

■ GENERAL INFORMATION

Classes for new radiation therapy students begin in the fall semester (August) and run for 12 consecutive months. During the 12-month program, students participate in a structured rotation sequence through the radiation therapy departments in the clinical affiliates. These include:

St. Bernard's Medical Center, Jonesboro, Ark.

NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital, Jonesboro, Ark.

Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center, Poplar Bluff, Mo.

White River Medical Center, Batesville, Ark.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tenn.

Students must provide their own transportation to the clinical affiliates. When determining educational costs, consideration should be given to this additional expense. Students are not compensated for clinical education hours.

■ IMMUNIZATION & HEALTH RECORDS

Once accepted into the program, students must provide documented evidence of vaccination and immunization for Hepatitis B and Varicella (chicken pox).

Students must be up-to-date on all vaccines required by the radiation therapy program clinical affiliates including TB skin tests, the flu vaccine, and HEPA mask fittings.

■ EXPENSES

In addition to tuition and immunization costs, radiation therapy students will incur the following expenses:

1. All students in the College of Nursing and Health Professions must purchase malpractice insurance prior to rotating through clinical sites. The annual cost of this insurance is between \$35 and \$100.
2. The cost of textbooks will vary each semester, with a majority of the total cost occurring in the first semester of the professional program. Textbook costs for the first semester may be as much as \$500. These texts are used throughout the program.
3. Uniform costs are approximately \$200.
4. CPR and BDLS certifications are required and may charge a nominal fee.
5. Arkansas State University College of Nursing & Health Professions requires background checks. This cost is between \$75-\$100. A drug screen is required for certain clinic sites, with a cost between \$25-\$45.
6. Students are required to purchase access to online clinical software for use in clinical courses. This is a one-time fee of approximately \$100.
7. TB mask fittings are required. The fitting is available at A-State within the first few weeks of the fall semester. This is an annual fee of approximately \$25.



Radiation Therapy Program



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RADIATION THERAPY PROGRAM

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RADIATION THERAPY PROGRAM

MISSION STATEMENT

The Radiation Therapy Program at Arkansas State University exists to produce competent entry-level radiation therapists for the practice of radiation therapy.

RADIATION THERAPY PROGRAM

The program leads to a baccalaureate degree in Radiologic Science with an emphasis in Radiation Therapy. Students must complete emphasis courses in radiation therapy (including A+P II with lab, which must be taken as a prerequisite to the program) along with 35 general education hours (including A+P I with lab). Completion of an accredited radiography program is also a prerequisite to the program. Upon completion of this baccalaureate degree, students are eligible to sit for the ARRT examination in Radiation Therapy.



WHAT IS A RADIATION THERAPIST?

Radiation therapists are health care professionals skilled in the art and science of medical radiation treatment delivery. The majority of patients receiving radiation therapy have cancer. Along with surgery and chemotherapy, radiation therapy offers these patients the best chance to succeed in the fight against their disease. Major focus areas are the care and assessment of patients, simulation, treatment planning, and delivery of treatments using linear accelerators, particle accelerators, and radioisotopes. Technologically advanced and innovative treatment methods maximize treatment effectiveness. Radiation therapists must have excellent technical skills, and also be empathetic and effective communicators. Radiation therapy is a very rewarding career.

GOALS

Students will be clinically competent.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will perform treatment procedures accurately.
 Students will perform simulation procedures accurately.

Students will demonstrate communication skills.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will demonstrate written communication skills.
 Students will use effective oral communication skills.

Students will develop critical thinking skills.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will adapt standard radiation therapy techniques to varying clinical situations.
 Students will identify and assess effective treatment plans.

Students will model professionalism.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will understand professional ethics.
 Students will demonstrate professional conduct.

SELECTIVE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIALTY TRACKS

To be eligible to apply to the Radiation Therapy specialty track, students must:

- Have graduated or be currently enrolled in an accredited radiography program
- Have completed prerequisite coursework

Applicants to the Radiation Therapy specialty track are selected by the Admissions Committee using the following criteria:

- 1. Cumulative grade point average**
20 points possible toward 107 maximum points
- 2. Selected course grades**
20 points possible toward 107 maximum points
- 3. Interview**
30 points possible toward 107 maximum points
- 4. Modality clinic evaluation form**
33 points possible toward 107 maximum points
- 5. A-State students**
4 points possible toward 107 maximum points

BSRS DEGREE HOUR SUMMARY

First-Year Making Connections course	3
General education requirements	35
Major requirements (radiology program)	51
Emphasis area requirements (Radiation Therapy)	38
Required support courses	4
Total hours	131



RADIATION THERAPY PROFESSIONAL CURRICULUM

Following Radiography Program courses, the following Radiation Therapy specialty track coursework will be completed:

Fall

RST 4203	Intro. to Radiation Therapy & Patient Care
RST 4214	Radiation Therapy Principles & Practice I
RST 4313	Radiation Physics I
RST 4513	Radiation Therapy Clinical Education I*

Spring

RST 4224	Radiation Therapy Principles & Practice II
RST 4333	Applied Radiation Biology
RST 4323	Radiation Physics II
RST 4523	Radiation Therapy Clinical Education II*

Summer

RST 4234	Radiation Therapy Principles & Practice III
RST 4413	Radiation Protection, Safety, & QM
RST 4242	Radiation Therapy Clinical Tx. Planning
RST 4533	Radiation Therapy Clinical Education III*

*All clinical courses reflect 7:1 ratio of clock hours to credit hours.