

Policy statement: The Radiologic Technology Program is competency based:

Competency Progression

Students must progress through a specific series of non-graded and graded competency testing in order to be designated “Competent” as defined by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT). Each student must meet the established competency guidelines required by the program.

The order for confirming competence on radiographic exams is as follows:

1. Student attends lecture and/or lab on procedure.
2. Student eligible to perform required pre-competencies. Requirements are: 3 pre-competencies are required for examinations categorized by the ARRT as “mandatory” and 2 pre-competencies for examinations categorized by the ARRT as “elective.”
3. Student successfully completes lab competency (practical testing).
4. Student passes master competency (88%) on radiographic procedures determined by the ARRT.
5. Student passes program specific final competencies (88%). Students are eligible to complete final competencies in the 4th and 5th semesters.
6. Student must complete all required competencies (mandatory and elective) with a minimum grade of 88% in this listed sequence in order to be eligible for the ARRT examination.

Instructional Laboratory

The School of Medical Imaging has a designated radiology lab equipped with a non-energized radiographic unit on which the students have designated practice time. Energized radiographic units within the Radiology Departments are utilized for simulations and lab assignments. Students may be assigned projects in didactic courses to be completed in the clinic.

Pre Competency

Radiographic procedure that allows minor assistance by CI, Preceptor, or Registered Technologist, performed in the clinical setting. This competency may be performed after lecture and/or lab of that specific exam.

All exams are performed with **direct supervision** until the student has successfully completed the master competency evaluation; then the student may perform the examination under Indirect Supervision.

Laboratory Competency (Lab Practical Testing, grade of 80%)

The student must successfully complete each required radiologic examination with an 80% or better to be able to perform master competencies in the clinical environment.

Master Competency (Grade of 88% required)

Must be performed independently by the student.

A radiographic procedure completed by the student **independently**, observed and graded by a **CI or Preceptor**. These exams must be completed with an 88% minimum passing grade. The Master Comp will assess retention and comprehension of critical knowledge and refinement of clinical skill.

Students who receive unsatisfactory grades must follow procedure below:

- Complete remedial clinical training within one week.
- Repeat the master competency until a score of 88% or higher is obtained.
- Penalty for a repeat master competency is a maximum grade of 88% for that examination.
- A maximum of 3 repeat master competencies per examination is allotted. After the 3rd attempt, the student receives an “F” in clinical and must repeat the clinical semester.

Final Competency (Grade of 88% required)

Must be performed independently by the student.

4th-5th semester students shall be required to complete a specific number of Final Competency examinations, which will be graded by Faculty Clinical Instructors and Clinical Instructor / designee only. The Final Comp will assess overall comprehension of critical knowledge and refinement of clinical skill. These exams must be completed with an 88% minimum passing grade.

Students who receive unsatisfactory grades must follow procedure below:

- Complete remedial clinical training within one week.
- Repeat the final competency until a score of 88% or higher is obtained.
- Penalty for a repeat final competency is a maximum grade of 88% for that examination.

- A maximum of 3 repeat final competencies per examination is allotted. After the 3rd attempt, the student receives an “F” in clinical and must repeat the clinical semester.

*** Throughout the entire length of the program, a student can receive a maximum of six (6) grades below an 88% on master and/or final competencies.**

Required Mandatory Competencies:

Mandatory Pre Competencies

Minimum of 111 pre competencies must be completed to meet graduation requirements; zero (0) may be simulated.

Mandatory Master Competencies

37 mandatory master competencies must be completed to meet graduation requirements; zero (0) may be simulated.

Required Elective Competencies

Elective Pre Competencies

A minimum of 30 pre competencies must be completed to meet graduation requirements; only skull or sinuses may be simulated.

Elective Master Competencies

A minimum of 15 must be completed to meet graduation requirements; only skull or sinuses may be simulated.

Required Final Competencies 4th and 5 the semester

Final Level Competencies

6 must be completed to meet graduation requirements; one per category only as identified on the Clinical Competency Student Tracking Form. Zero (0) may be simulated. A minimum of 2 final competencies must be completed by faculty clinical instructors.

Definitions of following terms as they apply to competencies:

Trauma is considered a serious injury or shock to the body and requires modifications in positioning and monitoring of the patient’s condition.

Pediatric exams must be performed on a child 6 years old or younger.

Geriatric exams At least 65 years of age and physically or cognitively impaired as a result of aging)

Facility protocol will determine the positions/projections used for each procedure unless otherwise noted on the student's competency form or mandated by a doctor's note (*provided the altered procedure includes a minimum of 2 projections*).

Simulations:

It is the philosophy of the School of Medical Imaging that every opportunity possible be taken to acquire competencies within the clinical setting upon a patient. Students are expected to continue clinical in every attempt to complete all mandatory and elective competencies. Simulations will take place 48 hours prior to graduation.


RESPONSIBLE PERSONS: Program Administration

Approved by:

Jody D. Crane, M.A.Ed., RT(R) (BD)

Director/Dean

September 11, 2019



Signature

Title

Date

Approval History:

Committees and Dates:

Faculty and administrative review in: 4/2002, 6/2003, 8/2004, 6/2005, 6/2006, 7/2007, 8/2008, 8/2009, 5/2010, 10/2011, 8/2012, 8/2013, 10/2013, 8/2014, 6/2016, 2/2017, 8/2017, 9/2017, 6/2018, 9/2019

DOCUMENTATION: None

REFERENCES: None