivalency is awarded on a course-by-course basis and is determined based on the catalog description, course outline, content comparison, and credit hours earned. To receive transfer credit, students must demonstrate proficiency via didactic examination and/or a clinical skills evaluation. DMS courses are offered once per year, so a transfer student may be required to wait until the next regular offering to complete a course, potentially extending their graduation timeframe.

Transfer students are placed on probation for the first semester to ensure the student's level of knowledge and competence in the clinical area, and will be promoted to regular standing following completion of one semester with grades of C or higher.

Acceptance of transfer students is contingent on clinical site availability.

International coursework

Applicants with pre-requisite coursework from an institution outside of the United States MUST have an official, detailed translation of their coursework into the US equivalency sent to the program from the World Education Services (WES). International applicants who do not provide official documentation of acceptable US course and degree equivalency will not be considered during the application process.