Cardiac Electrophysiology

PROGRAM OFFERED

- A.S.
- University Certificate

Electrophysiology (EP) is an emerging healthcare science and therapy. EP is a subspecialty of cardiology that focuses on diagnosing and treating cardiac arrhythmias. The cardiac electrophysiology technologist, who comprise a variety of allied health professionals (RT, RN, CVT, EMT, RRT and PA), assists an EP cardiologist during diagnostic and invasive EP/Rhythm Management procedures, including programmed electrical stimulation, sterile scrub technique, electro-anatomical 3D mapping, catheter ablation for cardiac arrhythmias, and device implantations for cardiac rhythm management, such as pacemakers and other advanced implantable devices.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Students in the cardiac electrophysiology technology (CEPT) program will learn EP theory, principles, and various techniques, and will be trained to utilize the latest advancements in EP equipment/technology and cardiac rhythm management. Students will obtain approximately 800 clinical hours by rotating to several clinical sites while in the program. The Associate of Science and the certificate programs are each 12 months long, and clinical sites can be selected at the students request. The A.S. degree is a face-to-face program with some online coursework, while the certificate program is primarily online with a few face-to-face visits to the Loma Linda campus. The certificate program is tailored with the working professional in mind, and clinical hours can be accrued if the student is working in an established EP/Rhythm Management lab. This program will prepare students for RCES & IBHRE certifications.

Graduates of the CEPT program will be qualified to take the Registered Cardiac Electrophysiologist Specialist (RCES) credentialing examination offered by Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI), and the Allied Health Professional EP Exam offered by the International Board of Heart Rhythm Examiners (IBHRE). After completion of either certification examinations, the graduate will be qualified for employment with not just acute care hospital CCL/EP labs, but also hospital or physician rhythm management clinics, clinical support, and sales position with various bio-technology companies. The development of this program is in direct response to the needs expressed by hospitals, physicians, and bio-tech companies to address the current demand for qualified EP allied health professionals to meet the emerging challenges of the healthcare science and therapy of electrophysiology. Currently only 8-10% of patients in the U.S. are being properly diagnosed and treated for atrial fibrillation, which is just one segment of EP patients.

CLINICAL TRAINING & ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Students will complete didactic coursework (61.5 quarter units for the A.S. and 55.5 quarter units for the certificate) and approximately 800 hours of clinical education in a cardiac cath lab/EP lab. Physical demands include lifting, carrying, bending, manipulation of equipment, patient assistance, walking and prolonged standing, the ability to read written orders, advanced computer systems screens, patient records, equipment controls, and the ability to communicate with patients, physicians and cowokers. Mental and emotional demands include critical decision making, interaction with patients of different ages and health conditions, maintaining patient confidentiality and being able to work under pressure in stressful conditions.
**Loma Linda University Requirements:** To be eligible for admission the applicant must complete a minimum of 51 quarter-units (34 semester units) at an accredited college or university. The minimum subject requirements for the A.S. program are:

**RELIGION:** (a maximum of 8 qtr-units may be applied);
   - for students who attended or are enrolled in an Adventist college, 4 qtr-units per year are required.

**NATURAL SCIENCES:**
   - Human Anatomy & Physiology with lab (complete sequence)
   - Intro Chemistry w/ lab
   - Intro Physics/lab or H.S. level physics
   - Math: 2 years H.S. level with C grade or better or college intermediate algebra.

**SOCIAL SCIENCES:**
   - Select one class from the following:
     - General Psychology
     - Sociology
     - Cultural Anthropology

**COMMUNICATION:**
   - Freshman Composition, complete sequence
   - Computers (college or high school)

**ELECTIVES** (to meet minimum total of 51qtr/34 sem. units) with a GPA of 2.4 or higher

**OBSERVATION EXPERIENCE RECOMMENDATION:**
   - Observation hours in a CEP department (minimum of 2 exams observed).

**“C minus” grades are not transferable for credit**

You can find the courses we recommend for your college by accessing the “Transfer Patterns” on our website at: http://www.llu.edu/llu/sahp/transfer/index.html

**Accreditation**

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs upon the recommendation of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Cardiovascular Technology (JRC-CVT). Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, 1361 Park Street, Clearwater, FL 33756; (727) 210-2350; www.caahep.org.

**How to apply**

Applications are accepted from January 1 to July 31 of each year for Fall acceptance. Apply online at www.llu.edu. Bulletins may be viewed free on our web site.

You may complete prerequisite course work at any accredited college before admission to a program in the School of Allied Health Professions. A high school diploma or the GED is required for acceptance.

TOEFL or IELTS (or equivalent English language proficiency examination) scores for applicants whose native language is not English or whose secondary education was received outside the United States (refer to: http://www.llu.edu/allied-health/sahp/internationalstudent.page) Any student with a score on the TOEFL writing test (TWE) of less than 4, will be required to do remedial work during the program and retake the TOEFL test.

**Financial Aid**

Apply early for financial assistance - even before receiving your acceptance into the program. You should begin your financial aid process by January 1. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) can be found online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. It’s best to apply before March each year. You will need your previous year’s tax information as part of the application.

Applications for Cal Grants (California residents only) must be postmarked no later than March 2.

LLU’s Student Financial Aid office will help you obtain the necessary applications and guide you through the process of applying for aid. Contact them at: (909) 558-4509

**Important Program Financial Disclosures can be found at:**

http://www.llu.edu/assets/alliedhealth/disclosures/cetc/Gedt.html

**Housing**

On-campus housing is available for men and women. For information on the men’s dormitory (Daniell’s Residence), call (909) 558-4562. For information on the women’s dormitory (Lindsay Hall), call (909) 558-4561.

**Contact Information**

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