

## Career Profile ULTRASOUND TECHNOLOGIST

### What is an Ultrasound Technologist? – Career Description/Scope

An Ultrasound Technologist is an unregulated health professional who works with sonography equipment to generate sound wave images used in the assessment and diagnosis of various medical conditions. Technologists take measurements, calculate values, analyze images and decide which ones need to be examined by the Radiologist. Scans are performed in obstetrics, gynaecology, abdomen, nervous system, breast, vascular and musculoskeletal applications. Echocardiographers are Ultrasound Technologists who specialize in cardiac ultrasounds. They perform various cardiac examinations, take measurements and calculate values just as an Ultrasound Technologist does but reports directly to a Cardiologist.

### Education Requirements to Work in Ontario

- Three-year Diploma program with extensive clinical placement components

### Ultrasound Practice Requirements

- Entry to Practice
  - Multiple certification examinations with Sonography Canada and/or American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS)
  - Registered with Sonography Canada and/or ARDMS
- Ongoing
  - Registered with Sonography Canada and/or ARDMS
  - Certain number of continuing education credits annually

### How Does an Ultrasound Technologist Practise At TBRHSC?

- Ultrasound Technologists follow specific scanning protocols which were developed in correlation between Technologists, Radiologists, Cardiologists and current standards of practice
- All procedures and examinations performed by the Technologists are under the supervision and/or medical directives of the Radiologist or Cardiologist groups

### What Does an Ultrasound Technologist Do?

- Ultrasound Technologists work as part of a healthcare team which may include doctors, nurses and other medical technologists
- Ultrasound is used to monitor pregnancies, assist in diagnosing heart, vascular, abdominal, pelvic, musculoskeletal and small parts pathologies and to assist in many medical procedures
- In general, Ultrasound Technologists are involved in:
  - Obtaining, reviewing and bringing together pertinent patient history and supporting clinical data to facilitate diagnoses
  - Producing, assessing and evaluating ultrasound images to aid diagnosis



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- Reporting technical findings to interpreting physicians
- Educating patients and promoting principles of good health

### Web Resources

- Sonography Canada [www.sonographycanada.ca](http://www.sonographycanada.ca)
- American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers [www.ardms.org](http://www.ardms.org)



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