

HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND PRELAW CENTER

Indiana University Bloomington ■ University Division ■ Maxwell Hall 010 ■ Bloomington IN 47405
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RADIATION THERAPY PROGRAM Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree

Definition: Radiation Therapists administer differing forms of ionizing radiation to specific sites of a patient's body to treat benign and malignant tumors. They operate various types of equipment and observe the clinical progress of patients to identify and minimize complications.

The Indiana University School of Medicine Department of Radiation Oncology offers a program leading to a Bachelor of Science in Radiation Therapy. The course of study for non-radiographers requires the applicant to complete two years of prerequisite coursework equaling *50 credit hours* at Indiana University Bloomington (or another campus or college) and 22 months of professional and clinical work at the Indiana University Medical Center in Indianapolis. Students entering the professional portion of the program must fulfill the preprofessional requirements listed below.

IMPORTANT

This document has been prepared for Indiana University Bloomington students by the Health Professions and Prelaw Center. Please note that specific requirements and policies can change at any time without notice. Students are responsible for obtaining the most current information directly from the application services, and the school(s) and program(s) in which they have an interest. Visit the following website: <http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp>, click on 'How to Apply.'

COURSES REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION ¹	Credit Hours
Written and Verbal Communication	
English Composition, ENG-W 131; or alternative (see advisor)	3
Professional Writing Skills, ENG-W 231 (<i>preferred course</i>) or College A&S Intensive Writing Course	3
Verbal Communication: Public speaking, CMCL-C 121 or Interpersonal Communication, CMCL-C 122	3
Mathematics²	
Precalculus Mathematics, MATH-M 025 and Trigonometric Functions, MATH-M 026; or MATH-M 119	5
Human Anatomy and Physiology	
Human Anatomy w/lab, ANAT-A 215 and Human Physiology w/lab, PHSL-P 215	10
Physics	
General Physics I, PHYS-P 201 ³	5
Statistics	
Various options: e.g. STAT-S 300, SPEA-K 300, PSY-K 300 ⁵ , MATH-K 310 ⁶ , PSY-K 310 ⁶ .	3
Social/Behavioral Science courses	
Introduction to Psychology, PSY-P101 or 102 ⁷	3
<i>Choose from the following departments (preferred)</i> - Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology. Coursework, in Economics, minority studies, and Political Science will be accepted on approval (based on course content).	3
Humanities⁶	
<i>Humanities Elective (choose one 3 credit hour course from the following departments/categories):</i> African American and African Diaspora Studies, Classical Studies, Communication and Culture (additional speech course), literature, English, film studies, Folklore, foreign languages and cultures, Gender Studies, History, Journalism, minority studies, Latino Studies, Philosophy, Religion, visual and performing arts.	3
Medical Terminology	
Medical Terms from Greek and Latin, CLAS-C 209	2
Computer Science/Technology	
Intro to computing, CSCI-A 110 or The Computer in Business, BUS-K 201	3
Business Electives (choose any two 3 credit hour BUS courses)⁹	6
Other Electives	Varies
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS TO BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO BEGINNING PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM	50

¹ A minimum grade of “C” (not “C-”) is required for all courses required for admission (pre-professional courses).

² MATH-M 119 is an acceptable alternative if student has MATH-M 025/M026 background and does not wish to review material. However, students taking MATH-M 119 may be at a disadvantage when Math/Science GPA points are calculated and in preparing for PHYS-P 201 (see note 3). MATH-M 025/M026 credits WILL count in the minimum requirement of 50 hours for admission.

³ High school trigonometry or MATH-M 026 required as a prerequisite.

⁴ Other options: MATH-K 300 or 310, PSY-K 300 or 310, CJUS-K 300, SPEA-K 300, ECON-E 370 or S370, LAMP-L 316, SOC-S 371.

⁵ This course has a prerequisite requirement of MATH-M 118 or 119.

⁶ This course has a prerequisite requirement of MATH-M 119 or equivalent.

⁷ Some IUB students applying to this program may have received credit for PSY-P 151, 152, 155 or 106 instead. These are all considered introductory psychology courses and would be acceptable for admission purposes.

⁸ Other areas can be taken with approval of program’s admissions committee.

⁹ **Any BUS courses are acceptable.** Examples of courses available to non-business majors : Introduction to Business ,BUS-X 100; Personal Finance, BUS-F 260; Foundations of Accounting, BUS-A 200; Personal Law, BUS-L 100; Exploring Entrepreneurship, BUS-W 211; and others.

Suggested “Other Electives”: Elective coursework allows students to explore other areas of interest and to broaden their education. Additional major level science courses will allow for flexibility in career planning. You might also wish to choose courses that apply towards a minor or an alternative major.

Choose from various science and health-related courses offered by the College of Arts & Sciences and School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Some examples: Nature of Cancer, HPER-H 320; Principles of Chemistry and Biochemistry I, CHEM-C 117; Death and Dying, HPER-H 220; General Physics II, PHYS-P 202; and others.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND STATISTICS

Shadowing and Observation

At least 8 hours of on-site observation in one or more radiation oncology departments is required for admission to the IU School of Medicine Radiation Therapy B.S. program. The Program Director suggests that an applicant observe in two or more oncology departments for a minimum total of 8 hours. Observation forms **must** be completed for each observation and sent with the application to the program. The form is available at <http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp>, click on ‘How to Apply,’ and then ‘Program Specific Requirements.’

Volunteering and Other Professional Development

None required. However, HPPLC advisors suggest that such experience is a valuable component of your education.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

For qualified applicants for the class entering in summer 2009 at the time of selection:

- mean prerequisite course GPA = 3.77 (range: 3.35 – 3.95)
- mean Math/Science* GPA = 3.66 (range: 3.14 – 4.00)
- Non-Radiography Track applicants: 52, offered admission: 12, 16 including radiography and non-radiography tracks (class size: 12, 15 including radiographer and non-radiographer tracks)

*Math/Science GPA includes math, statistics, physics, human anatomy and human physiology.

Admission Test

None required.

Application Information

- Preference is given to applicants who are Indiana residents. Preference is also given to applicants who complete the majority of applicable course work at a public college or university in Indiana (even if out-of-state). This policy is applied at the time of application to the program.
- A minimum grade of **C** (not **C-**) is required for each admission course (not including electives).
- A minimum **math/science GPA of 2.30**, a minimum **prerequisite GPA of 2.50** and a minimum **cumulative GPA of 2.50** is required at the time of application. These minimums must be maintained subsequent to the interview. *Caution: An applicant meeting these minimum standards is eligible to be considered, but will not be competitive.*
- **Repeated courses:** A maximum of 15 hours may be replaced. In addition to the grade replacement policy, admission policies for **academic bankruptcy** and **fresh start** also exist and are available at the admissions site referenced below.
- Admission information and applications are available at <http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp/>.

- File an application for admission to the IU School of Medicine Health Professions Programs between **September 1 and December 1** of the year prior to entry into the program. An Undergraduate Application or an Inter-campus Transfer (ICT) Application to IUPUI must be submitted. Website for ICT application: <http://www.iupui.edu/~moveiu/>.

Letters of recommendation

None required.

Admission Interview

- Interviews are conducted in early February.
- Applicants are usually notified regarding acceptance by mid-March.

Credit Hours Required Prior to Beginning Professional Program (but not necessarily at time of application): 50 credit hours which include required admission prerequisites listed on the first page of this document.

Personal statement

None required.

ADMISSION ISSUES, SUGGESTIONS AND NOTES

Consider a Back-up Plan

It's always wise to have a "Plan B" when applying to a program that has competitive admissions. Schedule an appointment to see a HPPLC health professions advisor to explore your options by calling 812-855-1873. Visit the HPPLC Web site (<http://www.hpplc.indiana.edu>) before you meet with an advisor.

Other Admission/Program Info

Policies, procedures and admission requirements vary from one program to another, including IU regional campuses. HPPLC advisors suggest that you research all programs and apply to several. For information about all accredited programs in the U.S. visit the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists website, <http://www.arrt.org/index.html>, and look for a list of programs in the "Education/CE" link.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The IU Radiation Therapy program is a competitive admission program that admits only 12 non-radiographers per class. Satisfying the basic admission requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the program. At this time, the following factors are considered in admission decisions:

- Prerequisite courses GPA
- Math/Science GPA*
- Interview
- Status as Indiana resident
- Non-residents who complete at least 51% of applicable course work at a public college or university in Indiana are considered the same as residents for **admission** purposes only (out-of-state tuition still required). Special consideration is given to re-applicants.

*Math/Science GPA includes precalculus, trigonometry, physics, anatomy and physiology

PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM STARTING DATE

The professional program for non-radiographers begins once a year in late June (IUPUI Summer Session II).

CAREER INFORMATION

- Salaries range from \$43,000 to \$68,000 nationally. In Indiana, entry-level salary range is \$45,000 to \$58,000. Salary range in Indiana after five years of experience: \$50,000-75,000.
- Employment opportunities are improving throughout the United States. Hospitals, medical centers, and free-standing radiation oncology facilities represent the major employment sites.
- May 2008 graduate stats: 10 of 13 employed in Indiana, 1 in Illinois, 1 in Michigan, and 1 in Ohio
- See the Bureau of Labor Statistics website for more information: <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos299.htm>.

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

IUPUI program questions may be directed to:

Donna Dunn, M.S., R.T. (T), Program Director
Department of Radiation Oncology
Indiana Cancer Pavilion, RT 041
535 N Barnhill Dr.
Indianapolis, IN 46202-5289
Phone: (317) 274-1302
Email: dodunn@iupui.edu

To schedule an observation contact:

Judy Schneider, M.S., R.T. (R) (T)
Clinical Coordinator
Radiation Therapy Program
Phone: (317) 278-7945
Email: jmschnei@iupui.edu

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We encourage you to use e-mail to ask questions and to communicate with our HPPLC advisors concerning radiation therapy programs not only at IUPUI but nationwide as well. Send an email to an individual HPPLC advisor or to [udivhpp@indiana.edu](mailto:udivhpp@indiana.edu).

Please add your name to the HPPLC listserve by visiting the HPPLC website: [www.hpplc.indiana.edu](http://www.hpplc.indiana.edu). Also check the HPPLC website for notices about upcoming meetings, the Health Programs Fair, campus visits by admission representatives and other items of interest.

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