

NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Sciences (BSRS)

Concentrations: Radiography and Sonography

SPECIAL ADMISSION, PROGRESSION, DISMISSAL AND GRADUATION POLICIES

The student who indicates the Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Sciences (BSRS) as a major with a concentration in radiography or sonography must meet University admission requirements and comply with academic regulations and policies.

The student who has been denied progression in courses or dismissed from another Imaging Sciences program will be evaluated on an individual basis. Students who have been dismissed from the BSRS degree program concentration at NSU are not eligible for readmission into any clinical concentration within the BSRS program.

Felony and misdemeanor convictions, regardless of resolution, may cause a student to be ineligible to take the national certification examination given by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) for the radiography concentration or the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) for the sonography concentration.

Individuals who have been arrested, charged with, pled guilty or no contest to, or been sentenced for any criminal offense or misdemeanor in any state must contact the ARRT for the radiography concentration or the ARDMS for the sonography concentration.

Radiography concentration background check:

The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) reserves the right to disapprove the writing of the National Registry to persons who have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor.

The final order of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists will determine the individual's eligibility for consideration for admission to the Radiology clinical courses. The final order is to be submitted to the BSRS program concentration director/coordinator prior to enrollment in RADS 3311.

American Registry of Radiologic Technologists
1255 Northland Drive
St. Paul, Minnesota 55120-1155
Website: <https://www.arrt.org/>
Phone: (651) 687- 0048

Sonography concentration background check:

The American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) requires that anyone who has been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony submit details of the charge and its resolution prior to making the decision of eligibility to apply for ARDMS certification. To obtain a Compliance Pre-determination Application, contact the ARDMS. The final order of the ARDMS will determine the individual's eligibility for consideration for admission to the clinical courses. The final order is to be submitted to the BSRS program director/coordinator prior to enrollment in SONO 3311.

American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography
1401 Rockville Pike
Suite 600
Rockville, MD 20852-1402
Website: <https://www.ardms.org/>
Phone: (301) 738 - 8401

Following clinical acceptance, students must IMMEDIATELY report any subsequent disciplinary action, arrest, criminal charge or conviction, substance addiction, impairment, or similar issue to the appropriate Concentration Program Director/Coordinator AND relevant licensing organization at the time of occurrence during the clinical sequence of the program. All required documentation will be reviewed to determine the student's continued eligibility to progress in the clinical sequence of the program.

The following statements relating to admission, progression, dismissal, and graduation are consistent with the University's policies.

Special Admission Requirements for the University

1. An Application for Admission to the University.
2. Official transcripts from all universities and educational programs attended must be submitted to the Office of Admissions, Northwestern State University.
3. All freshmen and transfer applicants with fewer than three credits in English composition and three credits in college mathematics beyond the developmental level must adhere to all university admission requirements.

Application Requirements for Enrollment in Clinical Courses

Admission to the University does not guarantee enrollment in clinical courses. Selection for enrollment in clinical courses is on a competitive basis for available spaces.

Students must meet the following minimum criteria to be considered for selection for enrollment in BSRS clinical courses:

1. Admission to the University and submission of all official transcripts to the University Registrar and Office of Admissions on the Natchitoches campus.
2. Students must be in good standing with the University and the College of Nursing and the School of Allied Health.
3. A cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above.
4. A minimum grade of "C" must be earned in all required biology, physical science, English, mathematics, allied health, and BSRS (RADS and SONO) courses on the final attempt.
5. Completion of pre-requisite general academic courses in the first three semesters toward the degree.
6. A minimum grade point average of 2.7 in all BSRS curriculum academic courses completed, excluding electives. The student's calculated GPA for clinical ranking consists of all grades (including repeated and failed courses) earned in required courses completed at the time of the application.
7. Successful completion of the required entrance examination for BSRS, with a score

that meets or exceeds the established minimum. All entrance exams must be taken in a face-to-face setting with an approved in-person proctor. No remote proctored exams will be accepted.

8. Completion of application to enroll in BSRS Clinical Courses, which includes:
 - a. Completion of the Clinical Application by the required deadline.
 - b. Copy of scores on the required entrance examination for BSRS.
 - c. Response to any Requests for Waiver of Policy (if applicable).
 - d. Must complete a background check by the clinical application deadline.
9. Submission of a completed Clinical Application to Enroll in BSRS Clinical Courses is required no later than the published deadline.
10. Students must have completed all required courses and criteria by the last day of the Northwestern State University semester of requested enrollment. Official transcripts of grades earned from other institutions must be submitted to the Office of Admissions at Northwestern State University by the last day of the NSU semester preceding the date of requested enrollment.
11. The clinical application is valid for one enrollment cycle only and does not carry over to future admission periods.
12. No clinical application will be accepted after the designated deadline.

Selection for Enrollment in BSRS Clinical Courses

Admission to the University does not guarantee enrollment in BSRS clinical courses. Applicants who submit a completed application to enroll in BSRS clinical courses will be selected for admission on a competitive basis according to the following criteria:

1. Grade point average in all completed courses that are required for the degree, excluding elective hours, prior to clinical admission (60%).
2. Entrance examination score (highest of all face-to-face attempts) (30%).
3. Number of general academic credit hours required for the degree completed at Northwestern State University (10%).
4. The final attempt of a repeated course must result in a passing grade.

Students admitted to the first clinical course level must submit a completed Undergraduate Studies in BSRS Health Form by the required deadline following registration. These forms and reporting processes will be provided to the applicants with notification of acceptance for enrollment in BSRS clinical courses. Repeat health forms and immunizations are required every year thereafter.

A Final Order from the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (radiography concentration) or the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (sonography concentration) (if applicable), must be submitted to the program concentration director/coordinator prior to registration in RADS 3311 or SONO 3311.

Criteria for Progression in Undergraduate Studies in BSRS major.

1. Complete prerequisites and co-requisites for courses outlined in the curriculum pattern.
2. Earn at least a 2.0 GPA on courses outlined in the curriculum pattern.
3. Earn a minimum grade of "C" in all required biology, physical sciences, English and mathematics courses.

4. Earn a minimum grade of “C” in all required BSRS (RADS or SONO) and allied health courses before progressing to the next required clinical level according to the current BSRS curriculum.
5. A (RADS or SONO) or allied health course may be repeated one time only. Therefore, students may take the same BSRS (RADS or SONO) or allied health course two times. The final attempt of a repeated course must result in a passing grade.
6. A maximum of two different BSRS (RADS or SONO) or ALHE courses may be repeated, including those dropped with a grade of “W,” audit, or incomplete. Therefore, a third failure will result in non-progression and dismissal from the designated concentration.
7. Maintain current BLS and remain current with health form requirements and immunizations.
8. A student must have a primary major declared for the program from which they plan to graduate.
9. The student must comply with all requirements in the affiliation agreements of clinical agencies.
10. Must maintain ARRT or ARDMS eligibility.
11. Returning students who are repeating the first clinical level will need to complete a new clinical application, background check, and be ranked to compete for clinical admission. Clinical admission is not guaranteed for returning first-level clinical students. Students must meet all admission criteria, including concentration GPA.
12. Students approved to repeat-re-enroll clinical levels 2-7 will be based on clinical capacity.
13. Students approved to repeat-re-enroll clinical levels 2-7, and who re-enter the program after an absence of one year, must successfully pass a re-entry examination to demonstrate retention of essential licensure content necessary for continued success in the program.
14. The student repeating BSRS (RADS or SONO) or allied health courses must concurrently enroll in the co-requisite courses.
15. Students are limited to one-time re-entry and progression into the program for clinical levels 2-7 due to failure of a course or extenuating circumstances. Collectively, students are granted readmission and reentry into the program no more than one time, regardless of their clinical level.

Criteria for Dismissal from Undergraduate Studies in BSRS

A student is subject to dismissal from Undergraduate Studies in BSRS for the following reasons:

1. Failure to achieve at least a “C” when repeating or enrolling for the second time in the same required BSRS (RADS or SONO) or allied health course.
2. Failure of more than two required BSRS (RADS or SONO) or allied health courses.
3. The need to repeat/re-enroll in more than two required BSRS (RADS or SONO) or allied health courses.
4. Participation in academic dishonesty and/or unauthorized possession of an examination.
5. Plagiarism.

6. Falsification of patient, personal, and/or agency records.
7. The unlawful and/or unauthorized use, abuse, possession, distribution, transportation, manufacture, concealment, consumption, promotion, or sale of alcohol, illegal drugs, legal drugs obtained illegally, controlled substances, or designer drugs.
8. Illegal possession of weapons.
9. Theft.
10. Improper or abusive use of social media.
11. Lack of professional compatibility or unsafe clinical practice as identified by the BSRS faculty.
12. Failure to comply with Essential Academic Performance & Technical Standards policies.
13. Loss of ARRT or ARDMS eligibility.

Criteria for Graduation

Criteria for graduation from Undergraduate Studies in BSRS are:

1. Complete the University requirements for graduation.
2. Complete the approved curriculum within a four-year period after enrollment in the first clinical radiology course.
3. A minimum grade of “C” in all required biology, physical sciences, English, mathematics, BSRS (RADS or SONO), and allied health courses.
4. Students must have their correct major and concentration on file with the registrar to graduate.
5. The final attempt of a repeated course must result in a passing grade.

Criteria for Transfer Students

Students transferring credit from accredited BSRS programs must meet the following criteria:

1. Students must meet all Northwestern State University criteria for admission to the University.
2. The BSRS (RADS or SONO) clinical concentration programs do not accept “clinical” **course** transfer credits from other **imaging sciences programs**.

Requests for Waiver of Policies

1. Requests for Waiver of the Admission, Progression, Dismissal and Graduation Policies (APDG) should be submitted to:
 - BSRS Director
 - BSRS Program Concentration Coordinator
 - APDG Appeals Committee Chair

2. The request for APDG waiver form is located on the School of Allied Health webpage: <https://www.nsula.edu/alliedhealth/>
3. For Grade Appeals or University Suspension Appeals, refer to the University Academic Regulations and Policies in the University Catalog (Registrar – Northwestern State University).