

The California Community Colleges
Allied Health Programs

Step Up to the Future with

Medical Laboratory Technician

Medical Laboratory Technician Programs are Available at the Following Community Colleges:

College of the Canyons
De Anza College
Folsom Lake College
Saddleback College
San Diego Miramar College
Southwestern College

For more information, please contact one of the colleges listed above or explore the web resources. For additional information regarding this brochure please contact: The Health Workforce Initiative at Butte College (530) 892-3060



**ECONOMIC &
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT**
through the
CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY
COLLEGES



Health Workforce Initiative

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Medical Laboratory Technician



Step Up to the Future!



What Does a Medical Laboratory Technician Do?

Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLTs) are generalists and perform a wide variety of tests and exams under the direct supervision of a Clinical Laboratory Scientist. These test results help doctors to diagnose and treat a variety of diseases. MLTs may perform tests that are categorized as "moderate complexity" in the clinical laboratory on blood, urine, cells, and tissues, as mandated by Federal and State law. Automated blood analyzers and

other laboratory equipment are commonly used by MLTs. Medical Laboratory Technicians work in hospitals, independent laboratories and other clinics approved by the California Department of Public Health Laboratory Field Services. They must also hold a certification as a phlebotomist to work in the clinical laboratory setting. Another career option for the MLT is employment with biotechnology companies

Facts About Medical Laboratory Technicians and Job Opportunities

According to a document entitled "Key Findings, 2014, Health Occupations in California," prepared by the Centers of Excellence, the need for Medical Laboratory Technicians in the ambulatory healthcare and nursing and residential care employer settings is expected to see a projected growth rate of 6%, with a total of 1130 job openings over the subsequent 12-month period. According to the California Employment Development Department, the need for Medical Laboratory Technicians in the health care industry is expected to increase by 28.1% from the years 2012-2022 with 870 average annual openings.

A licensed Medical Laboratory Technician must have a degree from an accredited program (NAACLS) or other approved program (LFS). An approved program includes a six-month



clinical internship. Candidates who obtain a degree from a nationally accredited program or equivalency may take the national exam (ASCP). For more information, go to: www.ascp.org/certification/#tabs-1. Medical Laboratory Technician licensure is issued by the State of California, Department of Public Health and Laboratory Field Services Branch.

Personal Characteristics and Working Conditions

- Detail oriented, organized, accurate and careful.
- Desire to work in a laboratory setting.
- Willingness to work with blood samples and other clinical specimens.
- Ability to follow directions and order information.
- Good reading comprehension, communication skills and listening skills.
- Ability to see details, detect differences in color and have good hand eye coordination.

Sources for Further Information About Medical Laboratory Technicians:

California Community Colleges' Health Program Directory
<http://www.ca-hwi.org>

California Association for Medical Laboratory Technology
(510) 792-4441
www.camlt.org

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
[Http://www.ascls.org](http://www.ascls.org)

Medical Laboratory Technician Licensing and Certifying Agencies:

Licensing California: California Department of Public Health Laboratory Field Services
<https://secure.cpsr.us/ctrlreg/>

National Board Exam:

American Society of Clinical Pathology
www.ascp.org

American Association of Bioanalysts (AAB)
<http://www.aab.org>

For more information on salaries go to:
<http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov>
<http://salarysurfer.cccco.edu>

American Medical Technologists
www.americanmedtech.org

National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS): <http://naaccls.org/>

California Department of Public Health Laboratory Field Services (LFS):
www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/lfs