



**Southern Alberta
Institute of Technology**
1301 16th Avenue NW
Calgary, Alberta T2M 0L4
Canada
Toll-free: 1.877.284.7248
sait.ca

September 19th, 2022

Krista Tolhurst and AARM membership

Dear AARM Membership,

RE: SAIT Diagnostic Imaging Program Updates

Thank you for the opportunity to share some of the recent changes which have occurred in the SAIT Diagnostic Imaging programs including Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Medical Radiologic Technology and Nuclear Medicine Technology.

Application and Selection

For the 2022/2023 selection year a few minor changes were made to the process from the previous years. All three programs continue to use two online assessments: CASPer and a program specific. A combination of the two scores allows us to competitively offer seats to applicants who meet both the professionalism skills and the knowledge and technical skills. Applications numbers continue to be very high, including DMS over 800, MRT over 600 and NMT over 350.

Student Employment

Overall all three programs continue to have success on national exams. There are some areas or years of concern, however those do not tend to be trends. The program is monitoring any concerning areas. All three Diagnostic Imaging programs continue to be over subscribed with and 97-100% success rate in finding employment. Thank you for providing feedback through our Employer Satisfaction Surveys.

The Diagnostic Imaging Student Society held its 6th annual SAIT Diagnostic Imaging Industry Night/Career Fair in May. This event was blended with Tuesday May 10th as an in-person event and Thursday May 12th as an online event. In this event, students in all the Diagnostic Imaging modalities had the opportunity to network and ask questions/receive information from 5 different employers. The in-person event on Tuesday May 10th had 6 employers and more than 70 students attended. The online event had 4 employers and more than 40 students attended. The DISS is grateful for the support from the employers and the opportunity to network and build community.

DMS Program Updates

The DMS program is currently accepting 24 Alberta and 8 Saskatchewan students. Retention has been very good in the program. With some of the challenges around securing practicum spots, specifically in



**Southern Alberta
Institute of Technology**
1301 16th Avenue NW
Calgary, Alberta T2M 0L4
Canada
Toll-free: 1.877.284.7248
sait.ca

echocardiography and obstetrics and the gap in western provinces of the vascular credential sonographers, the program is looking at the steps to add in the vascular credential to our program and produce a small number of graduates with that credential. That would mean that students would have a choice in the program to graduate with their echo OR vascular credential. All students would still complete their generalist credential. Please watch your email for additional requests for support in this area to take practicum students.

Additionally, SAIT is continuing to develop the MSK micro credential. Two subject matter experts have been hired to develop the content. We hope to have the course ready in the next 6-8 months.

MRT and NMT Program Updates

Our MRT and NMT programs continue to have steady acceptance and retention rates. The MRT program is accepting 42 students and the NMT program 24 students. Both programs are looking at the potential of increasing the length of the programs to meet new competency profiles and current student needs. Surveys will be coming out to determine best end dates for both of these programs. Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete the survey.

The NMT program is also developing a second year PET specific course – this is in response to feedback from the sites as well as changes to the competency profile.

Thank you again for the opportunity to share information about SAIT programs. If there are any questions/concerns, please feel free to contact me directly at Jennifer.Brown@sait.ca or 403-284-8930

Regards,

Jennifer Brown
Academic Chair, Diagnostic Imaging
School of Health and Public Safety
Southern Alberta Institute of Technology
Senator Burns, NL211
1301 16 Ave. NW, Calgary, AB T2M 0L4
(Office) 403.471.2212
jennifer.brown@sait.ca

