

FROM COLLEGE TO CAREER IN

# MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY

The challenges and rewards of medicine and science are combined into one in the world of the medical laboratory technician. A medical laboratory technician performs general tests in all of the following areas of the laboratory: hematology, microbiology, chemistry, immunohematology, phlebotomy, and immunology. Working under the supervision of a medical technologist, the medical laboratory technician hunts for clues to the absence, presence, extent and causes of disease.

UMA's Medical Laboratory Technology program is accredited by the National Accrediting agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS). Students graduate with an Associate Degree in Medical Laboratory Technology and are qualified to sit for any of the following national registry exams: Board of Registry of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP), National Certification Agency for Medical Laboratory Personnel (NCA), and American Medical Technologist Exam (AMT).

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## Transferable Skills & Competencies

Medical laboratory technicians are problem-solvers who like challenges and are willing to take responsibility. They are accurate, reliable, work well under pressure and are able to finish a task once started. "Med lab techs" communicate well, both verbally and in writing. They set a high standard for themselves and expect quality in the work they do. Listed below are some representative skills and abilities that students in MLS may acquire:

### Investigation

- Understanding cause & effect
- Observing carefully
- Designing experiments
- Relating lab findings to  
common disease process
- Utilizing formulae

### Technical

- Using medical equipment
- Maintaining medical equipment
- Monitoring quality control
- Applying principles of safety
- Calculating

### Communication

- Using medical terminology
- Writing reports
- Informing/explaining
- Meeting with patients
- Working as a team member

### Analysis

- Collecting & processing specimens
- Attending to details
- Examining specimens
- Conducting tests
- Perceiving patterns/structures
- Solving problems



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# Careers

Medical Laboratory Technology graduates apply their skills in a variety of settings including health care, business and industry, government and research organizations. The following is a selected list of career options for Medical Laboratory Technology majors. Some of the occupations may require additional training.

## Health Care

Medical Laboratory Technician  
Tissue Bank Coordinator  
Clinical Toxicologist\*  
Diagnostic Virologist\*  
Veterinary Laboratory Assistant  
Biofeedback Therapist  
Phlebotomist

## Government/Public Service

Water Quality Inspector  
Communicable Disease Coordinator  
Forensic Laboratory Assistant  
FDA Inspector\*  
Rabies Responder  
Drug Testing Coordinator

## Research

Cancer Researcher\*  
Pharmaceutical Research Assistant  
Epidemiologist\*  
Molecular Endocrinologist  
Genetics Researcher\*  
Cytotechnologist\*

## Business/Industry

Color Development Chemist  
Brewery Laboratory Analyst  
Milk Processing Plant Manager  
Paper Mill Lab Technician  
Quality Control Technician  
Insurance Claims Adjuster  
Technical Service Representative  
Sales Representative, Biotechnical  
Instrumentation and Reagents

\* Baccalaureate or graduate level study is generally required for these occupations.

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## For More Information

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Professional Studies*  
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