

# Diagnostic Medical Sonographers

SOC: 29-2032 • Career Profile Report

## ■ Key Facts

<b>\$89,340</b> Median Salary	<b>90,000</b> Employment	<b>+13.0%</b> Growth Rate
----------------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------------

## ■ Requirements & Salary Range

**Education:** Associate's degree

## ■ Automation Risk Assessment

**Low Risk** - 8.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.  
This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

## ■ Work-Life Balance

**7.2/10** - Good work-life balance

## ■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

<b>Realistic</b>	5.4/10	<b>Investigative</b>	8.6/10
<b>Artistic</b>	4.8/10	<b>Social</b>	9.0/10
<b>Enterprising</b>	5.4/10	<b>Conventional</b>	6.2/10

## ■ Top Skills Required

Communication skills, Detail oriented, Hand–eye coordination, Interpersonal skills, Physical stamina, Technical skills

### ✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

### ■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

## ■ What They Do

Diagnostic Medical Sonographers typically perform the following tasks:

- Observe screen during scan to ensure that image produced is satisfactory for diagnostic purposes, making adjustments to equipment as required.
- Observe and care for patients throughout examinations to ensure their safety and comfort.
- Provide sonogram and oral or written summary of technical findings to physician for use in medical diagnosis.
- Select appropriate equipment settings and adjust patient positions to obtain the best sites and angles.
- Operate ultrasound equipment to produce and record images of the motion, shape, and composition of blood, organs, tissues, or bodily masses, such as fluid accumulations.
- Decide which images to include, looking for differences between healthy and pathological areas.
- Prepare patient for exam by explaining procedure, transferring patient to ultrasound table, scrubbing skin and applying gel, and positioning patient properly.
- Determine whether scope of exam should be extended, based on findings.
- Obtain and record accurate patient history, including prior test results or information from physical examinations.
- Maintain records that include patient information, sonographs and interpretations, files of correspondence, publications and regulations, or quality assurance records, such as pathology, biopsy, or post-operative reports.
- Record and store suitable images, using camera unit connected to the ultrasound equipment.
- Coordinate work with physicians or other healthcare team members, including providing assistance during invasive procedures.
- Clean, check, and maintain sonographic equipment, submitting maintenance requests or performing minor repairs as necessary.
- Perform clerical duties, such as scheduling exams or special procedures, keeping records, or archiving computerized images.
- Perform legal and ethical duties, including preparing safety or accident reports, obtaining written consent from patient to perform invasive procedures, or reporting symptoms of abuse or neglect.
- Supervise or train students or other medical sonographers.
- Perform medical procedures, such as administering oxygen, inserting and removing airways, taking vital signs, or giving emergency treatment, such as first aid or cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).
- Maintain stock and supplies, preparing supplies for special examinations and ordering supplies when necessary.
- Process and code film from procedures and complete appropriate documentation.
- Load and unload film cassettes used to record images from procedures.