

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in the [School of Pediatric Cardiac Ultrasound](#) at The Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute of Connecticut, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center!

The **Pediatric Cardiac Ultrasound** program is a limited access program and will select students who meet the rigorous academic, testing, and prescribed clinical admission requirements outlined below.

Our program is designed to provide an exceptional cardiovascular education and experience in one of the fastest growing fields in the healthcare profession. After successful completion of this programmatically accredited, one year, full-time program, the student will receive a **certificate in Pediatric Cardiac Ultrasound**.

In addition, the program is designed as a pathway to sit for the required national credentialing exam, **Registered Congenital Cardiac Sonographer (RCCS)**, offered by Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI) and/or the **Pediatric Echocardiography (PE) specialty under the Registered Diagnostic Cardiac Sonographer (RDCS) credential**, offered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS). For more information about the exam, please log onto www.cci-online.org or www.ardms.org.

The RCCS or RDCS credential is now required to work as a Pediatric Cardiac Sonographer in most Echocardiography Laboratories. **Therefore, the student must pass the RCCS or RDCS (PE) exam in order to graduate from the program.**

Applicants will be considered based on the quality of their essay, as well as their background, educational, and professional experience. **The application deadline for the Pediatric Cardiac Ultrasound program is May 1st for October Enrollment and December 31st for April Enrollment** with formal interviews to follow. Note an estimated 50% of applicants will be interviewed. Notification of acceptance to the program will occur shortly thereafter with **commencement of the program occurring the first week of October or April.**

The total cost of the Pediatric Cardiac Ultrasound program is \$7,000.00. Application fee (\$50.00), and registry exam fee (\$350.00), are to be paid separately. Note the registry exam fee to be paid to will be reimbursed to the student after graduation from the program.

Once the candidate is notified of acceptance to the program, a deposit of \$1,500.00 is to be paid within 14 days of the dated acceptance letter; the remaining balance of \$5,500 is to be paid in full 14 days thereafter. **Note that Financial Aid is not available, and tuition is non-refundable once submitted. We do work with Meritize in which Student may apply for financial loans.**

As mentioned above, a *Urine Drug Screening* is required prior to the start of the program and is offered through Saint Francis Hospital Occupational Health Dept.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

An applicant may be accepted into the Pediatric Cardiac Ultrasound Program based on the following criteria:

- \$50 application fee (non-refundable)
- Resume/CV
- Two letters of reference (1 work, 1 personal)
- Educational transcripts (must be official)
- Essay (see application)

APPLICATION ESSAY GUIDELINES

Your completed application includes **an essay (500-1000 words)** about your history and future goals in the field of sonography. The following questions are provided to help you formulate your ideas. Please answer **all** of the following questions in your essay:

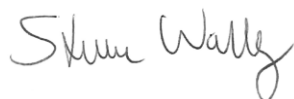
1. How did your interest in Sonography develop?
2. What awards, academic or otherwise, have you received that have helped prepare you for a career in pediatric cardiac ultrasound?
3. What outside interests or hobbies do you have?
4. How has your formal training prepared you for a career in Sonography?
5. What specific experiences have you had in the medical field that have influenced your career choice?
6. What personal characteristics do you feel would be the most helpful to a person who chooses a medical career?

The **application materials** can all be submitted with the link below and on the website page:

[Apply Here](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions. We look forward to your application!

Sincerely,



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