

# Diagnostic Cardiovascular Sonography (DCVS)

## Program Description

Sonography is the use of high-frequency sound waves, also known as ultrasound, to observe the internal world of the human body. ACC offers a two year program which prepares individuals for a health career in Echocardiography, Vascular Technology, or Pediatric Echocardiography which are branches of Diagnostic Medical Sonography. Upon graduation, students will possess the skills necessary to perform ultrasound and related diagnostic exams of the heart or blood vessels.

The Advanced Technical Certificate program is a condensed version of the A.A.S. option available to students that already have a degree in an allied healthcare related field.

Graduates of these programs may earn their credentials by taking the national registry exam offered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS). Adult and Echocardiography and Vascular Technology are accredited through the Joint Review Committee for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS) which is under the umbrella of the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).

## Career Opportunities

Sonographers typically work in hospitals, but they may also work in physician offices, diagnostic centers, ultrasound equipment vendors as sales or application specialists, mobile services, and contract agencies. Career opportunities in the Houston - Galveston area and nationally remain strong. Recruiters contact ACC regularly about qualified students to fill job openings. According to [www.onetonline.com](http://www.onetonline.com) the average salary for a Diagnostic Sonographer in Texas is \$61,500.



# Diagnostic Cardiovascular Sonography (DCVS)

## Options

### Associate of Applied Science Degree

DCVS – Echocardiography.....70 credit hours  
(2 years)

DCVS – Vascular Technology.....70 credit hours  
(2 years)

DCVS – Pediatric Echocardiography.....70 credit hours  
(2 years)

### Advanced Technical Certificate – Allied Healthcare Providers

DCVS – Echocardiography.....39 credit hours  
(1½ years)

DCVS – Vascular Technology.....39 credit hours  
(1½ years)

DCVS – Pediatric Echocardiography..... 27 credit hours  
(1½ years)

## Program Investment

The Diagnostic Cardiovascular Sonography Associate Degree program costs approximately \$7,000\*. This amount is based on a pre-set curriculum sequence and in-district tuition. It includes tuition, fees, textbooks, scrubs, supplies, seminars, parking at clinical sites and malpractice insurance.

\* Tuition and fees are subject to change without notice.

## Advantages of ACC

- Small classes and personal attention.
- Dedicated faculty who care about your success.
- Hands-on clinical experience at area medical facilities.
- Affordable tuition and fees – Financial assistance available to those who qualify.

For more information call [281.756.5650](tel:281.756.5650)  
or email [Sonography@alvincollege.edu](mailto:Sonography@alvincollege.edu).

Alvin Community College 281.756.3500  
3110 Mustang Road • Alvin, TX 77511

Disability Services 281.756.3531  
TDD 281.756.3845

Alvin Community College does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, handicap, age, national origin, or veteran status. The college reserves the right to alter or discontinue courses and programs.

8/11