



## Statement of Inherent Requirements

<b>Faculty</b>	Health
<b>Disciplines</b>	Medical Radiation Science
<b>Courses</b>	<b>Postgraduate Courses</b> Graduate Certificate in Ultrasound Studies [HLC501] Graduate Diploma in Medical Ultrasound [361JA]

### Ethical Behaviour

#### Inherent Requirement

- Behave ethically and professionally in academic and professional environments, complying with relevant standards and codes of ethics applicable to the diagnostic medical sonography profession.

#### Rationale

- Compliance with relevant professional standards and/or codes of conduct, and commonly accepted standards of professional behaviour facilitates safe, competent interactions and relationships for students and the people they engage with in all contexts. This supports the physical, psychological, emotional and spiritual wellbeing of all.

Related Professional Requirements:

[https://asar.com.au/root/UploadedFiles/Documents/ASA\\_Competency\\_Standards.pdf](https://asar.com.au/root/UploadedFiles/Documents/ASA_Competency_Standards.pdf)

Related university requirements: <http://www.canberra.edu.au/current-students/canberra-students/conduct>

#### Examples

- Apply ethical behaviour in the management of confidential and sensitive personal information.
- Reflect on ethical dilemmas and issues, and take responsibility for ensuring awareness of ethical behaviour.
- Operate within own role and responsibilities in the clinical setting.
- Accept and fulfil responsibilities you are given for patient care.
- Accept and fulfil responsibilities expected as a university student.

### Legal Compliance

#### Inherent Requirement

- Comply with Australian Law, professional regulations and/or scope of practice relevant to the diagnostic medical sonography profession.

## Rationale

- Knowledge, understanding and compliance with Australian Law and professional regulations facilitates effective, professional, responsible and accountable diagnostic sonographers, and is necessary to work effectively and meet professional registration requirements.

Related Professional Requirements: [Privacy Act 1988](https://privacy.act.gov.au/privacy-act-1988),  
<https://asar.com.au/accreditation/sonographeraccreditation>

## Examples

- Comply with the requirements for student registration with the Australian Sonographer Accreditation Registry.
- Comply with policies of clinical workplaces (e.g. Work Health and Safety Act, infection control, and uniform requirements).
- Obtain informed consent prior to undertaking procedures in the clinical setting.
- Prepare and provide documentation according to legal requirements and accepted procedures and standards.

## Communication Skills

### 1. Expressive Communication Skills

#### Inherent Requirement

- Ability to communicate effectively, in English, to a standard that allows clear, scholarly, and professional-level messages and text with language use and style appropriate to the audience.

#### Rationale

- Communication skills are an essential requirement to develop and maintain trusting relationships, and to perform effectively in an academic and complex professional environment, as well as solve problems and communicate knowledge and understanding of relevant subject matter effectively.

#### Examples

- Construct coherent written communication to an academic and professional standard as appropriate to the circumstances.
- Advocate for the needs of others and facilitate behavioural change and self-management in others.
- Review, communicate, record and manage patient records and use patient information management systems appropriately and in a timely manner that meets legal and professional standards.

### 2. Receptive Language Skills

#### Inherent Requirement

- Ability to assess concepts and meaning in English, using knowledge of language, background knowledge, critical thinking skills, and self-reflection.

#### Rationale

- Communication skills are an essential requirement to develop and maintain trusting relationships, and to perform effectively in an academic and complex professional environment, as well as solve problems and communicate knowledge and understanding of relevant subject matter effectively.

### Examples

- Comprehend spoken English delivered at conversational speed, including in noisy environments such as hospital settings.
- Understand and follow directions from staff and health professionals in university and clinical settings.
- Understand and respond to verbal and non-verbal communication cues e.g. facial cues for pain and discomfort
- Recognise and respond appropriately to a patient's needs.
- Be aware of, and clearly communicate learning requirements to the appropriate people in a timely manner.

## 3. Interpersonal Communication Skills

### Inherent Requirement

- Respectful communication with others, including the ability to listen, display and respect empathy, build rapport and gain trust to ensure meaningful and effective interactions with people they engage with.

### Rationale

- Communication skills are an essential requirement to develop and maintain trusting relationships, and to perform effectively in an academic and complex professional environment, as well as solve problems and communicate knowledge and understanding of relevant subject matter effectively. As a student enrolled in a Medical Ultrasound course you will be involved in encounters where you must physically interact with patients/ relatives/ carers/ staff /other students coming from a range of ethnic, age, gender and disability backgrounds.

### Examples

- Communicate respectfully and work with people of different gender, sexuality and age, and from diverse cultural, religious, socio-economic and educational backgrounds in complex and diverse Australian educational and health settings.
- Establishing rapport with clients, patients, relatives, carers during a medical ultrasound examination and respond appropriately to requests from patients, supervisors and other health professionals in the clinical setting.
- Communicate to multiple people (individual, small and large group settings) to convey required information in a comprehensible and audience-appropriate manner, in both the clinical and academic environments.
- Respect and maintain personal and professional boundaries.
- Maintain good personal hygiene and dress in a professional manner for patient contact in clinical settings.

## Behavioural Stability

### Inherent Requirement

- Behaviour that is adaptable to effectively manage changing situations sufficiently to maintain academic and professional relationships to acceptable community standards.

### Rationale

- Behavioural stability is essential in managing personal emotional responses and behaviour in academic and complex professional environments, including situations of potential human distress. It is required to work constructively in culturally and socially diverse settings and to deal with challenging issues, timelines and ambiguously defined problems. As a student enrolled in a Medical Ultrasound course you will be involved in patient encounters where patients have potentially serious medical conditions and may be anxious or distressed. You will also work in environments that may be highly stressful.

<b>Motor Skills</b>
<p><b>Examples</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflecting on practice and responding appropriately to constructive feedback.</li> <li>• Coping with own emotions and behaviour effectively when dealing with individuals in the clinical setting (e.g. maintaining professional empathy and objectivity in the context of a severely ill patient) and when living away from home (e.g. on interstate clinical placements).</li> <li>• Manage own work schedule and be able to work effectively and adapt to changing environments and work effectively in environments that may be stressful to maximise safety and efficiency.</li> <li>• Manage your own physical and mental health and seek help and/or notify others to maintain patient and public safety.</li> <li>• Be able to work with and respect the diverse team members within various fields and levels of expertise.</li> </ul>

<b>Motor Skills</b>
<p><b>Inherent requirement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sufficient psychomotor skills, strength and mobility to function within the medical sonographer’s scope of practice.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rationale</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical sonography requires fine motor skills to operate complex diagnostic imaging equipment and to perform the full range of sonographic examinations. As a student enrolled in a Medical Ultrasound course you must be physically capable to independently move patients and equipment. In addition, students must comply with a range of workplace health safety requirements including infection control procedures, immunisation, first aid and CPR requirements in order to minimise the risk of harm to self and others.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Examples</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Independently manipulate and move ultrasound equipment necessary for clinical practice.</li> <li>• Work, including sitting, standing and walking for extended periods of time.</li> <li>• Meet workplace health and safety requirements including infection control procedures, immunisation, first aid and CPR.</li> </ul>

<b>Sensory Skills</b>
<p><b>Inherent requirement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sufficient sensory function, including visual and auditory acuity to function within medical ultrasound scope of practice.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rationale</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnostic sonography requires visual, auditory and tactile acuity in order to consistently provide safe and effective care in order minimise the risk of harm to self and others.</li> </ul>

### Examples

- Good visual acuity in order to detect and describe in detail (technical and clinical image appearances) in the range of examinations within diagnostic sonography.
- Effectively manipulate the ultrasound transducer.
- Good auditory acuity to respond to patients and other health workers in noisy workplace environments.

## Cognitive Skills

### Inherent Requirement

- Acquire knowledge, process information, analyse, think critically and synthesise information to apply knowledge of the discipline and sufficiently meet learning outcomes and academic standards relevant to the course, utilising cognitive, numeracy and literacy skills, including focus, memory and attention to detail.

### Rationale

- Cognitive skills are essential in acquisition and application of knowledge in both the academic and professional environment.

### Examples

- Ability to conceptualise and use appropriate knowledge in response to academic assessment items.
- Ability to synthesise and respond to complex oral, written and image-based information and understand three-dimensional relationships for anatomy, imaging and clinical examinations.
- Apply critical and reflective thinking and use an evidence based approach to solve clinical challenges.
- Accurately recall information without reference i.e. considerable accumulation and recall of procedural knowledge is required to undertake medical ultrasound in clinical environment.
- Complete ultrasound examinations in a safe and timely manner and maintain a sufficient level of concentration to safely complete complex sonographic examinations.

## ICT Capacity

### Inherent Requirement

- Acquire, and employ information and communications technology (ICT) skills in an appropriate and effective manner, utilising a range of systems in both the academic and professional setting.

### Rationale

- Competent ICT skills are essential to successfully access, apply and communicate information.

### Examples

- Use patient information, hospital and radiology information systems including picture archiving and communication systems.
- Accessing electronic journals, eBooks, discipline specific regulatory documents and Government documents and submitting research based assignments online.
- Use a range of software packages to enter, analyse and communicate information (e.g. word, excel).
- Use simulation equipment.

## Sustainable Performance

### Inherent requirements

- Consistently completes tasks in a safe and timely manner and within a designated period, where required, while maintaining consistency and quality of performance.

### Rationale

- Tasks must be completed consistently and with respect to industry or workplace defined timeframes. Medical sonography students are required to undertake concurrent clinical experience for extended periods of time that provides students with the opportunity to attain all the required graduate competency outcomes. The Australian Sonographer Accreditation Registry (ASAR) recommends that students be engaged in ultrasound practice for a minimum of 3 days/week over a 2 year period, full-time equivalent, in an Australian or New Zealand clinical setting. This may be in interstate, metropolitan, regional and rural areas.

### Examples

- Regular and punctual attendance in the clinical workplace.
- Submits work, such as assignments, on time and to a high standard.
- Complete sonographic examinations in a safe and timely manner.
- Organise travel to and from clinical training site.
- Organise accommodation and travel where clinical training may require you to live away from your normal residence and manage living away from home.