



# SCHOOL OF RADIATION THERAPY



MEMORIAL SLOAN-KETTERING CANCER CENTER



## Memorial-Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC), established in 1884, is the world's oldest and largest privately operated non-profit cancer center in the world. For more than a century, MSKCC has been dedicated to caring for patients afflicted with cancer, advancing biomedical knowledge through research, and training health care professionals in the specialties and subspecialties of cancer care. The Center's present and future course continues to be built on this foundation.

Memorial Hospital, the patient-care arm of MSKCC, delivers state-of-the-art services for people with cancer and related diseases. Memorial hospital incorporates a 432 bed inpatient unit with approximately 21,000 discharges and 139,301 patient days annually.

Radiation Oncology, a department within Memorial Hospital, is staffed by more than 100 skilled professionals including radiation oncologists and residents, registered radiation therapists, nurses and social workers as well as a medical physics team.

### About the School of Radiation Therapy

The Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center School of Radiation Therapy was established in 1970.

The mission of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center Radiation Therapy Program is to prepare professional radiation therapists who demonstrate the highest quality of technical expertise; provide competent, compassionate clinical care in serving their patients; and collaborate effectively with their colleagues.

### Goals

Fulfillment of the program's mission is assessed by the extent to which the program accomplishes the following goals:

1. Produce graduates with the knowledge and practical skills needed to provide accurate treatment planning and delivery.
2. Provide the opportunity for the development of problem-solving and critical thinking skills.
3. Produce graduates who are effective communicators, both in writing and orally.
4. Produce graduates who exhibit appropriate professional and ethical behavior for entry-level radiation therapy positions and demonstrate interest for professional development and goal.
5. Produce graduates who complete the program and gain employment to meet the needs of the healthcare community.

### Why Choose this Program?

Memorial Hospital is one of only a few hospitals in the country dedicated solely to cancer care. We have a large diverse patient population and our students can be assured of comprehensive training in all aspects of radiation therapy delivery. Our instructional staff is made up of highly qualified professionals from the departments of Radiation Oncology, Medical Physics and Nursing.

Our department is equipped with 10 Varian linear accelerators (Varian Clinac 600C/6EX/2100EX/2100C, Varian Trilogy , 3 equipped with IGRT technology, one with the Calypso® tracking and target localization system); 2 Picker PQ 5000 CT simulators and 2 Phillips Brilliance CT Big Bore Scanner, a GE Discovery ST PET/CT simulator; and a Brachytherapy suite. The departments of Radiation Oncology and Medical Physics make extensive use of computers in the area of treatment planning and delivery, dose calculation and quality assurance.

Our classes are small enough to provide individual attention. Clinical and academic instruction is conducted right here in our department providing fully integrated training.

Graduates receive a Memorial Hospital Certificate in Radiation Therapy, a prestigious professional accomplishment recognized throughout the medical community.

### Admissions Requirements and Procedure

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and possess a minimum of a high school diploma (or GED equivalency) with a minimum GPA of 2.0 (“**C**” average). In addition, **all applicants must meet the college-level prerequisite in mathematics (college-level algebra and/or pre-calculus) and college-level anatomy and physiology, one full-semester each, with a minimum of a “C” grade in each course.** A lab section for anatomy and physiology is strongly recommended. Applicants must be US citizens or legal residents. International candidates with student visas are not eligible to apply. Transfer of credits is not currently available.

1. All applicants must submit the required application form, a *nonrefundable* application fee of \$50, and official school transcripts by **March 1<sup>st</sup>** to be eligible for selection for the following September. Applicants who have earned a bachelor degree, from an accredited institution, within the past 6 years are required to submit High School transcripts. No applications will be accepted after deadline has passed.
2. Qualified applicants will be scheduled to take the entrance examination, which is given in mid-March, once per year. The Entrance Examination consists of four major components:
  - a. *English* skills: this section includes verbal analogies, synonyms, vocabulary and spelling,
  - b. *Health Science* knowledge: this section includes college-level anatomy and physiology, basic biology, cell biology, basic physics, etc.
  - c. *Mathematics*: section includes arithmetic functions, basic college algebra, fractions, decimals, percentages, averages, exponential functions, logarithmic functions, metric system, basic geometry, areas, perimeter, similar triangles, etc.
  - d. *Essay writing*: Student is required to write essay on an assigned topic. Essay will not count towards entrance exam score but will be evaluated during first interview.
3. A maximum of forty (40) applicants, from among the top entrance exam scorers, who attain a minimum of 75% overall average **and** a minimum average of 75% on the mathematics section of the exam, will be scheduled for the first round of interviews with the Admissions Committee. Interviews last about 15-20 minutes.
4. A maximum of fifteen (15) candidates from the first round of interviews will be invited back to a second round of interviews with the Program Director, Clinical Instructor, and Technical Director of the Radiation Oncology Department.



## Academic Year

The academic year is divided into a fall, spring and summer semester. During the fall and spring semester, students attend two days of classroom instruction and three days of clinical instruction. In addition, first-year students will be required to attend periodic Saturday classes, particularly during the first semester. During the summer semester, students attend five days of clinical instructions and other required clinical rotations.

Hours are 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM or 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Students are given 25 days-off per year, in addition to 6 holidays. During the senior year, students get two professional days to be used for job-seeking activities and/or interviews. All instruction, clinical and didactic, takes place at our main campus.

Starting in the academic year of 2009-2010, students will also have the option to rotate through our regional clinical sites for periodic month-long clinical rotations. The regional sites are:

Basking Ridge, NJ  
136 Mountain View Boulevard  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

MSKCC@ Mercy Medical Center  
1000 North Village Ave  
Rockville Centre, NY 11570

MSKCC@ Commack  
650 Commack Road  
Commack, NY 11725

MSKCC@ Phelps Memorial Hospital Center  
777 North Broadway, Suite 100  
Sleepy Hollow, NY 10590

Upon completion of our two-year certificate program, our graduates will have accumulated a minimum of 2100 hours of clinical instruction and 700 hours of classroom instruction.

## Accreditation

The program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT), 20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 2850 Chicago, Illinois 60606-2901, E-mail: mail@jrcert.org, (www.jrcert.org), and by the New York State Department of Health.

## Tuition

The tuition for the program is \$4000.00 per year, payable to MSKCC SCHOOL OF RADIATION THERAPY. A **nonrefundable** acceptance fee of \$700 (applied towards tuition) is to be paid upon acceptance to the program. Semester payments are due the first day of each successive semester of enrollment.

Tuition fee is to be paid as follows:

1. Acceptance Fee . . . . . \$700.
2. Fall semester (first year) . . . . . 1st Week/September . . . . . \$1825.
3. Spring semester . . . . . 1st Week/February . . . . . \$1825.
4. Fall semester (second year) . . . . . 1st Week/September . . . . . \$1825.
5. Spring semester. . . . . 1st Week/February . . . . . \$1825.

**The acceptance fee is non-refundable.** Students receive limited medical coverage free of charge while in the program.



## Refund Policy

Any student who voluntarily leaves the program prior to the first 30 days will receive a full tuition refund with the exception of the initial \$700 acceptance fee. Any student who voluntarily leaves the program after the first 30 days, but within the first 3 months, will receive 50% of his/her tuition back.

Any student leaving the program after the first 3 months will receive no refund. Students who are dismissed from the program during the initial 6-month probationary period are not entitled to a refund.

## Scholarships

Student members of the **American Society of Radiologic Technologists** ([www.asrt.org](http://www.asrt.org)) have applied to numerous scholarship awards offered by the ASRT. In the last three years, we have had 6 recipients of ASRT scholarships worth \$5,000 each.

In addition, since last year, our school has benefited from the generosity of the **Sidney and Loretta Teich Foundation Scholarship Fund**. Minority members of the program are eligible to apply for this scholarship worth up to \$2,500.

## Requirements for Graduation

In order to qualify for graduation from the training program, students must meet the following requirements:

1. Satisfactory completion of all courses with a grade point average of 75% or better, per course.
2. Accrual of all necessary clinical days.
3. Clinical competence by fulfillment of the clinical objectives with a 75% or better.
4. Return of any equipment/books borrowed from the school and/or medical library.
5. Fulfillment of all monetary obligations.
6. Completion of all program assessment forms/evaluations/surveys.

**Note:** Graduation from the training MSKCC program does not automatically guarantee licensure by New York State and/or certification by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. Licensure and certification is granted by the NYSDOH and the ARRT after successful passing (75% or better) of ARRT Boards.



## Student Services

### Medical Library

The MSKCC Medical Library-Nathans Cummings Center is available for student's use. Library location and contact information:

430 East 67th Street New York, NY 10021

Phone: 212-639-7439 Fax: 212-717-3048

Monday – Friday: 8:30 am – 7:00 pm

Saturday – Sunday: Closed

### Employee Health & Wellness Services

Employee Health & Wellness Services (EH&WS) provides annual required TB testing for our students and physical examinations for new students. EH&WS also provides annual flu vaccines to students. If you become ill during your training, you should notify the program director or clinical supervisor. Program director will arrange an appointment for the student with the EH&WS and prepare a referral note.

Employee Health & Wellness Services announces an expansion of hours at a new satellite location in Room MG03 at the Main Campus, 1275 York Avenue. EH&WS will now be open all day on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Main Location:

Employee Health & Wellness Service  
222 East 70th Street  
New York, NY 10021  
646 888-4000

### Employee Assistance Program Consortium (EAPC)

The Employee Assistance Program Consortium (EAPC) is a confidential, short-term counseling and referral service that is available free of charge to students of the School of Radiation Therapy. Counselors are available Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Additional hours can be arranged by appointment.

For your convenience and privacy the EAPC is located off hospital grounds in a residential building. The EAPC is located at Phipps House (first floor) 445 East 68th Street (at York Avenue) New York, NY 10021. 212 746-5890 or e-mail: EAPC@med.cornell.edu.

### Academic/Clinical Assistance

Didactic instructors make a concerted effort to provide additional assistance to those students needing reinforcement activity. All didactic instructors provide their contact information so students may avail themselves of their assistance. In addition, the program director and clinical supervisor are available for didactic, clinical assistance and/or tutoring upon the student's request.



## Contact Information

For more information, call:

Wilson Apollo, Program Director  
School of Radiation Therapy  
(212)639-6835 or

Carol Sweeney, Clinical Supervisor  
(212)639-3343

Or log on to our web page at [www.mskcc.org/schoolofradiationtherapy](http://www.mskcc.org/schoolofradiationtherapy),

Or write to:

Wilson Apollo, Program Director  
School of Radiation Therapy, Box 22  
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center  
1275 York Avenue  
New York, NY 10065

The MSKCC School of Radiation Therapy is an equal opportunity organization. Federal, New York State, and New York City laws prohibit discrimination against applicants on the basis of age, sex, religion, race, non job-related disability, marital status, national origin or veteran's status.

Revised 07/09