Medical Radiography
Pre-Professional Program
2025-2026

General Areas of Service: Radiographers, also known as radiological technologists (X-ray techs), are most known for taking X-rays in the diagnosis of broken bones. However, medical uses of radiation expand far beyond this. Radiological technology is also concerned with the use of radioactive substances and other forms of radiant energy in the treatment and diagnosis of disease, such as ultrasound, CT, and magnetic resonance imaging. Radiographers may administer radiographic contrasts and fluoroscopies to produce images of the interior of the body, such as visualizing the gastrointestinal and urinary tracts.
Most radiographers work in hospitals. Others may work in medical school systems as instructors or chief technologists. Radiological technologists may be confused with nuclear medical technologists, who focus on imaging the metabolic functions of the body rather than the anatomical structure.

Professional Training: Advanced training is needed if one wants to prepare for administration, clinical practice, education, or health physics. Formal training is offered in radiography, radiation therapy, and diagnostic medical sonography (ultrasound). Programs range in length from one to four years and lead to a certificate, associate degree, or bachelor's degree. Two-year programs are the most prevalent. Many programs may allow students to specialize in different imaging devices.

Job Outlook: The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) states, "employment of radiologic technologists is projected to grow 6 percent from 2020 to 2030, about as fast as the average for all occupations. About 16,600 openings for radiologic and MRI technologists are projected each year, on average, over the decade". According to the BLS, growth in the profession will be linked to an aging population that will be more prone to breaks, fractures, and medical conditions such as cancer and Alzheimer's disease. (See www.bls.gov)

Earnings: In their May 2021 salary survey, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports the median annual wage for radiologic technologists was $61,370, with the lowest 10 percent earning less than $46,850 and the highest 10 percent earning more than $94,880. (See www.bls.gov)

Note: **The clinical portion of this degree cannot be completed at Walla Walla University.**

PRE-PROFESSION: MEDICAL RADIOGRAPHY

Winter Education Complex
(509) 527-2325

Websites
Walla Walla University
University Bulletin

Pre-Profession: Medical Radiography

Faculty
Advisor
Gerry Larson

Professional Organizations
American Society of Radiologic Technologists

American Registry of Radiologic Technologists

National Health Council, Inc.

Additional Sources
Loma Linda School of Allied Health Professions: Radiation Technology

Suggested Degree Path

See the Undergraduate Bulletin for Details

The chart below details one suggested path a student may take to complete a pre-profession in Medical Radiography.

Freshman Year

Fall Courses	Hours
Anatomy & Physiology (BIOL 121)	4
Social Science Option (PSYC 130 OR SOCI 204)	4
College Writing I (ENGL 121)	3
Precalculus I (MATH 121)	4
General Studies	1
Total	16

Winter Courses	Hours
Anatomy & Physiology (BIOL 122)	4
Conceptual Physics & Lab (PHYS 201 & 204)	4
Fundamentals of Speech Comm. (SPCH 101)	4
College Writing II (ENGL 122)	3
General Studies	1
Total	16

Spring Courses	Hours
Anatomy & Physiology (BIOL 123)	4
Social Science Option (PSYC 130 OR SOCI 204)	4
Medical Terminology (NRSG 234)	2
Research Writing (ENGL 223)	3
General Studies	3
Total	16

+ Offered even years only - Offered odd years only

Students should find out the specific entrance requirements of the school(s) they are interested in attending. The minimum admission requirements for the radiological technology program at Loma Linda University are 8 hours of experience (volunteer/employee) in a radiology department, 42 quarter hours (including the courses listed above).

Loma Linda Requirements:

1. High school computer course or college computer course must be taken.
2. Observation experience in an EP lab with a minimum of 2 exams observed.
3. C- grades will not be accepted for transfer credit at LLU.