

VA Nuclear Medicine Technologist Training Program Application

Name (Last, First):

Phone: Email:

Address:

Are you a US Citizen? * Yes No *If no, see Executive Order 11935 for more info, www.opm.gov/faqs

If selected, are you willing to submit to a drug screening test? Yes No

Have you ever served in the United States Military? (if yes, a DD form 214 may be requested at a later date)

No Yes (Branch, Type of Discharge)

College/University (Must be accredited with CHEA.org/directories & www.ed.gov/accreditation)

College 1: Degree: Subject:

College 2: Degree: Subject:

College 3: Degree: Subject:

Have you completed the following coursework with a grade of C (3.0) or higher?


Note: We cannot consider incomplete, credit/no-credit or high-school coursework

Chemistry (with a laboratory)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
College Math (Algebra or higher-level math preferred)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Physics (or graduated from an accredited radiology program with physics content)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Anatomy & Physiology (at least two separate courses, each with a lab)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Written Communications (in English)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>

Indicate which training locale(s) you prefer. It is best to choose a site close to home.

Bay Area (VA Palo Alto, Stanford, Lucile Packard, VA San Francisco) 

NorCal (VA Mather, VA Martinez, Contra Costa Medical Center) 

Fresno (VA Fresno, Fresno Community Medical Center) 

Covid-19 vaccinations are currently mandated at the VA and its affiliates. Masking is also required. The VA will verify your vaccination status. Check yes if you understand. Yes

Work Experience (Use additional pages if needed.)

Job Title: Dates of Employment:

Company Name:

Duties:

May we contact your supervisor? No Yes (Name, Phone)

Job Title: Dates of Employment:

Company Name

Duties:

May we contact your supervisor? No Yes (Name, Phone)

Acknowledgement

Have you ever had a medical credential denied, revoked, or suspended? No Yes

I have reviewed the admission criteria and technical standards for the position (included with this application). I understand that meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee acceptance. I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information provided in this application is true, correct, complete and made in good faith:

Name (Printed)

Signature

Date

Submit your application (Must be postmarked by Friday 9/2/2022)

You must submit the following additional items with your application:

- College transcripts (unofficial copies are acceptable at this stage).
- A copy of your diploma (if you were not issued a diploma, please contact your college or university).
- A 1-page personal statement addressing why you wish to become a nuclear medicine technologist.
- Contact information (Phone & email) for at least 2 professional references in the U.S.
Note: References must be available to discuss the merits of the applicant if called.
- If you have a credential in healthcare, include a copy of your license/registration/certification.
- OPTIONAL: A personal resume detailing more extensive education/experience may be included.
- OPTIONAL: Attachments and support documents for any item requiring further explanation.

Mail the completed Application Package to:

Kent Hutchings
VA Palo Alto Health Care Systems
Nuclear Medicine (115)
3801 Miranda Ave
Palo Alto, CA 94304

Personal Statement -- Why do you wish to become a Nuclear Medicine Technologist?

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the user to write their personal statement. The box occupies most of the page below the question.

Academic standards for admission:

- 1) Degree: Applicants must have an Associates (or higher level) degree issued by a college, university or institution accredited by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and listed with the U.S. Department of Education.
- 2) Prerequisites: Coursework completed at an accredited college, university or institution, must contain a minimum of 3 semester credits (or 4 quarter credits) with a grade of “C” (3.0) or better to qualify. Incomplete courses, credit/no-credit courses and coursework that can’t be verified will not be considered. Prerequisites include:
 - Chemistry (with laboratory)
 - Math (Algebra or higher-level math preferred)
 - Physics (or graduation from an accredited radiography program with physics content)
 - Human anatomy and physiology taken as 2 separate courses, each with their own lab
 - Written communications (Any course requiring submission of written material in English)
- 3) Transcripts and a copy of the applicant’s diploma/degree must be submitted to verify education. Foreign transcripts must be translated with a certificate of foreign equivalency through an AICE or NACES-accredited evaluation service.

Additional admission criteria:

- 1) Employment Eligibility Verification. Candidates must satisfy the eligibility requirements for Federal service.
- 2) English Proficiency: Candidates must be proficient in written and spoken English.
- 3) Security Check: Candidates must pass a Tier 1 National security background investigation for federal security, suitability, fitness, and credentialing purposes, including a favorable FBI fingerprint result, favorable review of the Declaration of Federal Employment (OF-306) and favorable review of the National Student Loan Data Base system (NSLDS) check.
- 4) Preplacement Physical Required: Candidates must be physically able to perform the duties of a nuclear medicine technologist as determined by a pre-placement physical (See technical performance standards for more info).
- 5) Vaccinations and Health Screening: Candidates must comply with all Federal, State and local health screening and testing requirements and be current on all required vaccinations.
- 6) Loss-of-License Disclosure: Candidates who had a previous professional license/permit/certification denied, revoked, or suspended by a school, regulatory authority or certification board must disclose this information when applying.
- 7) Health Insurance: Candidates must carry their own health insurance while enrolled.
- 8) References: Candidates must provide contact information for at least 2 professional references in the U.S. who are available to communicate with program prior to the selection date.
- 9) Selection preference shall be given to U.S. Citizens per *Executive Order 11935*. U.S. Veterans are strongly encouraged to apply.
- 10) Recommended healthcare experience: The Nuclear Medicine Technologist Training Program strongly encourages applicants to have some healthcare experience, volunteer or otherwise.

Technical performance standards for admission:

- 1) Communication: Candidates must be able to speak, hear, observe, and effectively communicate both verbally and non-verbally.
- 2) Vision: Candidates must be able to see (near vision correctable at 13" to 16" to Jaeger 1 to 4) with depth perception. Candidates must also be able to distinguish basic colors and shades of colors (glasses and contacts permitted, 20/40 correctable in both eyes).
- 3) Hearing: Candidates must be able hear normal conversation (aids permitted).
- 4) Work Environment: Candidates must be able to operate equipment, in noisy environments, around electrical energy, radioactive sources, needles, blood, infectious, toxic and biohazardous materials. Candidates must wear a face mask, gloves and other personal protective equipment (PPE) when required.
- 5) Physical Standards: Candidates must be able to lift and carry up to 44 lbs., execute motor skills to transfer, position and care for patients; pull, push, reach above shoulders, walk, and stand for extended periods, bend, squat and use both hands and fingers.
- 6) Cognitive Standards: Candidates must be able to problem-solve and respond to critical situations. Unusual fatigue factors include mental strain and vigilance. Candidates must have the ability for rapid mental and muscular coordination simultaneously, often in stressful environments.
- 7) Travel Requirements: Candidates must be able to commute to academic and clinical affiliates as assigned. Commute times between affiliates may exceed 1 hour.
- 8) Time Requirement: Candidates must be available during the assigned shifts for the entirety of the program. Shifts are weekdays, 8-hours per day, typically beginning between the hours of 7:00am – 8:00am. Students must also set aside time for after-hour study.

Student Expectations

- 1) The program is strict and demanding. It is designed for highly motivated individuals who can assimilate large amounts of information and apply it in a clinical environment.
- 2) Students must successfully complete both the clinical AND the didactic portions of the program to graduate. Graduates must then pass certification board exams to practice in the field.
- 3) We estimate 6 additional hours of evening study per week. Thus, employment outside of school hours is discouraged.
- 4) Travel to clinical affiliates is required. Each clinical rotation lasts approximately 4-7 weeks.
- 5) 8-hour shifts begin as early as 7:00 am and can extend through 4:30 pm.
- 6) Clinical rotations are assigned by the Selection Committee and cannot be modified. There is a total of 10 rotations (divided over 5 quarters). Palo Alto students rotate to clinics in the Bay Area. Sacramento students also rotate to clinics in Martinez. Fresno students must attend a 5-7-week (minimum) PET/CT rotation in either Palo Alto or Sacramento.
- 7) Students are expected to arrive on time and stay for the length of their shift.
- 8) We do not charge tuition. Ancillary school expenses are estimated to be less than \$500 for the entire program.
- 9) Our program is hospital-based and is thus not eligible for Federal Direct student loans.
- 10) Students are responsible for transportation between sites and parking fees (\$35/month at some sites).
- 11) Students in Sacramento, Martinez & Fresno attend class via live, interactive, video-teleconference from a classroom reserved for student-use from their local VA clinic.
- 12) All students must attend a mandatory safety seminar in Palo Alto during the first week of the program. Some additional travel may be required for special projects, events, or exams.
- 13) Students who fail grade objectives or violate program, VA or affiliate hospital policies may be dismissed from the program.