RADIATION THERAPY

DEGREES OFFERED: Bachelor of Science in Radiation Therapy
Bachelor of Professional Studies in Radiation Therapy

CAREER SNAPSHOT

Radiation therapists are part of a team of cancer care professionals who use carefully targeted doses of powerful radiation beams to destroy tumors without permanently damaging the surrounding normal tissues. The radiation therapist is directly responsible for the daily treatment of patients using sophisticated equipment. Since these treatments are normally given daily for up to seven weeks, radiation therapists need strong interpersonal skills. We encourage applicants to tour a radiation oncology department at a hospital.

Working with physicians, medical physicists and medical dosimetrists, radiation therapists also assist in a wide range of other tasks including:

• Using x-ray equipment to locate the precise area to be treated
• Constructing patient immobilization and beam shaping devices
• Using highly specialized computers to plan treatment and calculate the radiation dose

UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OFFERS:

• Small class size and faculty who care about each student.
• Over the past five years, 100% retention, 100% first-time board passage and 100% job placement.
• All our students work one-on-one with licensed radiation therapists.
• Excellent reputation earned over 50 years of graduating competent radiation therapists who are now practicing across the nation.
• Opportunities for immersive clinical experience at 35 clinical affiliates across Upstate New York, ranging from small rural clinics to large university settings.
• Program has always maintained full professional accreditation.
• State University of New York tuition

OUTCOMES

From 2011 to 2015, the program achieved 100 percent success on: credential exam pass rate (first time), job placement within 12 months of graduation and program completion; for 2016 and 2017 classes, the annual program retention rate was 100 percent.

"In high school I started volunteering at a hospital. I was in contact with patients and saw a lot of people. I realized this is something I can do — I want to get involved in helping people and healing people. That played a big role in my choice to come to Upstate."

— Amelia Weimar, Radiation Therapy Class of 2014

CLINICAL OPPORTUNITIES

Students complete 44 weeks of clinical education at oncology centers throughout Upstate New York. These sites include Upstate Cancer Center, Bassett Health Care in Cooperstown; Upstate University Hospital and Hematology Oncology Associates, Syracuse; Rochester General Hospital; Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo; Albany Medical Center; Samaritan Medical Center, Watertown.

LICENSES AND ACCREDITATION

The Radiation Therapy program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology.

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For more program details or to apply, visit: www.upstate.edu/chp/rt