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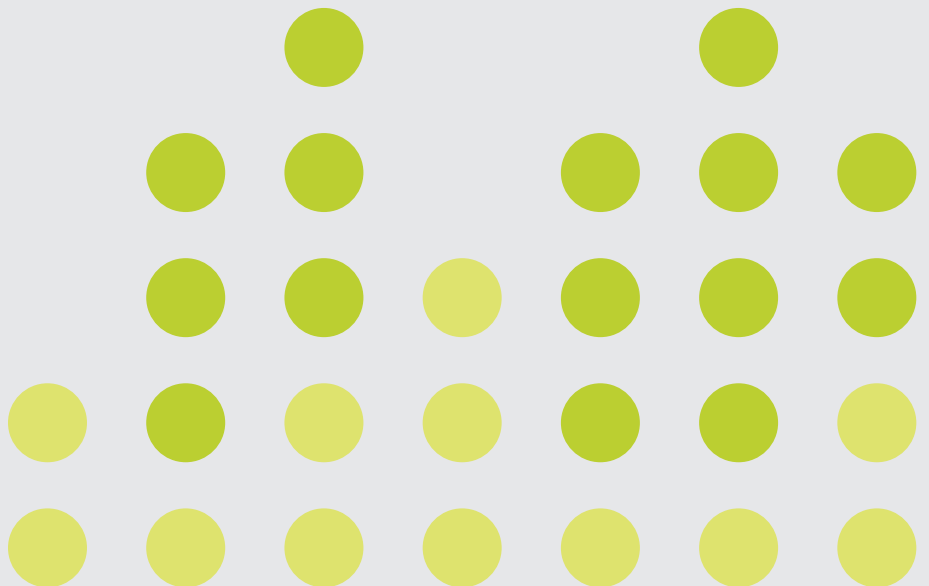


Industry Snapshots

Medical Imaging Careers

Tools for the Career Counselor

This data was prepared for California Community Colleges and pertains to community college-level coursework as a resource for counselors to share with students.



The Bottom Line

Careers and jobs in healthcare continue to grow, and are somewhat recession-proof. In California, there are over one million jobs in healthcare; the industry is booming because California will add about 12 million people in the next 20 years. There is a high demand for students from diverse populations and those who can speak languages other than English. Over half of all medical imaging employees work in hospitals; most of the rest work in doctors' offices or medical and diagnostic laboratories.

Job Descriptions

Job descriptions and occupational information can be easily accessed at ONET online (<http://online.onetcenter.org/find/>) The SOC codes are noted below for easy access.

- 29-1124 Radiation Therapists
- 29-2031 Cardiovascular technologists and technicians
- 29-2032 Diagnostic medical sonographers
- 29-2033 Nuclear medicine technologists
- 29-2034 Radiologic technologists and technicians

Regional Snapshot

Los Angeles & Orange Counties
2007 - 2012

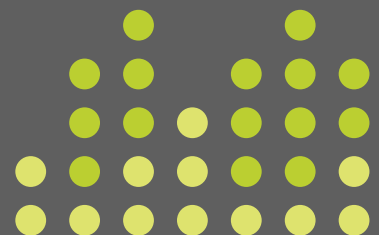


Description	Jobs in L.A. and Orange Counties	Growth in job openings (5yrs)	2007 Average Hourly Earnings*	Licenses/ Certification Required
Radiologic technologists and technicians	6603	18%	\$26.85	ARRT Certification
Cardiovascular technologists and technicians	1436	23%	\$26.80	One Year of Training Required – No License
Diagnostic medical sonographers	1843	19%	\$30.15	No License Required Professional Association Certification Preferred
Nuclear Medicine Technologists (3 year program or BA degree)	751	17%	\$34.83	State Certification
Radiation therapists (3 year program or BA)	503	23%	\$40.63	Dept of Health Certification

*These earnings average \$10/hour more than the average for all allied health occupations

Student Tips

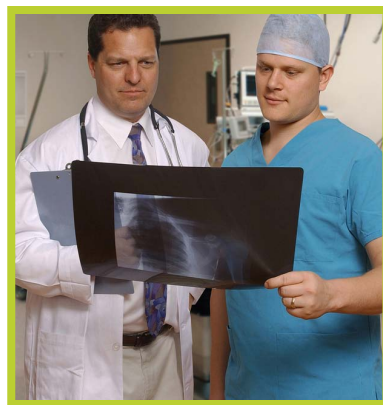
- **Imaging Specialties:** The ability to find good positions will increase if the candidate is licensed/certified in more than one occupation or specialty. For example, Radiologic Technicians who are also certified as mammographers and/or CT Technicians are in greater demand. Imaging employees may earn more if they have multiple certifications from various professional and/or government organizations. Many of the new techniques are learned "on-the-job" when experienced staff attend training provided by the vendors of new equipment. But, the more common specialties (like MRI, CT, or Mammography) can be learned in the community college programs.
- **Clinical Practice:** Students should make sure their educational program includes clinical practice at reputable hospitals or imaging facilities. All of the community college programs have clinical practice, which is why they are longer than the private programs. Many community college students get their first job from the site where they conducted their clinical practice.
- **Career Ladders:** Although Radiologic Technologist is considered the entry-level medical imaging position, students can start as a Cardiovascular Technician or Diagnostic Medical Sonographer with only one year of training. Then, they can go on to complete longer programs and become licensed Radiologic Technologists, and continue to advance by adding specialties (like MRI, CT, Mammography). With added training, it is possible to become a Registered Radiologic Assistant. Imaging Technologists that can lead to a supervisory or management position. Finally, by adding another year of school or earning a B.A. degree, Technologists can become a Radiation Therapist or a Nuclear Medicine Technologist.



Educational Track

Here is a listing of community colleges in Los Angeles and Orange Counties offering Medical Imaging Programs.

College	Degree Programs	Certificate Programs
El Camino College/Compton College Center	AS Degree – Radiologic Technology	Certificate of Accomplishment Radiology Technology
Cypress College	AS- Diagnostic Medical Sonography AS- Radiologic Technology	One year Certificate in Radiology Assistant/ Darkroom Technician
Long Beach City College	AS Degree – Diagnostic Medical Imaging Sciences (Radiologic Technology)	Certificate of Achievement
Los Angeles City College	AS Degree – Radiologic Technology	
Mt. San Antonio College	AS Degree – Radiologic Technology	
Orange Coast College	AS Degree – Radiologic Technology AS Degree – Diagnostic Medical Sonography AS Degree – Cardiovascular Technology	Certificate of Achievement – Electrocardiography Technician
Pasadena City College	AS Degree – Radiologic Technology	Certificate of Achievement – Radiologic Technology



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