

Frequently Asked Questions about **BICEP**

What is BICEP?

BICEP stands for **Breast Imaging Clinical Education Program**.

The Breast Imaging Clinical Education Program (BICEP) is a continuing professional development initiative of BreastScreen NSW, developed in collaboration with the University of Newcastle and the University of Sydney.

The program has been accredited by the Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMIRT). The BICEP is one component of the Certificate of Clinical Proficiency in Mammography (CCPM)

What are the prerequisites for the program?

- Must be registered with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) as a diagnostic radiographer, hold a current NSW Radiation Licence and have a current radiation monitor
- Must have recent experience in breast imaging of not less than six months
- Must have appropriate workers compensation and public liability cover
- Must have a criminal record and health clearance for training that is undertaken in public facilities
- Must be able to attend a recognized breast screening facility for a minimum period of 35 hours to complete directly supervised activities, ideally to be completed within one working week, may be completed over two weeks by negotiation with the on-site tutor.
- Must be able to complete a minimum of 200 mammograms within a six month timeframe and have access to a clinical supervisor who meets the criteria outlined in the BICEP Manual.

What does the program entail?

The program requires completion of:

- Learning Contract
- 50 mammograms directly supervised by a BreastScreen NSW Tutor Radiographer
- Quality assurance assignment
- 200 mammograms supervised by a Supervisor Radiographer or radiologist
- Reflective journal
- Workbook activities and documentation

Are there exams or assessments applicable to the program?

There is a written quality assurance assignment.

There are three image quality reviews to be conducted with the tutor radiographer and two quality of care/proficiency assessments.

How do I enrol?

Radiographers working for BSNSW may obtain an enrolment form from the State Coordination Unit (SCU). It must be signed by your BSNSW chief radiographer with a confirmed start date.

The BICEP manual and log books will then be emailed on receipt of a signed application.

What if I don't work for BreastScreen?

The BICEP is intended for diagnostic radiographers performing breast imaging at BreastScreen NSW Screening and Assessment Services, private practices, public and private hospitals.

Radiographers not employed by a BreastScreen service may contact the BSNSW Lead Radiographer for contact details of their nearest BreastScreen service.

What is the cost?

Costs are negotiated with the site providing training.

How long will it take to complete?

All components of the course must be completed within a six months.

What happens if I can't complete within the timeframe?

Where the Radiographer-in-training may be unable to complete their workbook within the proposed timeframe, due to unforeseen circumstances, an extension may be granted. The application for extension including a proposed completion plan outlined by the tutor radiographer must be sent to the BSNSW Lead Radiographer for approval and included with the workbook for final review.

How can I get more information?

BreastScreen NSW website

- www.breastscreen.nsw.gov.au/information-for-healthprofessionals/professional-development

ASMIRT website

- www.asmirt.org/certification#a4

BS NSW Lead Radiographer

- Beverlee.macdonellscott@health.nsw.gov.au