



HEALTH CAREER PROGRAMS



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**Nuclear Medicine
Technology**
INFORMATION SESSION





PROGRAM COORDINATOR

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ADVISING & COUNSELING DEPARTMENTS

<https://www.triton.edu/students/advising--counseling/>

Academic Advisors

<https://www.triton.edu/admissions-aid/advising/>

Counselors

<https://www.triton.edu/admissions-aid/counseling/>



What is Nuclear Medicine?

- Nuclear medicine determines the cause of the medical problem based on the function of the organ, whereas other imaging modalities like x-ray and ultrasound use structure.
- Very small amounts of radioactive materials (radiopharmaceuticals) are administered to diagnose and treat disease.
- These materials localize in the body based on cell physiology and metabolism to show function along with anatomy.
- Nuclear Medicine images can detect abnormalities early, with new and innovative nuclear medicine treatments they are able to pinpoint molecular levels within the body.
- This offers the potential to identify disease in its earliest stages to help physicians provide therapeutic interventions.
- Nuclear medicine procedures are among the safest diagnostic imaging tests available.





What does a Nuclear Medicine Technologist do?

- Works closely with nuclear medicine physician
- Prepares and administers radiopharmaceuticals
- Works directly with patient taking their history, explaining procedures and answering questions
- Takes images that allows the Nuclear Medicine physician to see what is happening inside the body using sophisticated radiation detecting instrumentation
- Monitors patient during procedures
- Prepares images for the physician to interpret the results of the study





Is Nuclear Medicine a field for you?

- You'll be working with patients, sometimes very sick patients
- You'll be responsible for effectively communicating with the patient
- You'll prepare and perform injections of radioactive material
- You'll follow safety regulations and guidelines
- You'll be actively working for usually an 8 hour shift that requires some physical work of lifting and moving
- You'll be working and processing sophisticated instrumentation that is interfaced with computers
- You'll be part of the team that cares for the patient



What is the Nuclear Medicine Technology program like at Triton College?

- Students work toward completing an Associate in Applied Science
- 5 semester long program
- Program includes Nuclear Medicine courses as well as general education requirements for degree
- Every semester some course work taught at college and last three semesters also includes clinical rotations at three different affiliates of the program
- All program coursework and clinical rotations only offered during the day
- Nuclear Medicine courses require preparation and study to be successful. It is recommended that for every 1 hour in class students plan on studying 2 hours outside of class a week.



Summary of Cost

IN-DISTRICT TUITION 2019-2020 RATES

\$200.00 / Credit Hour

some courses also have additional fees
(lab fees, student fees, travel, etc.)

Please refer to Triton's catalog

OUT-OF-DISTRICT TUITION 2019-2020 RATES

\$365.00 / Credit Hour

additional fees apply-refer to Triton's catalog



Suggested - Admission Procedure

- Attend Information Session in person *
- Complete College application online
- Complete Program application online
- Send or bring official High School and other College official transcripts to Triton College's Admission Office

Attending an Information Session in person provides much more information regarding the field and the program as well as allows the opportunity to meet the Program Coordinator and have your questions answered.

Admission Procedure 2

- Complete Triton College application online
- Complete Program application online
- Send or bring official High School and other College official transcripts to Triton College's Admission Office



The Nuclear Medicine Technology Program is one of the selected admission programs at Triton College. Before being admitted to the program, specific course work is required. The Nuclear Medicine Technology Program Pre-requisites are:

Must read and write at college level; can be demonstrated by course equivalency, or by meeting all current reading and writing requirements for RHT101 placement.

- **PHY100 (General Physics)**
- **MAT110 (College Algebra) or must meet current college math requirement for completion of MAT110.**
- **BIS240 (Human Anatomy and Physiology I)**
- Completion of the Math and Science pre-requisites must not be more than 5 years old.
- All prerequisite coursework must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.
- All test scores must be within the last two years.



Nuclear Medicine Technology Program schedule

*Does not include general education coursework requirements for graduation

1 st semester- Fall	classes T, Th morning
2 nd semester-Spring	classes T, W and Th morning
3 rd semester-Summer	clinical rotation M, T, Th, F full day, class W day
4 th semester-Fall	clinical rotation M, W, F full day, classes T, Th afternoon
5 th semester-Spring	clinical rotation M, W, F full day, classes T, Th afternoon



Semester 1

NUM100	Science of Nuclear Medicine	3
NUM103	Radiation Safety and Protection	2
RHT101	Freshmen Rhetoric & Composition	3
AHL120	Comprehensive Medical Terminology	3
CHM110	Fundamentals of Chemistry	4
		<u>15</u>

Semester 2

NUM140	Instrumentation in Nuclear Medicine	5
NUM155	Patient Care in Nuclear Medicine	2
SPE101	Principles of Effective Speaking	3
BIS241	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
AHL102	Ethics and Law for Allied Health	1
		<u>15</u>

Semester 3

NUM160	Nuclear Medicine Procedures I	3
NUM161	Applied Nuclear Medicine Technology I	1
NUM181	Applied Nuclear Medicine Technology II	1
		<u>5</u>

Semester 4

NUM260	Nuclear Medicine Procedures II	4
NUM261	Applied Nuclear Medicine Technology III	2
NUM262	Nuclear Medicine Pharmacy I	2
NUM265	Principles of PET in Nuclear Medicine	2
	Social and Behavioral Science general ed. requirement	<u>3</u>
		13

Semester 5

NUM280	Nuclear Medicine Procedures III	4
NUM281	Applied Nuclear Medicine Technology IV	2
NUM282	Nuclear Medicine Pharmacy II	2
NUM285	Principles of CT in Nuclear Medicine	1
	Humanities general ed. requirement	<u>3</u>
		12

Total credits required for graduation	60
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Mandatory Drug testing and Background checks are completed prior to students starting their clinical rotations.

Students are responsible for these costs.

Future employment and ability to sit for certification exams may be jeopardized by some disqualifying criminal convictions



Salaries/Job Outlook

- **New Graduate**
 - about \$55,000 / year
 - \$26-28 / hour in greater Chicago land area
 - Limited Employment Opportunities
- **New grads - part-time or registry employment , some full time**
- **Areas of Employment for graduates**
 - Hospitals
 - Outpatient clinics
 - Mobile services
 - Computer applications
 - Sales
- **The Nuclear Medicine Associate in Applied Science degree can be coupled with certificates from other modalities to improve marketability for employment such as :**
 - Computed Tomography
 - Ultrasound
 - MRI
 - Radiation Therapy





Following program completion graduates need to pass certification exam and if working in Illinois need to secure license to handle radioactive material from the Illinois Emergency Management Agency.



Students complete certification exam through:

NMTCB

3558 Habersham at Northlake

Building I

Tucker, GA 30084-4009

Phone 404-315-1739

Website: nmtcb.org

and/or

ARRT

1255 Northland Drive

St Paul, MN 55120

Website: arrt.org

Program is accredited by :

Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology

820 W. Danforth Road #B1

Edmond, OK 73003

Tel 405.285.0546

Website: jrcnmt.org



For additional information about the profession contact:

The Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging
Technologist Section
1850 Samuel Morse Drive
Reston, VA 20190-5316
Tel 703-708-9000
Website: snm.org