RT SECTION XI: GRADUATION

1. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To receive The Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences Radiologic Technology Program certificate of graduation and be eligible to participate in a graduation ceremony, students must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Successfully complete all academic coursework requirements.
2. Achieve an overall didactic average of 80%
3. Achieve an overall clinical average of 80%.
4. Fulfill all attendance requirements in the event of an LOA.
5. Complete all clinical rotation module requirements (assignments).
6. Complete all required clinical competencies.
7. Complete all clinical area objectives.
8. Achieve a minimum score of a 75% on both Level I Presentation Board Assignments.
9. Return all hospital property (keys, ID badge, radiation monitoring device, loaned textbooks, and personalized lead markers).
10. Remit all tuition and fee payments.
11. Remit completed Exit Interview for RT Program.
12. Complete Exit Interview for Financial Aid as applicable.
13. Satisfy Residence Hall move-out check off.

Note: *Eligibility to participate in the July graduation ceremony is contingent upon satisfactory completion of all requirements by the Requirements Deadline. The Requirements Deadline is published in the Attendance section of the Student Handbook: see Program Calendar; July.*

2. TERMINAL COMPETENCIES

Upon successful completion of The Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences Radiologic Technology Program, the student will have demonstrated the ability to:

1. Exercise the priorities required in daily clinical practice.
2. Execute medical imaging procedures under the appropriate level of supervision.
3. Adhere to team practice concepts that focus on organizational theories, roles of team members and conflict resolution.
4. Adapt to changes and varying clinical situations.
5. Describe the role of health care team members in responding/reacting to a local or national emergency.
6. Provide patient-centered clinically effective care for all patients regardless of age, gender, disability, special needs, ethnicity or culture.
7. Integrate the use of appropriate and effective written, oral and nonverbal communication with patients, the public and members of the health care team in the clinical setting.
8. Integrate appropriate personal and professional values into clinical practice.
9. Recognize the influence of professional values on patient care.

10. Explain how a person's cultural beliefs toward illness and health affect his or her health status.
11. Use patient and family education strategies appropriate to the comprehension level of the patient/family.
12. Provide desired psychosocial support to the patient and family.
13. Demonstrate competent assessment skills through effective management of the patient's physical and mental status.
14. Respond appropriately to medical emergencies.
15. Examine demographic factors that influence patient compliance with medical care.
16. Adapt procedures to meet age-specific, disease-specific and cultural needs of patients.
17. Assess the patient and record clinical history.
18. Demonstrate basic life support procedures.
19. Use appropriate charting methods.
20. Recognize life threatening ECG tracing.
21. Apply standard and transmission-based precautions.
22. Apply the appropriate medical asepsis and sterile technique.
23. Demonstrate competency in the principles of radiation protection standards.
24. Apply the principles of total quality management.
25. Report equipment malfunctions.
26. Examine procedure orders for accuracy and make corrective actions when applicable.
27. Demonstrate safe, ethical and legal practices.
28. Integrate the radiographer's practice standards into clinical practice setting.
29. Maintain patient confidentiality standards and meet HIPAA requirements.
30. Demonstrate the principles of transferring, positioning and immobilizing patients.
31. Comply with departmental and institutional response to emergencies, disasters and accidents.
32. Differentiate between emergency and non-emergency procedures.
33. Adhere to national, institutional and departmental standards, policies and procedures regarding care of patients, providing radiologic procedures and reducing medical errors.
34. Select technical factors to produce quality diagnostic images with the lowest radiation exposure possible.
35. Critique images for appropriate anatomy, image quality and patient identification.
36. Determine corrective measures to improve inadequate images.

3. GUIDELINES TO REQUEST A RECOMMENDATION LETTER

- A student may request that a faculty member write a letter of recommendation on their behalf. Students should request letters of reference from those faculty members whom they feel are best able to give a current description of their abilities.

The student is required to complete the Release Form for Written Letters of Reference. The form is self-explanatory and can be obtained in the Program Office, the CI office and/or Program secretary office.

- The student must indicate on the form whether or not they waive their right to view the reference. If the student checks the section "right to access reference is waived" (recommended) this indicates that the student gives up their right to view the reference. If the student checks the section "not waived" this indicates that the student has the right to request to see the written reference.
- The student will give the completed Release Form for Written Letters of Reference to the faculty member who is being requested to write the recommendation/reference.
- Students should give faculty members a minimum of two weeks to complete the reference.
- The faculty member has the option to either accept or decline the request and will notify the student.
- Delivery of the completed reference to the intended recipient must be secure.
    - It is recommended that all letters of reference be written on official school stationary (or an official reference form as supplied by the recipient).
    - The preferred method of delivery is for the faculty member to write the reference, and send it directly to the contact person listed on the release form.
    - If the student requests to deliver the reference (as in the case where the student is required to submit all forms together in one packet) the faculty member should write the reference on official stationary and seal it in an official school envelope with the faculty member's signature written across the seal to indicate that the reference is official.
    - Faculty are advised that email delivery of a plain word document creates security risks as word documents can be altered and forwarded without the knowledge of the faculty member. It is suggested that if an e-mailed document is requested, it should be in PDF format and followed by an official signed paper copy sent to the intended recipient.
- The faculty member will keep the "Release Form for Written Letters of Reference" form and a copy of the reference in their confidential files.

Created: 8/07

4. AWARDS

4a. Recognition Ceremony

Prior to graduation, a recognition ceremony is held in the Charles Sullivan Auditorium honoring students who meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Academic Achievement: Earned Director's List distinction for one or more semesters during the current academic year;
- Leadership: Effectively and successfully served in a leadership position within the School;
- Awards: Demonstrated exemplary performance which warrants distinction;
- Volunteerism: Volunteered to administer or participate an activity associated with the Program or School;

- Attendance: Earned Perfect Clinical Attendance (no tardiness; no absence).

4b. Honor Cords

Honor cords will be distributed to RT students graduating with academic distinction. The SHS grading system is effective for all programs and is used as the framework for determination. Averages are cumulative for the two years of education and encompass academic, clinical and professional performance. RT graduates documenting a final program average within one of the ranges below will be given honor cords of the appropriate color:

Gold Cords:	Summa cum laude for RT program average of 93.5-100%
Silver Cords:	Magna cum laude for RT program average of 90.0 – 93.4%
Bronze Cords:	Cum laude for RT program average of 89.0-89.9%

4c HIGHEST SCHOLASTIC AVERAGE

This distinction is awarded to the Radiologic Technology student who has earned the highest academic (scholastic) average over the two-year course of education. A monetary award is presented to the student achieving this distinction. A permanent plaque recognizing the student's achievement is publicly displayed.

4d. OUTSTANDING CLINICAL PERFORMANCE

This distinction is awarded to the Radiologic Technology student who has achieved the highest clinical average over the two-year course of education, beginning with the second clinical semester of education. A monetary award is presented to the student achieving this distinction. A permanent plaque recognizing the student's achievement is publicly displayed.

4e.BETH MILLER AWARD for EXCELLENCE IN PATIENT CARE

This award is presented to the Radiologic Technology student earning the highest performance grades in specific patient care categories as demonstrated during interventional radiography procedures.

The Beth Miller Memorial Scholarship Award is presented in honor of Beth Miller, R.T.(R). Beth was a graduate of the Reading Hospital School of Radiologic Technology in 1988. Beth was employed by the Reading Hospital Interventional Radiology Department for 12 years. This award is presented to the student who demonstrates excellence in patient care during the Advanced Interventional Radiology rotation. The organizing committee selected the criteria for the award from the student performance evaluations. This criteria is as follows:

- Exhibits empathy and compassion for the patient.
- Provides physical comfort for the patient.
- Instills comfort and communicates effectively with the patient.
- Offers assistance to the staff.

- Utilizes time constructively and productively.
- Assumes responsibility for his/her actions.

These are the criteria that best reflect Beth and her ethics in the workplace. The individual will receive a monetary award. A permanent plaque recognizing the student's achievement will be publicly displayed.

Students who wish to be considered for this award must formally release grades for review by the week of June 15th:

Beth Miller Award Committee
PO Box 16052
Reading, PA 19612-6052

ATTN: AIR: R-Bldg First Floor

*When completing the Release of Records form, check "other" and state:

- Advanced Interventional Radiology Performance Evaluation
- Advanced Interventional Radiology Mini Module

4f. WRRA AWARD for EXEMPLARY PROFESSIONALISM

This monetary award is sponsored and determined by members of West Reading Radiology Associates (WRRA) and recognizes the graduating Radiologic Technology student who consistently exhibits an exemplary level of professionalism when interacting with patients and colleagues. Criteria for the WRRA Award include:

1. Semester Clinical Performance Evaluations
    a. Radiation Protection Skills
    b. Patient Safety
    c. Professional Communication
    d. Professional Conduct and Ethics
    e. Motivation and Interest
2. Overall Clinical and Didactic Grades
3. WRRA observation of professional student interaction with patients and staff
4. TRHMC Radiology Supervisor observation of exemplary interaction with patients and staff

Students who wish to be considered for this award must formally release grades for review by the week of June 15th:

WRRA Award Committee
301 S. 7th Ave.; Suite 135
West Reading, PA 19611

4g CLINICAL STAFF TEACHING AWARD

This award is presented to a technologist exhibiting excellence in teaching the students in the clinical setting. Candidates must receive three nominations from the student body in order to be placed on the final ballot. The final nominee ballot is submitted to the Radiology Operations Manager for verification of eligibility. Following verification, the RT student body (Level I and Level II students) will vote until the final candidate is selected.

The recipients name will be engraved on a plaque which will be publicly displayed at the School of Health Sciences. In addition, the student body may elect to contribute toward a gift or token for the recipient. Funding of this gift represents an out of pocket expense for the student body.

The Clinical Staff Teaching Award is presented to the individual students have selected as the technologist most reflecting the following attributes:

1. Enjoys teaching students.
2. Is enthusiastic about their chosen career.
3. Promotes teamwork between students and staff.
4. Helps to integrate classroom learning when performing clinical procedures.
5. Provides an educational environment that encourages and facilitates discussion.
6. Encourages and answers questions.
7. Is knowledgeable and self-confident.
8. Displays a professional manner in the clinical setting.
9. Provides effective and accurate instruction in imaging techniques.
10. Allows an appropriate opportunity to perform procedures (as schedule permits).
11. Encourages students to meet their clinical goals.
12. Assist students in the achievement of their full potential.
13. Serves as a positive role model.
14. Is ethical and compassionate when interacting with patients, students and staff.

Revised 8/01, 8/02, 8/03, 8/04, 7/05, 7/06, 8/07, 8/08, 8/09; 8/10; 8/11; 8/12

BALLOT
CLINICAL STAFF TEACHING AWARD

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Supervisor/Staff Technologist

The technologist identified above has earned this award by consistently demonstrating the following behaviors.

1. Enjoys teaching students; promotes teamwork between students and staff; provides an educational environment that encourages and facilitates discussion; encourages and answers questions; is enthusiastic about their chosen career.

Examples_____

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2. Helps to integrate classroom learning when performing clinical procedures; provides effective and accurate instruction in imaging techniques; encourages students to meet their clinical goals; assists students in the achievement of their full potential.

Examples_____

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3. Serves as a positive role model; is ethical and compassionate when interacting with patients and staff. Is knowledgeable and self-confident; displays a professional manner in the clinical setting; allows appropriate opportunities to perform procedures (as schedule permits).

Examples_____

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Rev. 7/2005