

Magnetic Resonance Technologist

Magnetic resonance technologists use radiowaves, magnetic fields, and computerized equipment to produce images of body tissues. MR technologists strive to provide quality patient care while producing images of anatomy that permit accurate diagnoses. MR technologists use problem-solving and critical-thinking skills to adapt procedural requirements to the patient and specific area of study.



Career Description

Magnetic resonance technologists apply knowledge of anatomy, physiology, positioning, and MR protocols in the performance of their responsibilities. They must be able to communicate effectively with patients, other health professionals, and the public. The MR technologist must show competence and compassion in meeting the special needs of the patient.



Employment Characteristics

Magnetic resonance technologists are employed in health care facilities—including hospitals, specialized imaging centers, urgent care clinics, and physician offices—and as educators or imaging department administrators.



Salary

Salary and benefits are generally competitive with other health professions and vary according to experience and employment location. Data from the 2007 Wage and Salary Survey of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) indicate that the average salary for practitioners with less than 2 years of experience is \$48,371, the overall average is \$61,928, and the average salary of the top 5% of earners is \$83,638. For more information, refer to www.ama-assn.org/go/hpsalary.



Educational Programs

Length. Program length varies, depending on program design, objectives, and the degree or certificate awarded.

Curriculum. Many, though not all, programs require certification as a radiographer as a prerequisite. The curriculum of an accredited program includes an extensive component of technical and professional courses, including an emphasis on structured competency-based clinical education. Contact a particular program for information on specific courses and prerequisites.



Inquiries

Careers/Curriculum

American Society of Radiologic Technologists
15000 Central Avenue SE
Albuquerque, NM 87123
505 298-4500
E-mail: customerinfo@asrt.org
www.asrt.org

Certification/Registration

American Registry of Radiologic Technologists
1255 Northland Drive
St Paul, MN 55120
651 687-0048
www.arrt.org

Program Accreditation

Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
20 N Wacker Drive, Suite 2850
Chicago, IL 60606-3182
312 704-5300
312 704-5304 Fax
E-mail: mail@jrcert.org
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