

# Can Men be Radiologic Technologists?

**YES!**



*"I love the fact that you deal with multiple people of different size, shapes, and forms. You get to interact with people and help them solve or fix a problem."*—Mike Howell, RT

**Idaho Wages**  
**Hourly Range** \$16.33 to \$27.33  
**Median Wage** \$20.22

## Preparation

To work as a Radiologic Technologist, you must:

- have a high school diploma or GED;
- complete a medical imaging technology program;
- have a good eye for detail; and
- be able to work as part of a team.

**An Associate of Applied Science Degree is offered at the College of Southern Idaho**

## Job Outlook

Many new jobs will be created at hospitals. However, employment will grow most rapidly in medical offices, clinics, and diagnostic imaging centers. These jobs will result from the trend of doing more procedures outside the hospital setting. In addition, a significant part of the population is getting older. They will require more medical testing.

Most full-time radiologic technologists work about 40 hours a week. They may, however, have evening, weekend, or on-call hours. Opportunities for part-time and shift work also are available.

## Idaho Employment

671 jobs—medium occupation  
37.4% annual growth  
38 annual jobs open—high

Nationally, men make up 25% of the labor force.  
*Source: US Dept of Labor (2006)*

**College of Southern Idaho  
Center for New Directions  
Non Traditional Occupations Program—  
732-6688.**

**Radiologic Technology Program  
Contact O. Gary Lauer, Ph.D., RT(R) —732-6719**

The field of radiologic technology refers to three primary fields, radiography, radiation therapy technology and radiography.

Registered Technologists in Radiography create images of the inside of the body. Technologists receive instructions from doctors about which areas of the body they need images of. Doctors also tell technologists which procedure to use. The main types of procedures are x-ray, fluoroscopy, and sonogram. X-rays are pictures that show the bones of the body. Both fluoroscopy and sonograms show the soft tissues of the body. These last two procedures use sound, magnetic, and radio waves to create images of the inside of the body.

Approximately 85% of almost 350,000 Registered Technologists in America are credentialed in Radiography by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. ARRT credentialed radiologic technologists are known as Registered Technologists.

## Regardless of Gender Radiologic Technologists need to:

- Get instructions from doctors about which procedures to perform.
- Explain radiological procedures such as x-rays, fluoroscopies, and sonograms to patients.
- Make sure that patients remove jewelry or other items that imaging equipment cannot see through.
- Follow radiation safety measures to protect patients and staff.
- Make sure that only necessary parts of the body are exposed to x-ray radiation. Protect rest of patient's body with lead apron.
- Position patient on the examining table and arrange equipment so that images can be made.
- Monitor patients' during procedure, report problems to doctors.
- Adjust exposure time and distance of x-ray equipment, using computer and mechanical controls.
- Give patients a special solution to drink for fluoroscopy procedures.
- Monitor images shown on video screens so that they can be seen as clearly as possible.
- Review x-rays, video images, or computer generated images. Evaluate the clarity of these images to be sure that doctors can read them.

## It is important for radiologic technologists to be able to:

- Make quick, precise adjustments to machine controls.
- Speak clearly so listeners can understand.
- See details of objects that are less than a few feet away.
- Understand the speech of another person.
- Hold the arm and hand in one position or hold the hand steady while moving the arm.
- Use fingers or hands to grasp, move, or assemble objects.
- Move two or more limbs together (for example, two arms, two legs, or one leg and one arm) while remaining in place.
- Bend, stretch, twist, or reach out.