

## PREGNANCY POLICY FORM

**The following is the pregnancy policy for students enrolled in the Century College Radiologic Technology Program.**

The National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements recommended in NCRP Report #39 and #53 that occupational exposure to radiation be kept at low as reasonably achievable (ALARA) and in no case should it exceed 500 mrem during the period of pregnancy.

During the first semester of the radiography program, all students are instructed in basic radiation protection procedures. Female students are instructed on the availability and location of the United States Nuclear Regulator Commission Guide 8.13 on possible biological risks to the fetus and embryo. A copy of the guide is available to all students enrolled in the Century College Radiologic Technology Program. Each Clinical Coordinator has access to a copy of the Guide at each of the Program's clinical affiliates. Students desiring to read the Regulatory Guide may do so at either the College or clinical site.

Any female student who suspects or has confirmed she is pregnant has the option of whether or not to inform the Program Director. Confidential disclosure of pregnancy is strongly encouraged during the first trimester so appropriate precautionary procedures can be taken to protect the mother and fetus. If the student chooses to disclose her pregnancy, she must do so **in writing** to the Program Director. In the absence of a voluntary written disclosure, the student cannot be considered pregnant. The student has the right to rescind the disclosure at any time during the pregnancy.

The pregnant student will be counseled by the Program Director and/or Radiation Safety Officer regarding methods to reduce exposure from ionizing radiation. If the student chooses to continue Rad Tech course work during her pregnancy, immediate efforts shall be instituted to keep the student's radiation exposure well below .05 rem per month and below .5 rem during the gestation period. A second (fetal) dosimeter badge will be obtained and worn on the abdomen.

It is recommended that the student wear a wrap-around apron during fluoroscopic procedures. Under no circumstances will the pregnant student hold or assist in holding patients or image receptors while radiographic exposures are made.

Pregnant students have the following two options to complete the Program:

- 1) The student may elect to withdraw from the program and apply to re-enter at the point in the program curriculum where the drop occurred. The Program Director will assist the student in revising the course work plan. Placement of the student at the time of return will be determined by the student's past performance, level of competency, and rotations missed.
- 2) The student may elect to continue with the Program curriculum up to the time of delivery with no modifications given to clinical schedules. After delivery, the student can return to clinical only with written consent of the student's physician.

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Student Initials

In order to ensure the student completes all Program course requirements to include academic and clinical course objectives as well as clinical competencies, the student needs to contact course instructors to make arrangements for making up all instructional hours missed due to delivery and convalescence.

Failure of a student to notify the Director immediately upon detection of the pregnancy will delay implementing special radiation protection measures. The importance of strict radiation protection during pregnancy cannot be overemphasized.

The college radiography program will counsel students but has no responsibility for the decisions made by students regarding educational choices if they become pregnant while enrolled in the Rad Tech program.

I have read the above policy, understand the intent of the policy and agree to comply with the content of the policy. I have also been instructed on the availability of the United States Regulatory Commission Guide 8.13 regarding fetal exposure to radiation. If I am currently pregnant or become pregnant while enrolled in the Radiologic Technology Program at Century College, I understand that it is my choice whether or not I inform the Program Director. If I choose to disclose my pregnancy, I must do so in writing to the Program Director.

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**Student Name (Please print)**

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**Date**

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**Student Signature**