



Demand for medical laboratory scientists is outstanding

Today there is a greater demand than supply of trained medical laboratory scientists. Graduates have a wide choice of practice settings: hospitals, independent laboratories, clinics, public health facilities, forensic crime laboratories, sales and marketing of diagnostic instruments and reagents, federal and state regulatory agencies, and research and development of future clinical tests and instruments. In addition a bachelor's degree in medical laboratory science provides an excellent background for admission to other professional programs, such as medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and podiatry.

The annual starting salary for new medical laboratory science graduates in the Western United States ranges from \$55,000 to \$60,000. Higher salaries are available for working evening and/or night shifts. Experienced clinical laboratory supervisors and managers can attain salaries in the range of \$70,000 to \$80,000.



The Bachelor's degree in Medical Laboratory Science (MLS), the only one in Oregon and the largest in the Pacific Northwest region, is jointly offered by the Oregon Institute of Technology (Oregon Tech) and the Oregon Health and Sciences University (OHSU).

Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Science

Oregon Tech, in partnership with Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), offers a course of study leading to a Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Science degree. Students take coursework that combines a rigorous competency-based science curriculum with community-sponsored clinical training.



Graduates are prepared to enter the medical laboratory science profession and to pursue career opportunities in various laboratory settings including medical, research, and public health. The MLS curriculum also provides a solid preparation for those who wish to pursue graduate school. Students who successfully complete the degree program are eligible to take the Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLS) national board certification examination offered by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP).

Program Overview

The MLS degree is a four-year Bachelor of Science program that prepares students with an intensive curriculum, strong in biology and chemistry emphases; labs that include analysis of human samples on the latest equipment; and a four-month, 40-hour-a-week externship at one of 50 medical facilities that partner with Oregon Tech, mostly in Oregon, but in neighboring states as well.

MLS is a highly competitive program, admitting only 50 students a year, with two times that number applying for the degree program. Located at Oregon Tech's Portland-Metro campus in the city of Wilsonville, the program trains students in labs built to spec, so students are learning in the same environments in which they will eventually work. With a low student-to-faculty ratio of 12:1, students get the attention they need from the program's faculty. Attrition rates in the program are less than 1 percent.

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Now almost 85-years serving Oregon, with its origins at OHSU, the nationally accredited MLS program produces in-demand professionals who are eligible to take the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) national board examination to become certified as a Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLS), earning a joint degree from both Oregon Tech and OHSU.

Medical Laboratory Scientists play a vital role as part of the health care team who provide physicians with information crucial to the diagnosis, therapy monitoring, and prognosis of their patients. With an estimated 70% of all medical diagnoses

resting on the analysis of lab work, Oregon Tech/OHSU MLS graduates are a critical factor in the health and well-being of Oregonians and patients across the region and the country.

Program Benefits

- Nationally Accredited
- Hands-on experience
- Student cohort model
- Excellent transferability
- Outstanding local, regional and national employment opportunities for graduates
- Clinical externship in one of the program's 50+ affiliated and accredited medical laboratories
- Experienced, professionally credentialed faculty
- Low student-to-professor ratio
- Student focused educational approaches

Admission Basics

Admission to the professional program is criterion-based, competitive and decided by the program admissions committee. Applicants compete on the basis of their qualifications including scholarship, letters of recommendation, personal essay and quality of interview. Students selected enter the fourth year of study or the professional program. The program offers excellent transferability to post-baccalaureate students or those who have completed coursework in Biology, Chemistry, and Mathematics at accredited universities and community colleges or who have a 2-year degree and who are certified in medical laboratory technology (MLT) by ASCP.

Accreditation

The MLS program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS), 5600 N. River Road, Suite 720, Rosemont, IL 60018, 773.714.8880; www.naacls.org/.

Medical Laboratory Science
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Program specific academic, non-academic and admission policies and protocols are available upon request.



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