

### **Legal Limitations**

Individuals who have a criminal record may not be eligible for licensure. Therefore, it is recommended that he or she contact the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) to verify eligibility for licensure. All students will be required to complete a national criminal background check prior to placement in clinical practicums. Clinical facilities also require a drug screen prior to placement. The clinical affiliate determines whether a student can participate in the clinical rotation based upon the results of the background check and drug screen. Should the student be denied clinical placement, he or she cannot progress through the program and will be dismissed. Careful consideration of any questionable record should be carefully scrutinized prior to application, as eligibility for licensure is at the discretion of the ARDMS.

ARDMS website: [www.ardms.org](http://www.ardms.org)

### **Clinical Obligations and Acceptance**

If accepted, students will have a clinical component of the program to complete. Clinical placement is equally distributed among students. Although the majority of the clinical component is carried out during day time hours, less than 25% of the total clinical assignments will be during evening and/or weekend hours. Program clinical locations are mainly located outside the city limits, and all expenses associated with travel are the student's responsibility. Additionally, some program clinical affiliates require drug screens (initial and random), criminal background checks, periodic tuberculosis skin tests and specific vaccinations. If the student is placed in a facility requiring any/all of these items, the cost will be the student's responsibility. Documentation of all immunizations and vaccinations will be collected prior to the start of clinical observations. Failure to provide this documentation will prevent the student from being allowed to attend clinical settings. These absences will be unexcused and may lead to the student's dismissal from the program.

### **Pregnancy Policy**

Please refer to the program's handbook on the [college web site](#) for the DMS program's complete pregnancy policy. Any student that is pregnant or becomes pregnant while in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program should consider the following:

- 1) Exposure to communicable diseases. As a student you may be exposed to many communicable diseases such as rubella, HIV, and the Hepatitis C virus which may present a serious danger to the developing fetus. It is the pregnant student's responsibility to protect themselves from any danger to themselves and their developing fetus during clinical and lab times.
- 2) Students are at risk to radiation exposure during certain clinical rotations. Pregnant students must protect themselves and their baby by using lead aprons and avoiding all radiation during the course of their pregnancy.

Due to the risks involved with pregnant students, Darton State College does not assume any liability for any complications with the pregnancy while attending clinical assignments. If a student is or becomes pregnant while enrolled in the program, she must understand the risks and complications that may be encountered. The student may make a decision as to whether or not to continue in the clinical rotation and/or other concurrent courses without modification. If the student's medical condition limits her ability to continue in the program, she may choose to take a leave of absence and continue with the following cohort of DMSP students beginning with the withdrawn course(s) provided space is available (see leave of absence policy). Excessive absences over the specified allowed amount (excused or unexcused) may cause the student to be dropped from that/those course(s).

### **Leave of Absence Policy**

For any number of reasons a student may request a leave of absence from the program when they hope to return at a future date. This policy is also applicable to students that have incurred an illness, injury, condition or disability that would temporarily prevent them from performing the essential