



# Medical Laboratory Technology Program

## Information Packet

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Dear Prospective MLT Student,

It is my pleasure to introduce you to the field of medical laboratory technology. Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLTs) perform a wide variety of clinical laboratory tests, and are of critical importance in the healthcare workforce. Our program here at Volunteer State is a “one plus one” program of study. During the first year, students complete prerequisite and general education courses, including a three credit course MLAB 1301- Introduction to Medical Laboratory Technology. MLAB 1301 is offered in the spring semester, which is also when students can apply to the program. Upon acceptance into the program, students then complete their second year taking MLT program courses, including clinical rotations at our affiliated hospitals. After graduation, students are awarded an Associates of Applied Science degree (AAS), and are eligible for both Tennessee State professional licensure and to sit for the national certification examination. I encourage you to further explore this profession and our MLT program here at Volunteer State.

If you would like to schedule an advising session, please contact me at 615-230-3363, or email [kimberly.helton@volstate.edu](mailto:kimberly.helton@volstate.edu).

Sincerely,

Kimberly Helton, MS, MLS (ASCP)  
MLT Program Director  
[kimberly.helton@volstate.edu](mailto:kimberly.helton@volstate.edu)

revised: 12/2019

### **Description of the Medical Laboratory Technician Profession:**

Medical Laboratory Technology (also known as Clinical or Medical Laboratory Science) is a profession which combines the challenges and rewards of both medicine and science. A Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) performs a wide range of laboratory tests that aid in monitoring health, helping a patient's recovery, or diagnosing diseases. Clinical laboratory science is a dynamic profession that continually changes as new medical knowledge is discovered.

### **Mission of Program:**

The purpose of the Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) Program is to prepare students for an entry-level position in the medical laboratory as well as to pass their national board certification exam and qualify for State professional licensure. It is the mission of the Medical Laboratory Technician Program to provide well trained, professional, knowledgeable and competent Medical Laboratory Technicians to serve the healthcare community and public.

Students learn the theory and principles behind the tests they perform and learn to correlate test results with a patient's conditions. Additionally, students earn general education credits, including math, science, humanities, composition and communications which lead to an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degree.

### **Program Goals:**

Upon completion of the program, the student will:

- Demonstrate the ability to comprehend, apply, and evaluate clinical information relevant to their role as a Medical Laboratory Technician.
- Demonstrate the technical competency in all skills necessary to fulfill their role as a Medical Laboratory technician.
- Demonstrate personal behaviors consistent with professional and employer expectations as a Medical Laboratory technician.

### **Time Course of Program:**

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Medical Laboratory Technology is a "one-plus-one" program of study. The first year the student is considered a Health Sciences AS major, and coursework consists of general education courses. At the end of the spring semester while enrolled in MLAB 1301 Introduction to Medical Laboratory Technology course, students apply for admission to the MLT program. After admission into the program, students are considered to be MLT students and will begin the second year. The second year is a three-semester, full time program of study starting in May of each year. The summer and early fall are spent in the classroom and student laboratories. The late fall and spring are spent in clinical rotations. Clinical rotations consist of 8 hours/day, Monday through Thursday. Students are involved in the educational training for a period of twelve months in order to meet requirements of the program and to fulfill requirements of the Associate of Applied Science Degree. This is a nontraditional course of study so hours of study and length of semester may not be parallel to Volunteer State Community College semesters, holidays, and/or breaks.

## Medical Laboratory Program Pre-Program Checklist

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete all College Admission Criteria (<http://www.volstate.edu/Admissions/>).
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Successful completion of co-requisite courses (**if required**) as determined by the ACT and/or placement test scores. (<http://www.volstate.edu/learningcommons>)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete and submit the online MLT Program Application no later than **March 15th**. The application form is available at <http://volstate.edu/medlabtech/application-form.php>.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Three reference forms completed and submitted to the Program office no later than **April 1<sup>st</sup>**. Reference forms can be found in the information packet located at <http://www.volstate.edu/MLT>
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete **all general education courses** required for the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Medical Lab Technology and **maintain a minimum 2.20 GPA in these courses**. **Additionally**, all students must successfully complete Computer Applications INFS 1010 **or** take the computer competency exam prior to the April interview process. For additional information visit: <http://www.volstate.edu/ComputerLiteracy/>.

### GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES:

Category	Course	Credits	Completed
• <b>BIOL 2010</b>	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4	_____
• <b>BIOL 2020</b>	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4	_____
• <b>CHEM 1030</b>	Fundamentals of Chemistry <b>OR</b>	4	_____
• <b>BIOL 2230</b>	Microbiology	4	_____
• <b>ENGL 1010</b>	English Composition I	3	_____
• <b>MATH 1010 (or higher)</b>	Math for General Studies	3	_____
• <b>MLAB 1301</b>	Intro to Med Lab Tech ( <b>Spring</b> )	3	_____
• <b>PSYC 1030</b>	General Psychology	3	_____
• <b>Humanities/Fine Arts</b>	<b>ONE of the following:</b>	3	_____

ART 1035 - Introduction to Art

ARTH 2000 - Art History Survey I

ARTH 2020 - Art History Survey II

ENGL 2860 - Introduction to Film

MUS 1030 - Introduction to Music

PHIL 1040 - Introduction to Ethics

PHIL 1030 - Introduction Philosophy

THEA 1030 - Introduction to Theatre

- |  |   |       |
|--|---|-------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Elective requirement:</b></li> </ul> | 3 | _____ |
|--|---|-------|

CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES (3 CREDITSEA.):

AHC 115-Medical Terminology

COMM 2025 - Fundamentals of Speech **or** COMM 2045-Public Speaking

INFS 1010-Computer Applications

Including any of the following social science courses:

ECON 2100-Macroeconomics

ECON 2200-Microeconomics

GEOG 1015-Physical Geography

GEOG 1012-Cultural Geography

GEOG 2010-World Regional Geography

HED 120-Introduction to Wellness

POLS 1010-Introduction to Political Sci.

POLS 1030-American Government

POLS 2025-State and Local Government

PSYC 2120-Social Psychology

PSYC 2130-Life Span Psychology

SOCI 1010-Introduction to Sociology

SOCI 1040-Social Problems

6. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete an interview for screening purposes. Applicants will be contacted at the end of March for interview dates. **\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*** Special consideration is given to those with previous health-care experience, high GPA in science courses, knowledge of the profession, and a good interview score. Preference is given to in-state residents.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ After conditional acceptance into the program is granted, students **must** pass a background check and demonstrate immunity to Hepatitis B (or show proof of receiving the first Hepatitis B vaccine or sign a waiver refusing the vaccine) before formal acceptance is granted. Either the failure to provide the required results by the due date or failing the background check will make the student ineligible for enrollment in this program. Students will have to pass a drug screen later in the program in order to continue to clinical rotations. The background check, urine drug screens, Hepatitis B vaccine and other health screens are performed at the student's expense. (There are several health screening requirements including various vaccinations and health insurance. **Specific details are given to students after conditional acceptance into the program is granted.**)

### **Additional Program Information:**

#### **Accreditation:**

Accreditation for this program has been granted through:

NAACLS (National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science)  
 5600 N River Rd, Suite 720  
 Rosemont, IL 60018  
 (847) 939-3597      [www.naacls.org](http://www.naacls.org)

#### **Location:**

The program director has an office on the Volunteer State Community College's main campus in Gallatin, TN. All MLT courses except the clinical practicums are taught on the Gallatin main campus.

#### **Clinical practicums take place in area hospitals including:**

Centennial Medical Center	Hendersonville Med. Center	St. Thomas Hospital-Midtown
St. Thomas Hospital-West	Skyline Medical Center	Tennova Lebanon
Sumner Regional Med Ctr	Cookeville Regional Med. Ctr	Stonecrest Medical Center
Southern Hills Med. Center	Northcrest Medical Center	Pathgroup Laboratories
Livingston Regional Med Ctr	St. Thomas - Rutherford	Greenview Regional Med Ctr

#### **Essential Functions:**

As dictated by leading professional organizations in the field of laboratory science, Essential Functions represent the non-academic requirements of the program that **all students must master to successfully participate** in the program and become employable. A list with full expectations can be found on the program's website. Essential functions include the following topics:

- |                       |                            |                    |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Vision             | 4. Behavioral Requirements | 7. Professionalism |
| 2. Speech and Hearing | 5. Physical Requirements   |                    |
| 3. Motor Functions    | 6. Critical Thinking       |                    |

#### **Professional Resources:**

You may wish to further research the Medical Laboratory Technology field by reviewing professional journals or visiting professional websites. Suggested journals, professional websites, and websites for national board certification exams include:

*Journals:* LabMedicine <http://www.labmedicine.com/>

Advance for Laboratory Professionals <http://laboratorian.advanceweb.com/>

Medical Laboratory Observer <http://www.mlo-online.com/>

Clinical Laboratory Science (published through ASCLS)

AMT Events (published through AMT)

*Professional and Licensing websites:*

Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board <http://www.tn.gov/health/topic/ML-board1>

American Society of Clinical Pathologists <http://www.ascp.org/>

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science <http://www.ascls.org/>

American Medical Technologists <http://www.americanmedtech.org/>

**SUGGESTED /SAMPLE SCHEDULE:****Required General Education and Major Core Courses:**

FALL- first year	Course	Hrs	Taken
ENGL 1010	English Composition I	3	
BIOL 2010	Human Anatomy & Physiology I(Lecture and Lab)	4	
MATH 1010-or higher	College Algebra	3	
PSYC 1030	General Psychology	3	
Elective	*See above for options	3	
<b>Total</b>		<b>16</b>	

SPRING- first year	Course	Hrs	Taken
Fine Arts/Humanities	*See above for options	3	
BIOL 2020	Human Anatomy & Physiology II (Lecture and Lab)	4	
Science Elective: Choose one	BIOL 2230-Microbiology (Lecture and Lab), CHEM 1030-Fundamentals of Chemistry (Lecture and Lab), or a higher level Chemistry	4	
MLAB 1301	Intro to Medical Laboratory – offered Spring semester <b>only</b>	3	
<b>Total</b>		<b>14</b>	

**Courses AFTER ACCEPTANCE INTO PROGRAM14**

SUMMER-second year	Course	HR S	Taken
MLAB 2401	Clinical Chemistry	4	
MLAB 2402	Hematology/Hemostasis	4	
MLAB 2403	Clinical Microbiology	4	
<b>Total</b>		<b>12</b>	

FALL- second year	Course	HRS	Taken
MLAB 2201	Clinical Immunology	2	
MLT 2202	Urinalysis and Body Fluids	2	
MLAB 2301	Immunoematology/ Blood Bank	3	
MLAB 2130	Seminar I	1	
MLAB 1501	Clinical Practicum I	5	
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>	

SPRING- second year	Course	HRS	Taken
MLAB 2270	Seminar II	2	
MLAB 1520	Clinical Practicum II	5	
MLAB 2510	Clinical Practicum III	5	
<b>Total</b>		<b>12</b>	
<b>Program Total</b>		<b>67</b>	

Demonstrating computer competency is a graduation requirement. This can be accomplished by taking the elective course INFS 1010 or by taking the CCE exam.

All course descriptions can be found on the college's online catalogue. <http://catalog.volstate.edu/> (All program courses have the prefix 'MLT.')

**Volunteer State Community College**  
**Medical Laboratory Technician Program Reference Form**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Vol State ID Number \_\_\_\_\_

**TO THE APPLICANT:** Three reference forms are due in the MLT or Health Science office by **April 1st, no exceptions.**

Applicant's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**TO THE REFERENCE:** This applicant has applied to the Medical Laboratory Technician Program at Volunteer State Community College and has given your name as a reference. Your candid evaluation of the applicant's qualifications will be greatly appreciated. Mail the completed form directly to **Volunteer State Community College - Medical Laboratory Technician Program - 1480 Nashville Pike - Gallatin, TN 37066. Do not return this completed form to the applicant unless it is in a sealed envelope.**

How do you know this applicant and for how long? \_\_\_\_\_

Characteristics	Superior 5	4	3	2	Poor 1	Not Applicable
Academic Potential						
Adaptability						
Attendance						
Emotional Stability						
Independence						
Leadership						
Math & Computer Skills						
Maturity						
Oral Communication						
Organization						
Punctuality						
Reliability						
Responsibility						
Team Work						
Written Communication						

**COMMENTS:** Please add any comments that will provide a complete picture of the applicant's abilities and potential as a student and health care professional. Use an extra page if necessary. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Reference's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization & Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Medical Laboratory Technology Program A.A.S.  
Average Program Costs**

<b>1. VSCC Application Fee</b>		\$ 20.00
<b>2. Books (estimated)</b>	Summer semester	\$500.00
	Fall semester	300.00
	Spring semester	200.00
<b>3. Clinical costs (estimated)</b>		
	Physical examination	possibly no cost
	Disease screening (titers)	80.00
	Hepatitis B immunization and titer	250.00
	Measles, Mumps, Rubella Vaccination	70.00
	Chicken pox Vaccination	125.00
	Tuberculosis (TB) screen	17.00
	Color blindness test	possibly no cost
	Malpractice Liability Insurance	13.00/semester
	Health Insurance	varies by provider
	Lab Coat	No cost
	Background check	50.00
	TN State Training License	No cost
	Drug screen test-10 panel	40.00
	Professional dress/scrubs	200.00
	Graduation Pin	10.00
<b>4. After Graduation Fees</b>	National Board Certification exam (only one of the following is required):	
	ASCP BOC	215.00
	<u><b>&amp;/or</b></u>	
	AMT	175.00
	State Professional License	60.00
	State Background check	45.00