



PROGRAM MISSION

The Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) Program at Lake Area Technical College is dedicated to providing students with the knowledge and skills for success as an entry-level Medical Laboratory Technician.

PROGRAM GOALS

The MLT Program at Lake Area Tech will:

1. Provide instruction responsive to the needs of the student.
2. Graduate technically competent individuals ready to enter the laboratory workforce with entry level skills.
3. Prepare graduates to take and pass ASCP BOC national certification exam.
4. Maintain a NAACLS accredited program current in the field of laboratory medicine.
5. Instill the importance of continuing education for medical laboratory professionals.
6. Foster a professional, ethical attitude in our graduates.

Although our goal is to prepare graduates to pass the ASCP Board of Certification test, this is not a requirement of graduation. Once you graduate from our program, you become eligible to take the BOC certification test. We encourage all graduates to take this test within the first 6 months of graduation.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

To complete the MLT Program successfully, students must possess the following abilities and skills listed below. If you have any questions concerning any of these requirements, please feel free to contact the MLT faculty.

Essential Observational Requirements for the MLT student

The student must be able to:

- Characterize the color, odor, clarity, and viscosity of biologicals, reagents, or chemical reaction products.
- Employ a clinical grade binocular microscope to discriminate fine structural and color differences (hue, shading, and intensity) of microscopic specimens.
- Read and comprehend text, numbers, and graphs displayed in print, or in an electronic format on instrument scales.

Essential Movement Requirements for the MLT student

The student must be able to:

- Move freely and safely about a laboratory.
- Reach laboratory benchtops and shelves, patients lying in hospital beds or patients seated in specimen collection furniture.
- Perform moderately taxing continuous physical work, often requiring prolonged sitting or standing over several hours.
- Safely utilize phlebotomy and culture acquisition equipment to safely collect valid laboratory specimens from patients.
- Control laboratory equipment (i.e. pipettes, inoculating loops, test tubes, etc) and adjust instruments to perform laboratory procedures.
- Use a computer and/or electronic keyboard to operate laboratory instruments and to calibrate, record, and evaluate laboratory instruments and transmit laboratory information.

Essential Communication Requirements for the MLT student

The student must be able to:

- Communicate effectively and sensitively orally and in writing with patients and all members of the healthcare team
- Read and comprehend written material in order to correctly and independently perform laboratory test procedures.

Essential Cognitive Requirements for the MLT student

The student must be able to:

- Possess these intellectual skills: comprehension, measurement, mathematical calculation, reasoning, integration, analysis, comparison, self-expression, and constructive criticism.
- Possess sufficient reasoning skills and judgment to recognize and correct performance deviations such as pre-analytical, analytical and post analytical errors as they occur.

Essential Behavioral Requirements for the MLT student

The student must be able to:

- Manage the use of time and systematize actions in order to complete professional and technical tasks within realistic constraints.
- Possess the emotional health necessary to effectively employ intellect and exercise appropriate judgment.
- Provide professional and technical services and maintain focus while experiencing the stresses of task-related uncertainty (i.e. ambiguous test ordering, emergent demands such as “stat” test orders, distracting environment (high noise levels, crowding, complex visual stimuli).
- Be flexible and creative and adapt to professional and technical change.
- Recognize potentially hazardous materials, equipment, and situations; proceed safely in order to minimize risk of injury to self and others.
- Adapt to working with unpleasant biological samples.
- Support and promote the activities of fellow students and of health care professionals. Promotion of your peers helps furnish a team approach to learning, task completion, problem solving, and patient care.
- Be honest, compassionate, ethical, and responsible. The student must be forthright about errors or uncertainty. The student must be able to critically evaluate her or his own performance, accept constructive criticism and look for ways to improve (i.e. participate in enriched educational activities).

Reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities will be considered on an individual basis, but a candidate must be able to perform in an independent manner. There will be no discrimination in the selection of program participants based on race, creed, color, gender, age, marital status, national origin, or physical or mental disability, providing mandatory standards can be met.