Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Application Interview Questions

Consideration for Fall 2027

Introduction

We invite you to share your unique perspective, skills, and talents as you take the next step toward joining the Sonography program. Your responses to the following questions will help our department get to know you better and understand the qualities you bring to a health profession. Two reviewers will thoughtfully evaluate your answers based on clarity, completeness, and adherence to instructions. These responses are an important part of the overall application process. Please note that submitting this section is essential for your application to be considered for fall 2027.

Instructions

You'll find this document included with this letter, and it's also available on the program website at www.misericordia.edu/dms under the *Certificate* page.

- Go to the top of the page and select "Admission Requirements."
- Scroll toward the bottom to find "Application Process."
- In that section, you'll see the link for applicant interview questions.

If you download the document from the website, please make sure you are using the **2027 version**. Please contact Lisa Capizzi at lacapizzi@misericorida.edu if you are unable to locate the document.

As you generate your document, please follow these instructions.

1. Create a cover sheet to include your full name, date of completion, your phone number, email address, and the month and day of your birthdate.
2. In the document header, please place your first initial of your first name, followed by the month and day of your birthdate. For example, Applicant Susan Jones with a birthdate of May 10, 1990 would appear in the header as S0510 (S0510 represents the month of May –10 is the day of the month)
3. Please respond to each of the following questions using the following guidelines:
    a. Responses must be typed.
    b. Each question should appear first, followed by a blank line, then your response.
    c. Format the document so that questions and responses are clearly differentiated for ease of reading.
    d. Responses must demonstrate thoughtful, comprehensive answers that reflect college-level writing skills.

e. Avoid using AI tools. This ensures the program can accurately assess your personal writing style.

4. To provide the maximal response, the expectation is to use referenced resources to create a comprehensive narrative to the questions. When applicable, please include the reference citation in APA citation format at the end of the respective response.
5. Responses are reviewed and scored by a faculty member and a sonographer who is not employed full-time by Misericordia University. The scoring is factored into the decision-making process.

Submission of document

Electronic – email	Printed document - mail
Email submission must occur between December 29 through January 5, 2027 Please do not email before this week.	Do not staple your document. You may use paper clip or leave as loose pages. Print is single side only – do not use double sided print.
Document must be submitted in Microsoft Word format or PDF	Document must be postmarked no later than January 5, 2027.
Email to: lcapizzi@misericordia.edu Be sure you have the email address correct and I also recommend you to request a read receipt.	Mail the document in an appropriately sized envelope to: Lisa Capizzi, MS, R.T.(R)(M), RDMS, RVT Misericordia University 301 Lake St. Dallas, PA 18612 Office: Baloga Hall 138

Questions

1. Diagnostic Medical Sonography is a healthcare field that holds a high level of responsibility.
    a. Discuss what attracts you to the sonography profession.
    b. Discuss aspects that you might find to be challenging
    c. Discuss in detail what Misericordia University can offer over other programs
2. Academic success is often attributed to intelligence; however, time management, grit, resilience, and other personal attributes are key contributors to success in both short-term and long-term goals. Please discuss the relevance of these attributes and other characteristics of qualities required of a sonographer or a healthcare professional, and apply them to your personal characteristics. Consider what has helped you become successful in life thus far. Please include at least three attributes you consider your strengths, and identify three areas in which you may desire to improve or accept mentoring to become the best team player in a healthcare environment.
3. Describe your experience(s) while obtaining the pre-requisite college-level knowledge (courses), which is a requirement of this program's application and decision-making process.
    a. Knowing the prerequisite courses required, detail the relevance of knowledge gained from each of these required courses for application to the sonography curriculum and the knowledge required of a sonographer.
    b. Discuss strategies applied to be successful in coursework. What type of class style or class activities did you learn best from? You can apply to the prerequisite courses or former degrees.
    c. Discuss your strengths and challenges of balancing academic requirements with personal responsibilities during the timeframe in which you were/are completing the college-level courses.
4. Share your thoughts on the expectations of a diagnostic medical sonographer to uphold the Code of Ethics and the consequences to the patients, the healthcare community, and to the sonographer if the Code of Ethics is not upheld 100% of the time. Please read the Profession's Code of Ethics at Code of Ethics for the Profession (sdms.org) to formulate your response.
5. Looking at the course sequence and course descriptions for the certificate program in DMS at Diagnostic Medical Sonography - Misericordia University discuss what learning activities you are expecting to occur to facilitate the development of a student enrolled in the program to become a competent graduate.
6. Sonography is a direct patient care field. Please describe what patient care means to you and the tasks that will be expected of you if you are a sonographer in a hospital setting. Be detailed in your response.
7. Sonographers are unique as the accuracy of the outcome of the examination is 95% your responsibility. Thus, to develop competent entry-level sonographers, the program requires attendance in clinical education for 32 hours/week for a full year in addition to on-campus class attendance. Discuss your thoughts on being in a patient-focused clinical environment in which you will receive constructive criticism regarding your image quality, patient communication, and behaviors that may be occurring and not conducive to quality outcomes from:
    - Program faculty
    - Staff sonographer(s)
    - Supervisor(s)
    - Physician(s)

8. The sonography program requires students to participate in interprofessional education (IPE) activities. Research the role(s) of IPE. Please share the significance of the program's requirements.
9. Define emotional intelligence (EQ) and apply its significance for healthcare providers. Discuss steps to increase your own EQ for best success as a student in the classroom and clinical setting, and preparing for a fulfilling career.
10. Tell the reviewers about a time you made a blunder on the job or in a course that resulted in additional time, money, or resources for the supervisor, company, or professor. Discuss the learning that occurred afterwards.
11. Thinking of examples from your recent past, how would you assess your empathy and compassion
12. Define critical thinking and problem-solving. Discuss why possessing these two skills is essential for sonography or a health profession in general.
13. Looking at www.ardms.org discuss the requirements to maintain certification as an RDMS credentialed sonographer.
14. Share opportunities that were presented to you or you sought out that you said 'yes' to and learned that you were glad you said yes.

Applicant Name_____ **Birthdate (MM/DD)**_____

This form can be completed by hand written (if mailed in) or typed. This document is required to be submitted with Application Questions.

Inquiry for clinical

Clinical placement is assigned in the same geographical region (not same site) for the duration of clinical education (Jan 2028 through March 2029).

Where is your geographical location for consideration of clinical placement? (Where do you plan on living during the clinical phase of the program?) Program has clinical affiliates in about a 2 hour radius from Dallas, PA)

_____

Do you have an alternate location? If yes, please place here.

_____

Clinical Education sites are assigned by the program's Clinical Coordinator. While an attempt is made to place you at a site that is close to your resident location, there may be portions of the program in which, to maximize your educational experience, you may be assigned to a clinical site that requires travel of about 1 hour to 1.5 hours each way. Are you willing to enter the program knowing that your clinical education may require this distance?

_____ yes _____ no _____ not sure

I have reviewed the list of Essential functions/technical standards for a student in this program and are applicable as an employed sonographer.

_____ yes _____ no

If I have questions regarding any of the Essential functions/technical standards, I will contact the Chair of Sonography or the Misericordia University Office for Student Disabilities.

_____ yes _____ no

(please turn over)

Educational History:
Graduation from High School _____ (name)

College/University _____ (name) _____ past ____ current

_____ (name) _____ past ____ current

Degree(s) or certifications held _____

Pre-requisite course history

Please indicate where you completed, in progress (IP), or the semester in which you plan to complete the following program pre-requisites (N):

	Completed (college abbrev)	In progress(IP) or need(N)
College Math – Algebra/Stats	_____	_____
Physics	_____	_____
Communication (writing or oral)	_____	_____
Anatomy and Physiology I	_____	_____
Anatomy and Physiology II	_____	_____
Ethics (Philosophy)	_____	_____
Medical Terminology	_____	_____

Patient Care (offered here as a 1 credit course fall 2027 semester)

All transcripts and reference forms must be received no later than February 5, 2027 to be considered an applicant for the initial round of decisions.

Please have transcripts then sent to my attention or to Maureen Sheridan in the Admissions Office.