

New Children's Wisconsin School of Radiologic Technology promoting pediatric best practices and workforce pathways

In 2025, Children's Wisconsin established the Children's Wisconsin School of Radiologic Technology (CWSRT) to help address Wisconsin's growing need for highly qualified pediatric-trained radiologic technologists and strengthen the future health care workforce. CWSRT is the second pediatric hospital-based imaging education program in the country.

Radiologic technologists help patients feel safe during uncertain moments, work closely with providers to support timely diagnoses, and play an essential role in nearly every stage of a patient's health care journey. In pediatric imaging, those responsibilities become even more meaningful. Every day, radiologic technologists help children overcome fear, comfort families, adapt exams to each patient's unique needs, and produce high-quality images that guide important medical decisions.

Radiologic technologists are an essential part of the health care workforce and are in growing demand nationwide. For the next 10 years, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics anticipates significant opportunity in the imaging field to add more than 15,000 MRI and radiology technicians each year to meet the growing demand for medical imaging services.

Students receive classroom and clinical training in patient positioning, imaging equipment, radiation safety and producing high-quality diagnostic images. The program is designed to prepare graduates for careers in both pediatric and adult imaging settings. The school aims to exceed regulatory standards and for high student success rates, including strong credentialing exam performance and employment after graduation.

This fall, CWSRT welcomed its inaugural class of 10 students, selected from a competitive pool of more than 100 applicants. Throughout 2025, significant efforts were dedicated to developing the program's curriculum, securing clinical education resources, hiring faculty, creating student support services, and preparing a state-of-the-art educational environment designed to train the next generation of imaging professionals.

The program has established academic affiliation agreements with six colleges and universities. It was intentionally designed to expand access to radiologic technology education through multiple admission pathways and academic partnerships with colleges and universities across Wisconsin. These partnerships help remove barriers to entry while creating opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds to pursue careers in medical imaging.

Graduates of CWSRT, with its emphasis on pediatric-focused education and clinical training, will help address regional workforce shortages, improve access to high-quality

diagnostic imaging services, and support long-term health care needs of Wisconsin communities and beyond.