WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN … RADIOLOGIC SCIENCES

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:

Nuclear Medicine
“Nuclear medicine imaging technologists use the nuclear properties of radioactive and stable nuclides to acquire patient data for interpretation by the nuclear medicine physician in reaching diagnostic evaluations of the anatomic and physiologic conditions of the body and to provide patient therapy.” (from UNM Department of Radiology website).

Radiography
“Radiographers provide patient services using imaging techniques which assist the physician radiologist in disease and injury diagnosis and investigation. While performing complex radiographic procedures, they limit radiation exposure to patients, self, and others.” (from the Department of Radiology website).

EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

THE ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN RADIOGRAPHY
“The Radiography Program at the University of New Mexico consists of a 23 month full-time curriculum of classroom and clinical training which leads to an Associate of Science degree in Radiography. The program will continue its accreditation through the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, and upon successful completion, students are eligible to take the national certifying examination administered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT)” (from the Department of Radiology website).

THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN RADIOLOGIC SCIENCES
(Concentration in Radiography)
“Students have the option of completing a B.S. degree program in Radiologic Sciences with a concentration in Radiography. The degree program provides the student with all the necessary skills to perform the job of a Radiologic Technologist and in addition, provides the student with other skills necessary for advancement in the field. The student first enrolls in the University and satisfactorily completes one year of prerequisites as outlined in the degree plan. In the spring semester of the first year, the student makes application for the Radiography Program and is interviewed by a selection committee consisting of faculty and clinical personnel.” (from the Department of Radiology website).

THE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM NUCLEAR MEDICINE
“The Nuclear Medicine Imaging Technology Program at the University of New Mexico is a full-time 12-month curriculum of classroom and clinical training which leads to a Certificate in Nuclear Medicine Technology. Students are admitted once a year, with classes beginning in the Fall semester (late August). This training provides the student with the knowledge and skills necessary to perform complex diagnostic procedures involving the in-vitro and in-vivo use of radiopharmaceuticals using state-of-the-art nuclear instrumentation. The program will continue its accreditation through the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. Upon successful completion, students are eligible to take the national certifying examination administered by the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) and the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT).” (from the Department of Radiology website).

THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN RADIOLOGIC SCIENCES
(Concentration in Nuclear Medicine)
“Students have the option of completing a B.S. degree program in Radiologic Sciences with concentration in Nuclear Medicine. (Curriculum outline for B.S. of Radiographic Sciences with Nuclear Medicine Concentration). The degree program provides the student with all the necessary skills to perform the job of a Nuclear Medicine Technologist and in addition, provides the student with other skills necessary for advancement in the field. The student first enrolls in the University and satisfactorily completes two years of prerequisites as outlined in the degree plan. In the Spring semester of the second year, the student makes application for the Nuclear Medicine Imaging Technology Program and is interviewed by a selection committee consisting of faculty and clinical personnel.” (from the Department of Radiology website).
EMPLOYERS/INDUSTRIES & SUGGESTED STRATEGY:

Please ask your Career Advisor (CDF) for identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

Employers/Industries: Hospitals - Clinical Practice - Outpatient care centers - Federal, state and local health departments – Physicians’ offices and medical groups – General medical centers

Highlighted Suggested Strategies:
- Choose an appropriate undergraduate major and include prerequisite courses required by the professional program, e.g. biology, chemistry, and physics, if they are not a requirement of the chosen major.
- Meet with a pre-health advisor periodically to discuss curricular decisions.
- Maintain a high grade point average, particularly in the sciences, to improve chances of admission to graduate or professional school.
- Work or volunteer in healthcare and medical settings.

STATE AND NATIONAL WAGES (2004) for Radiography:

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STATE AND NATIONAL WAGES (2004) for Nuclear Medicine:

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PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:
- American Society of Radiologic Technologists
  http://www.asrt.org/
- Society of Nuclear Medicine Technologists
  http://www.snm.org/
- Radiologic Sciences Program
  raddpt@unm.edu

OTHER INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:
- http://online.onetcenter.org
- http://www.bls.gov/oco/