Medical Laboratory Science

Required Courses

Why Choose Medical Laboratory Science? - Program Spotlight

Medical Laboratory Scientists (MLS) perform laboratory analyses to help the physician detect, diagnose and treat disease. Lab scientists work with sophisticated laboratory instruments and computers that must be kept in optimal operating condition to give the most accurate results. The volume and sophistication of laboratory testing will increase as the population ages. Physicians base about 70% of their diagnoses and treatment decisions on the results of laboratory testing.

Medical Laboratory Scientists work under the supervision of a medical laboratory director in such departments as blood bank, clinical chemistry, microbiology, hematology, immunology, phlebotomy, body fluid analysis, and molecular testing.

The program combines classroom instruction and laboratory practice on-campus with an internship in an affiliated laboratory.

The program is fully accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS.) NAACLS can be contacted at the following: 5600 N. River Road, Suite 720, Rosemont, IL 60018. (773) 714-8880.
www.naacls.org

Career Opportunities

Career opportunities exist mainly in the clinical laboratories at hospitals and medical centers and physician offices. Other opportunities may exist in the pharmaceutical industry, research and biotechnology; government crime labs, accreditation offices, environmental technology, veterinary medicine and lab information systems; humanitarian work in the Peace Corps, Project Hope, and medical missionary workers. Many assume positions as laboratory directors and supervisors.

The average annual base salary of full-time medical laboratory scientists was $62,440 in 2016. Laboratory managers averaged $89,762. Salaries are increasing annually.

Admission Requirements

Students must be admitted to the university. To be qualified to enter the professional sequence of the program a student must have earned a minimum grade of "C" in each of the following courses or their equivalent: MATH 115 or MATH 117 (or have an ACT Math sub score of 24) and CHEM 114, CHEM 214, BIOL 205, and BIOL 108 or BIOL 286.
To assure students have a quality technical education in classroom/lab and clinical practice, enrollment is limited. Students who meet or will have met the program's qualification criteria by the end of Spring semester are required to apply to the program's professional sequence between January 15 and January 30 of the year they intend to begin the professional sequence. Admission will be based upon date of qualification.

**General Education Requirements**

All University General Education requirements for a Bachelor’s degree is [here](#). Please consult this [link](#) for a complete listing of General Education Electives.

Consult the Required Courses above or the program advisor for program specific General Education requirements.

**Graduation Requirements**

To graduate from the program, a student must have earned a minimum grade of "C" in each CLLS course, BIOL 205 and CHEM 214 or equivalent, and the COHP core courses. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 is required.

The internship is in the last semester of the program, although due to limited space, specific clinical site locations cannot be guaranteed. If a student interrupts progression in the professional sequence of the program, re-entry cannot be guaranteed due to space limitations in laboratory and clinical placement sites.

**More Information**

College of Health Professions  
Ferris State University  
200 Ferris Drive  
Big Rapids, MI 49307  
Phone: 231-591-2270