



## RADIATION THERAPIST

Provide radiation therapy to patients as prescribed by a radiologist according to established practices and standards. Duties may include reviewing prescription and diagnosis; acting as liaison with physician and supportive care personnel; preparing equipment, such as immobilization, treatment, and protection devices; and maintaining records, reports, and files. May assist in dosimetry procedures and tumor localization.

### Knowledge and Skills Needed

In addition to courses required for high school graduation, essential skills and knowledge needed for a career as a radiation therapist are reinforced by taking rigorous and relevant courses, as well as participating in work-based experiences and student organization activities.

(See the Sample Personal Plan of Study for suggested coursework, activities, and knowledge and skills to pursue in preparation of an occupation in this Career Cluster.)

### Education Requirements

Occupation	Percent of Missouri employees aged 25 to 44 in the occupation whose highest level of educational attainment is:		
	High School or Less	Some College	Bachelor Degree or More
Radiation therapists	0.0%	55.4%	42.1%
Health diagnosing and treating practitioners	1.3%	11.4%	87.4%
Healthcare Practitioner/Technical	9.9%	31.0%	59.1%

PA educational Level (required in Missouri): Associate degree

Note: Be sure to learn whether your occupation has a specific requirement for education or licensing.

### National and State Wage Information

Location	Pay Period	2007		
		Entry*	Median	Experienced**
United States	Hourly	\$27.46	\$33.66	\$40.31
	Yearly	\$57,100	\$70,000	\$83,800
Missouri	Hourly	\$24.49	\$30.45	\$36.84
	Yearly	\$50,900	\$63,300	\$76,600

Based on (\*) lower 25% and (\*\*) upper 25% percentile of wages

### National and State Employment Trends

Radiation Therapist	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings*
	2006	2016		
United States	14,600	18,200	+ 25%	580
Missouri	290	330	+ 15%	10

\*The estimate for Job Openings includes both turnover that results from people who leave the occupation (e.g. quit, retire, death) and new jobs that are created.

### Educational Opportunities

Note: This list may not be all inclusive. For more information about Missouri schools and programs, visit [www.dhe.mo.gov](http://www.dhe.mo.gov)

#### Avila University

Kansas City, MO  
(816) 942-8400  
[www.avila.edu](http://www.avila.edu)

#### Barnes-Jewish College of Nursing and Allied Health

Saint Louis, MO  
(314) 454-7055  
[www.barnesjewishcollege.edu](http://www.barnesjewishcollege.edu)

#### Colorado Technical University

North Kansas City, MO  
(816) 472-0275  
[www.coloradotech.com](http://www.coloradotech.com)

#### Drury University

Springfield, MO  
(417) 873-7879  
[www.drury.edu](http://www.drury.edu)

#### East Central College

Union, MO  
(636) 583-5193  
[www.eastcentral.edu](http://www.eastcentral.edu)

#### Hillyard Technical Center

Saint Joseph, MO  
(816) 671-4170  
[www.hillyardtech.com](http://www.hillyardtech.com)

#### Metropolitan Community College - Penn Valley

Kansas City, MO  
(816) 759-4000  
[www.mcckc.edu](http://www.mcckc.edu)

(more-over)

**Missouri Southern State University**  
Joplin, MO  
(417) 625-9300  
[www.mssu.edu](http://www.mssu.edu)

**Nichols Career Center**  
Jefferson City, MO  
(573) 659-3100  
[www.jcps.k12.mo.us/education/school/school.php?sectionid=707](http://www.jcps.k12.mo.us/education/school/school.php?sectionid=707)

**Research Medical Center School of Radiologic Technology**  
Kansas City, MO  
(816) 276-4000  
[www.researchmedicalcenter.com](http://www.researchmedicalcenter.com)

**Rolla Technical Institute**  
Rolla, MO  
(573) 458-0150  
[rolla.k12.mo.us](http://rolla.k12.mo.us)

**Sanford-Brown College**  
Fenton, MO  
(636) 651-1600  
[www.sanford-browncollege.com](http://www.sanford-browncollege.com)

**University of Missouri-Columbia**  
Columbia, MO  
(573) 882-2121  
[www.missouri.edu](http://www.missouri.edu)



[www.missouriconnections.org](http://www.missouriconnections.org)

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[www.dese.mo.gov](http://www.dese.mo.gov)

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