

Please contact the following numbers for counselor's office hours: (915) 831-4636, (915) 831-4036, (915) 831-4155.



**HEALTH CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION, MATH & SCIENCE
Specialized Admissions Program Information Guide
For
ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY (ADULT)
ADVANCED TECHNICAL CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION (C4-EHC)
2023-2024 Catalog**

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Clinical Coordinator: James Williams, B.A., RCDS, RVT.
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C4-EHC - Program Counselors:

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Laura Molina, Lead Counselor
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PROGRAM MAP

Program Map provides additional information regarding salary projections, employment opportunities, licensure requirements and Educational milestones. **LINK:** <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Catalog/program-map?programID=795>

Students qualifying for Specialized Admissions must satisfy all of the following: General Requirements, minimum set TSIA2 scores, Mandatory courses, and Pre-Program Specifics. Once all requirements are completed, ranking points are derived from the highest TSIA2 scores and most recent G.P.A of ranking courses. Applicants who complete all ranking courses may be more competitive for admission into their program of choice.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for Specialized Admissions must satisfy minimum criteria in order to be eligible for ranking. The following is required of all applicants:

- Prior to ranking, **the student must** submit all previous college/university official transcripts (transliteration of all foreign coursework required).
For online Transcripts Evaluation: sendtranscripts2@epcc.edu PDF with a password protection.
- Student must have a **High School Diploma or GED. Submit official transcripts to:**
El Paso Community College Admissions Office
P.O. Box 20500, El Paso, Texas 79998
- Student must:
 1. **Be approved to take credit academic courses by EPCC**
 2. **Have successfully completed TSIA2 Assessment Tests.**
 3. **Attend a Health Careers Orientation Session or complete it online at:** <https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/health-careers-orientation>
 4. **Submit Specialized Admissions Application** form and pay \$ 10.00 fee. specialized.adm@epcc.edu, in person would be at the Valle Verde campus.
 5. **A grade of a "C" or better is required for all academic and specialized courses listed under the degree plan.**
- **EPCC Cumulative GPA of 2.8 is required.**
- **"Effective Fall 2011, and based on new federal regulations, students are not allowed to repeat previously passed courses more than once."** Students should meet with a counselor to determine how a repeat course (s) would impact his/her academic, prerequisite, specialized admissions or transferability of courses. It is the student's responsibility to check with the Office of Student Financial Services to inquire how a repeat course (s) would impact their financial aid or veteran's assistance.

TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSIA2) ASSESSMENT

The Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 “**TSIA2**”, a redesign of the original Texas Success Initiative Assessment “**TSIA1**”, is part of the Texas Success Initiative enacted by the Texas State Legislature and was designed to assess test takers’ readiness for college-level coursework in the general areas of English language arts and reading (ELAR) and mathematics. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) requires the reporting of developmental progression and outcome of all students engaged in developmental education. After January 11, 2021, all new degree-seeking students are required to take the Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 (TSIA2). Refer to EPCC Catalog or see your counselor for more information.

TSIA2 MINIMUM REQUIRED ASSESSMENT SCORES FOR C-4 EHC

Test Area	Test Code	TSIA2 SCORES
Math	PTMT	950
Reading & Writing	PTER	950
Essay	PTWE	6

- **TSIA2 Official Assessment scores are valid for two (2) years with the highest test score used for qualifying and ranking. Posting of TSIA2 Assessment scores will take between 24 to 48 hours. Assessment Tests have to be completed at least 48 hours prior to ranking date. Consult a Health Counselor for advice.**

C4- EHC (ADULT) MANDATORY COURSES:

- ▲ No mandatory courses are required.

C4-EHC (ADULT) RANKING COURSES:

- ▲ No ranking courses are required.

C4-EHC (ADULT) CERTIFICATE PRE-REQUISITE

Applicant must have an AAS degree from accredited Diagnostic Medical Sonography program and credentials by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS).

PROCESSING OF PRE-PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

It is highly recommended that the applicant completes the Pre-Program Specific Requirements at least three (3) weeks prior to the ranking date. The applicant must complete “Specialized Admissions” requirements for qualifying and ranking. There is a scheduled ranking date for this program. Normal processing may take a few days or a few weeks depending on document type and individual circumstances. **If documents have been received but not processed then the student will be coded as ineligible for that ranking.**

PRE-PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for Specialized Programs must also meet Pre-program Specific Criteria prior to qualifying for ranking. The following is required of all applicants:

- **Background Check**- Each student must complete a background check prior to enrolling in clinical courses. Background checks are required prior to acceptance into most health programs or courses. Students are responsible for the costs. Currently, the approved vendor for El Paso Community College is American Databank: <http://www.elpasoex.com/>. Only background checks from American Databank are accepted. **You will receive a letter from the Dean of Health Career and Technical Education, Math & Science division to inform you of the status of your background check. The student will not be able to go to the clinical areas/health care facilities until cleared.**
- ***NOTE: If a student has not enrolled in a health-related program for one or more semesters, the student must redo the background check at his/her own expense, for further information, please ask a Health Counselor or call the Program Coordinator.

There are two Levels of background checks: **Level I** applies to all students, and includes: (1) Social Security Number Verification. (2) Criminal Search 7 years minimum or up to five criminal searches. (3) Violent Sexual Offender and Predator Registry Search. (4) Office of the Inspector

General (OIG) list of Excluded Individuals/Entities. (5) GSA List of Parties Excluded from Federal Programs. (6) U.S. Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), List of Specially Designated Nationals (SDN), and (7) State Exclusion List.

Level II is for students already licensed or certified in any area. **Level II** requires all of the Level 1 elements plus (1) License Verification, (2) Certification Verification, and (3) Employment Verification, including reason for separation and eligibility for re-hire.

A positive criminal history will require proof of the official case disposition for clearance. Generally: Disqualifying criminal offenses include, but are not limited to any felony conviction within the last 10 years, or two or more misdemeanors in crimes against persons, or families, such as homicide, kidnapping, rape, sexual assault, assault, battery, aggravated robbery, theft. Any misdemeanor or felony conviction involving abuse, neglect, or exploitation against a child, vulnerable adult or disabled individual. Felonies or two misdemeanors involving manufacture, importation, delivery, or possession of controlled substances, including felony conviction of DWI or two misdemeanor DWI convictions. Deferred adjudication for any felony is also a disqualifying event for enrolling into any of the Health Programs.

Please note that many professional licensure or certification agencies may have additional requirements. You should reference the requirements for each agency.

Echocardiography (Adult) Certificate of Completion (C4-ECHC) is pending accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP); 9355-113th St N, # 7709 Seminole, FL 33775; phone: (727) 210-2350, fax: (727) 210-2354, email: mail@caahep.org Web: <http://www.caahep.org/>. Upon the recommendation of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRCDSM); 6021 University Boulevard, Suite 500; Ellicott City, MD 21043; phone: 443-973-3251, fax: 866-738-3444, email mail@jrcdms.org ECHO Program Medical Advisor: Dr. Benjamin Y. Wang.

C4-ECHC CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION COURSES

Check 2023-2024 El Paso Community College Catalog for Prerequisites

First Semester (Summer)

DSAE 1203 Introduction to Echocardiography Techniques

HPRS 1206 Essentials of Medical Terminology

Second Semester

DSAE 1264 Practicum (or Field Experience) - Diagnostic Medical Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician I Prerequisite: DSAE 1203.

DSAE 1315 Principles of Adult Echocardiography Prerequisite: DSAE 1203

DSAE 1340 Diagnostic Electrocardiography Prerequisite: DSAE 1203.

Third Semester

DMSO 1302 Basic Ultrasound Physics

DSAE 1265 Practicum (or Field Experience)-Diagnostic Medical Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician II Prerequisite: DSAE 1264.

DSAE 2303 Cardiovascular Concepts Prerequisite: DSAE 1315.

Fourth Semester (Summer)

DMSO 1242 Intermediate Ultrasound Physics Prerequisite: DMSO 1302

DSAE 1266 Practicum (or Field Experience)-Diagnostic Medical Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician III Prerequisite: DSAE 1265

DSVT 1200 Principles of Vascular Technology Prerequisites: DMSO 1302 and DMSO 1441 or DSAE 2303.

Fifth Semester

DMSO 2351 Doppler Physics Prerequisite: DMSO 1242.

DSAE 1267 Practicum (or Field Experience)-Diagnostic Medical Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician IV Prerequisite: DSAE 1266.

DSAE 2304 Echocardiographic Evaluation of Pathology I Prerequisite: DSAE 2303.

Sixth Semester

DSAE 1367 Practicum (or Field Experience)-Diagnostic Medical Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician V Prerequisite: DSAE 1267.

DSAE 2337 Echocardiographic Evaluation of Pathology II Prerequisite: DSAE 2304.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Official Ranking Date: **March 1, 2024 to start program Summer of 2024**
- Program Begins: **Summer.**
- Maximum Students Admitted: **7 Students.**
- Community Wide Orientation online at: <https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/community-wide-orientation>
- HIPAA online at: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/hipaa>
- Health Careers Orientation online at: <https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/health-careers-orientation>
- Online additional program-specific and career information: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health>
- Students who completed articulated or dual credit courses in health in high school should bring this to the attention of the counselor. College credit may still be available.
- ECHO website: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/echocardiography>

POST-ACCEPTANCE REQUIREMENTS

Students are responsible for the following requirements AFTER accepting a seat in the Program:

- Must file a degree plan with the designated Health Counselor.
- **Current CPR Certification at a Professional Level. Must be from American Heart Association (AHA) CPR/BLS (only Health Provider training accepted). Military Training Network (AHA recognized) cards will be accepted. Hybrid AHA courses with live skills demonstration will be accepted. This must remain current throughout the course of the program (Certification may not be older than two (2) years).**
- **Community Wide Orientation** (Must be renewed every year):
Website: <https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/community-wide-orientation>
- **Health Care Insurance** (Evidence). Mandatory Healthcare insurance is required for students doing clinicals at healthcare facilities.
- **HIPAA Training** (Must be renewed every year). Website: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/hipaa>
- **Immunizations and Titters – The following must be completed.**
 - **POSITIVE TITER required for Hepatitis B vaccination series of three and Titer** (can take 4-6 months to complete). If a student has started the Hepatitis B series by ranking deadline, he/she may be clear for ranking or registration with the understanding that the series have to be complete in a timely manner prior to starting clinical courses. Documentation of starting the series must be on file.
 - **Tuberculosis (TB) screening required annually. **NOTE: It is highly recommended to complete all TB skin testing prior to receiving the MMR and/or Varicella vaccines. MMR or Varicella vaccines could cause a false negative TB skin test result.**
 1. **Individuals who previously tested negative, or have never tested, or are not sure if previously tested.**
 - a. Initial 2 Step TB Skin Test-Effective January 1, 2018 for all students/faculty new to health programs:
 - I. Initial TB skin test (TST) administered and read 48-72 hours later.
 - II. If initial TB skin test is negative, a second TST must be administered no sooner than 7 days and no later than 21 days after administration of the initial TST.
 - III. If initial TB skin test is positive, DO NOT ADMINISTER a second TST Individual needs Chest X-ray and annual TB Assessment/Clearance (or equivalent document) from Health Care Provider.
 2. **TB Skin Test Positive (previously).** Requires completed Annual TB Assessment/Clearance form.
 - **POSITIVE TITER required for each two doses - Measles, Mumps and Rubella Vaccinations (MMR) (completed) and Titer.**
 - **POSITIVE TITER required for each two doses - Varicella Vaccination and Titer** (completed).
 - **Tetanus/Diphtheria and Pertussis (TDAP)** (completed) (expires after 10 years).
 - **Influenza is required** (or completed declination form) (**NOTE:** If declined, will have to wear a mask in clinical) (done annually).
 - **Meningitis or Booster –** (Effective January 1, 2012, a Bacterial Meningitis Vaccination is required for all entering students under the age of 22). The term "entering students" includes new students to EPCC, transfer students, and returning students. Students must provide proof of an initial meningitis immunization or booster to the Admissions and Registration Department at any campus. The meningitis immunization must be administered at least 10 days before the start of the semester and must have been taken within the last five years).
(NOTE: If you have had the vaccination at an earlier date, you may start with a Titer, as the result will indicate if you need the vaccine. If you have not had the vaccination and after vaccination is applied, you must wait 4-6 weeks for immunity to show up on the TITER.)
 - **COVID-19 vaccine is now required by all hospitals. Medical or religious exemption is allowed but proof of either is expected.**
Visit Admission and Registration EPCC web page for additional information. Website: <https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/immunization-law>

A tracking system, COMPLIO, will assist students and coordinators alike to be compliant with immunizations, CPR, First Aid, physical, etc.

All health programs' students need to participate in this system, part of the American Databank, to keep their clinical data compliant and updated. (Price and web registration will be provided). **If you have any questions contact James Williams, Program Coordinator at:** jwill248@epcc.edu

COMPLIO Link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Documents/Background Check Substance Abuse Testing.pdf>

Follow below example when inputting your Program required documents; students can find this information under the "Requirement Explanation" button.

The screenshot shows the DataBank interface for a student named James Williams (ID: 2121), a Medical Imaging Tech Student. The overall compliance status is "Not Compliant" (13/14 Compliant). A red box highlights the "Requirement Explanation" button. Below this, a table lists required compliance categories. The first category is "MMR" (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), which is marked as "Approved". The second category is "Measles Titer", which is marked as "Meets Requirements". The table also includes columns for "Submitted Date", "Submitted Data", "Submitted Comments", and "Administrator's Comments". The "Submitted Date" for the Measles Titer is 1/25/2021. The "Submitted Data" for the Measles Titer is 1 document(s) dated 11/18/2020.

- **Professional Practice Insurance** (Liability Insurance) is required for all clinical and selected laboratory courses. This fee is paid during the time of enrollment. Instructor may ask for proof of payment (your registration receipt) on the first day of class.
- **Physical Exam (current)** completed by a Physician, Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant licensed in the United States (Not older than two years). **Website:** [FFAA-1.pdf \(epcc.edu\)](https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Documents/PhysicalExam.pdf)
- **Physical Technical Standards form (completed):**
<https://www.epcc.edu/Administration/InstitutionalEffectiveness/PoliciesandProcedures/FB-8.pdf>
- **Program Orientation.** "Admitted students will receive notification of Program Orientation following verified acceptance into the program."
- **Substance Abuse Screening** will be required for each student enrolling in health career programs with clinical components. For further information, please ask a Health Counselor or call the program coordinator. *****NOTE: Students must re-take and pay for substance abuse test if test was taken three months prior to the first clinical education course. Website:** <http://www.elpasoex.com/>
- **Uniforms:** In accordance with course syllabi; students must purchase their own uniforms. The program coordinator will provide students with detailed information.
- **Transportation:** Students are responsible for their own transportation to off-campus clinical/learning sites.
- **Textbooks** and other course materials must purchase at student's expense in accordance with course syllabi.

OTHER INFORMATION

- CPR and First Aid Courses are available through the EPCC Continuing Education Division. Please see the current Continuing Education Course Schedule or call 915-831-7820 for more information.
- Our EPCC Rio Grande Border Health Clinic is located at the Rio Grande Campus, for information call: 915- 831-4016 or call 915-831-4017 for dental, medical sonography, or physical therapy clinics.

This document is to be used with EPCC College Catalog, which provides complete information on courses as well as College regulations and procedures. This is for informational purposes only and is not a binding offer or contract between the College and the student. This document was revised September 2022 and is subject to change without prior notice.

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