

DEGREE(S)

+ Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Magnetic Resonance Imaging

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is a medical imaging specialty used to visualize detailed structures within the human body. MRI provides contrast between the different tissues of the body and is especially useful in imaging the brain, spine and joints. The superior resolution of the images and advancing technology is rapidly increasing the variety of exams an MRI technologist will perform.

Unlike traditional X-rays, MRI does not expose patients to ionizing radiation. MRI uses a strong magnet and radio waves to produce clear pictures of internal body structures. These pictures aid health care professionals in diagnosing and treating patients.

Today, MRI offers procedures that are helpful to a broad span of medical specialties. These specialties include neurology, sports medicine, cardiology, pediatrics and more. MRI technologists are educated and trained to work with patients and other members of the health care team to obtain high-quality images in a safe and effective manner.

Students are encouraged to participate in all of the activities that SLU offers. This includes all of the organizations, facilities and events that encompass student life. MRI students are encouraged to join and participate in the functions of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists.

ABOUT THE FACULTY

The faculty and staff in the Magnetic Resonance Imaging program are dedicated to the scholarship and success of all students. All faculty are credentialed and provide a wealth of knowledge and expertise.

CURRICULUM

Advantages to earning your B.S. in Magnetic Resonance Imaging at Saint Louis University include:

- + A curriculum with an interprofessional focus that emphasizes a team approach to health care
- + Instruction by professionally credentialed faculty
- + A flexible curriculum that allows diverse areas of concentration
- + Medically relevant coursework ideal for pre-professional curriculum options, including pre-med and pre-physician assistant
- + Opportunities to participate in professional conferences with SLU faculty and fellow students
- + Undergraduate opportunities to conduct research and produce projects/papers acceptable for publication and presentation at professional conferences

ADMISSION.SLU.EDU

Contact

Doisy College of Health Sciences
314-977-2570
dchs@health.slu.edu

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Graduate Programs

For a full listing of programs, visit graduate.slu.edu

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission consideration for the Magnetic Resonance Imaging program is initially based on a strong overall academic background.

Admission criteria include:

- + Minimum GPA of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale
- + Minimum ACT score of 22 with no subsection lower than 20 (or equivalent SAT score)

Applicants are encouraged to contact the department about availability in the program.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

- + Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need. In addition to University scholarships, the Doisy College of Health Sciences Alumni Association offers a scholarship to sophomores, juniors and seniors.
- + Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For more information, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.

WHY CHOOSE THIS PROGRAM?

- + SLU's Bachelor of Science in Magnetic Resonance Imaging is one of only two programs of its kind in the country.
- + The MRI program at SLU contains a strong science curriculum which prepares students for immediate job placement as well as graduate study.
- + The MRI program offers a tailored curriculum including individual mentorship by MRI faculty and clinical training sites within the St. Louis metropolitan area.

There are also many opportunities for MRI technologists in various locations. Jobs can be found in the following settings:

- + Medical and surgical hospitals
- + Freestanding clinics
- + Physician offices
- + Research institutions

Some jobs are classified as traveling jobs where the employee provides temporary help to departments that are short-staffed for a period of time. These technologists travel regularly, with the length of stay and location varying.

Career advancement opportunities from the position of staff technologist may lead to areas of administration, education, sales or research.

The practice of MRI encompasses multidisciplinary skills. MRI technologists are not exposed to ionizing radiation and are not required to monitor their exposure to the magnet. The responsibilities of the MRI technologist include:

- + Operation of imaging, laboratory and computer instrumentation
- + Empathetic and instructional approach to patient care
- + Preparation of contrast agents
- + Performance of quality control procedures
- + Application of accepted standards of MRI safety and protection

The salary range for an MRI technologist depends on geographic location, years of experience and education. The median annual wage is \$65,960 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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