

MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

What can I do with this Major?

AREAS

Medical Technology

Medical technologists, also known as clinical laboratory scientists, work together with other members of the healthcare team to perform and supervise laboratory analyses on blood, body fluids and tissue. They also provide data to detect, diagnose and monitor disease. Medical technologists use medical equipment such as microscopes, computers and other highly technical instruments to assist them in their work.

Blood Banking
Microbiology
Hematology
Chemistry
Immunology
Urinalysis
Molecular Biology

EMPLOYERS

Hospital and private laboratories
Biotechnology industry
Research and forensic laboratories
Public health laboratories
Laboratory industry sales and lab product development
Universities and colleges
Pharmaceutical companies
Armed forces

STRATEGIES

- Earn a bachelor's degree in medical technology from a program accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS).
- Be prepared to participate in supervised clinical experiences.
- Many states require a license to practice. Obtain licensure by passing a certification exam given by the National Certification Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NCA) or the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Registry (ASCP).
- Attain good grades in pre-medical technology course work, including biology, anatomy, physiology, and general and organic chemistry.
- Develop manual dexterity, fine motor skills, and an attention to detail.
- Visit a clinical laboratory. Talk with practitioners to gain critical knowledge of the profession.
- For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

General Information:

- Develop a desire to help people of all backgrounds and ages including various races and socioeconomic groups.
- Gain an understanding of the rigorous education and training required in the medical professions to ascertain your willingness to complete the required experiences.
- Study the demands required by each of the medical fields. Many physicians work very long, irregular hours. Consider your tolerance for such a schedule.
- All fields require licensure that is generally regulated by the state of residency.
- Plan for a lifetime of learning to stay abreast of new trends in the field and to fulfill continuing education requirements for licensure.
- In some medical fields, additional training is necessary for advanced research and administrative positions, university teaching, and independent research.
- Some medical fields offer the opportunity for post-doctoral experiences, which can allow one to gain additional training or specialize in a particular area.
- For more information on your major visit: <http://www.onetonline.org/>