



Breast Sonography

[ARRT requires that](#) candidates applying for certification and registration ~~are required to~~ meet the Professional Requirements specified in the *ARRT Rules and Regulations*. ARRT's *Breast Sonography Clinical Experience Requirements* describe the specific eligibility requirements that [candidates](#) must ~~be~~ documented as part of the application for certification and registration process.

The purpose of the clinical experience requirements is to verify that candidates have completed a subset of the clinical procedures within a discipline. Successful performance of these fundamental procedures, in combination with mastery of the cognitive knowledge and skills covered by the examination, provides the basis for the acquisition of the full range of clinical skills required in a variety of settings.

[ARRT periodically updates](#) the requirements ~~are periodically updated~~ based ~~up~~ upon a practice analysis, which is a systematic process to delineate the job responsibilities typically required of breast sonographers. The result of this process is a task inventory. An advisory committee then determines the number of clinical procedures required to demonstrate adequate candidate experience in performing the tasks on the inventory.

Candidates for breast sonography certification and registration must document performance of a minimum of 220 repetitions of breast sonography procedures according to the criteria noted below.

[Candidates document, verify, and submit completed](#) procedures ~~are documented, verified and submitted when complete~~ via an online ~~tool worksheet~~ accessible through ~~My ARRT Info account~~ [the candidate's ARRT account](#) on www.arrt.org. ARRT encourages individuals to obtain education and experience beyond these minimum requirements.

[The candidate can document up to 9 sonographic procedures per day in the online worksheet.](#)

[Remote scanning is not acceptable for completion of ARRT Clinical Requirements. The candidate must complete the examination or procedure at the facility where the patient and equipment are located. The candidate must be physically present during the examination or procedure.](#)

[A certified and registered technologist, certified sonographer, supervisor, or licensed physician must certify](#) completion of each procedure ~~must be verified by a certified and registered technologist, certified sonographer, supervisor, or licensed physician.~~ [The online tool worksheet describes](#) the verification process ~~is described within the online tool.~~



Specific Procedural Requirements

A. Mandatory Procedures

The candidate must perform a total of 200 breast sonography patient examinations (limited or complete), which they may not be simulated. A bilateral sonography examination would be the equivalent of two breast examinations.

When performing the examinations, the candidate must ~~demonstrate~~ appropriately demonstrate the following for each procedure examination performed:

- evaluation of the requisition and/or medical record
- review of relevant imaging studies
- preparation of the examination room ~~preparation~~
- identification of the patient
- assessment and education of the patient concerning the ~~procedure~~ examination
- proper positioning of the patient
- selection of the protocol
- optimization of the image (*e.g., transducer selection, focal zone, ~~FOV~~ depth, overall gain)
- evaluate the resulting images for:
 - image quality (e.g., artifacts)
 - optimal demonstration of anatomic region and pathology
 - exam completeness
- present clinical findings and images to the radiologist (virtually or in person) for final interpretation, using appropriate terminology (e.g., echogenicity, shape, margins, orientation)
- image archiving
- documentation of the procedure examination and patient data in ~~appropriate~~ medical record
- adherence to CDC Standard Precautions for infection prevention
- ~~correlation of adjunct imaging studies to breast ultrasound~~

*e.g., This is used here and in the remainder of this document to indicate examples of the topics covered, but is not a complete list.

B. Elective Procedures

The candidate must participate in at least 20 breast sonography interventional procedures chosen from the following list. Any combination that adds up to 20 is acceptable. For example, a candidate may participate in 20 core biopsies; or a candidate may participate in 10 core biopsies, six clip placements, and four needle localizations.

- fluid aspiration (abscess, seroma, cyst)
- fine needle aspiration ~~biopsy~~
- needle core biopsy (e.g., spring-loaded)
- vacuum-assisted core biopsy
- clip placement
- pre-op needle localization (e.g., wire, ~~seed~~ non-wire)

ARRT defines pParticipation ~~is defined~~ as actual performance of all of the following activities on each patient: patient preparation (e.g., explain procedure, verify informed consent); selection and preparation of e equipment, performance of time out procedure, positioning patient, practicing e infection control and prevention, and providing e post-procedural care and instructions.

It may be possible for the candidate to oObservation and simulation ~~of~~ the interventional procedures ~~may be possible~~ if ~~the candidate is limited by~~ the facility and the patient population limit the candidate's ability to complete the interventional procedures. Please ~~contact~~ call the Education Requirements Department at 651-687-0048 and select the option for earning ARRT credentials.