

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST

A radiologic technologist is sometimes called an x-ray technician or radiographic technician. However, the term radiographer or radiologic technologists is preferred. Radiologic technologists support physician diagnoses by taking x-rays using a variety of different equipment and techniques. Typical responsibilities include transporting and preparing patients for x-rays and contrast studies. This may include starting an IV and injecting a radiopaque liquid, under the auspices of a radiologist, before taking a x-ray film. Radiologic technologists support orthopedic surgeries using a C arm x-ray machine in operating rooms. After a x-ray is shot, technologists process and develop the film using different methods from dark rooms to digital copying. Radiologic technologists provide information/education to patients regarding x-ray procedures, deal with physician orders, and correct authorization/paper work for reimbursement.

Where do radiologic technologists work in Alaska?



Radiologic Technologists work wherever there is a health care provider who has the equipment and authority to order x-rays. In rural Alaska, most are employed by hospitals or clinics in larger regional centers. Other radiologic technologists work in private offices, dental offices, medical laboratories, and in some private industrial situations.



Hourly Wage Range*

\$20.61-\$37.23 (Mean \$27.94)

*based on Alaska DOL data

An Alaska Hot Job!



Years in School: 2-4*

*after high school graduation

Educational Requirements



- Graduation from high school.
- Completion of a formal Radiologic Technology training program, preferably an associate degree or greater. Frequently students will go on to complete higher degrees.
- Some specialty areas include nuclear medicine technology, mammography, computerized tomography (CT scan), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and radiation therapy. Some of these specialties involve classroom and clinical training while others are learned on the job.
- A national certification examination is offered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technology.

Academic Programs in Alaska

University of Alaska Anchorage
Medical Imaging Sciences
Phone: (907) 786-6929
Email: ayradiology@uaa.alaska.edu
Web site: <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/ctc/programs/alliedhealth/radt/>

Note: Besides the UAA campus, the program is currently distance delivered to a few students in Fairbanks, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan and Bethel.

The University of Alaska Southeast offers a Certificate in Pre-Radiological Technology Qualifications (CPRTQ) which prepares students to enter professional imaging programs. For more information, contact Sarah Harvey with UAS Health Sciences at (907) 796-6128 or sarah.harvey@uas.alaska.edu.

State and National Contacts

State Contact:

Alaska Society of Radiologic Technologists
Web site: <http://www.angelfire.com/ak5/aksrt/index.html>

National Contacts:

American Society of Radiologic Technologists
Toll free: (800) 444-2778 press 5
Web site: <http://www.asrt.org/>

The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists
Phone: (651) 687-0048
Web site: <http://www.arrt.org/index.html>

Information from: www.healthcareersinalaska.info

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developed by Alaska Center for Rural Health-Alaska's AHEC: <http://nursing.uaa.alaska.edu/acrh/>