



## Medical Laboratory Technician

Jamie Kilpatrick, Advisor  
For program information call 256/352-8330  
Jamie.kilpatrick@wallacestate.edu

### ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE (5 semesters)

#### At a Glance

Rapid job growth and excellent job opportunities are expected. Most jobs will continue to be in hospitals, but employment will grow in other settings, such as physician group laboratories and reference labs. Employment of medical laboratory workers is expected to grow 22 percent between 2012 and 2022, faster than the average for all occupations. The volume of laboratory tests continues to increase with both population growth and the development of new types of tests.

#### Program Description

Medical laboratory testing plays a crucial role in the detection, diagnosis, and treatment of disease. Using sophisticated lab equipment, medical laboratory personnel examine and analyze body fluids and cells. They look for bacteria, parasites, and other microorganisms; analyze the chemical content of fluids; match blood for transfusions; and test for drug levels in the blood to show how a patient is responding to treatment. They also prepare specimens for examination, count cells, and look for abnormal cells in blood and body fluids. They perform analyses in the areas of microbiology, hematology, immunology, biochemistry, and immunohematology, and results are relayed from the lab to physicians.

The Medical Laboratory Technician program has as its mission to provide continuously improving, diversified, quality-learning experiences for students in order to graduate Medical Laboratory Technicians that perform competently and professionally in the field. The Medical Laboratory Program accepts students once a year in the fall semester. The graduate receives an Associate in Applied Science Degree and will be eligible to sit for an ASCP's Board of Certification National examination (the BOC). The Medical Laboratory Technician Program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences, 5600 N. River Road, Suite 720, Rosemont, Illinois, 60018; 773-714-8880, [www.naacls.org](http://www.naacls.org).

#### Admission Requirements

1. Unconditional admission to the college – College application must be submitted by the program application deadline.

2. Student must be in good standing with the college.
3. Receipt of complete program applications accepted between March 1 and June 1 for Fall entry. Applications received after the deadline will be considered on a space available basis.
4. The online application is located at [www.wallacestate.edu](http://www.wallacestate.edu) Online application instructions are under the Application to Program tab. Upon completion of the online application, all applicants are required to submit a Verification Sheet with all necessary documentation attached. The Verification Sheet, along with full instructions, can be found on Page 3 of the Online Application Instructions.
5. Official transcripts from each college attended must be provided to the Admissions Office and all unofficial transcripts must be attached to the program application Verification Sheet.
6. Student must meet the essential functions and technical standards required for the program as documented on the required WSCC physical form at [www.wallacestate.edu](http://www.wallacestate.edu)-see Physical Form Essential Functions.
7. A minimum of 18 ACT composite score (National or Residual) is required for admission consideration. Proof of score must be submitted with the application Verification Sheet.
8. Meet all the general admission requirements of WSCC.
9. Applicants must possess a minimum prerequisite GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale with a grade of "C" or better on all general education courses required for the MLT program.

#### Selection and Notification

1. Candidates are ranked for admission on the basis of ACT scores, weighted GPA (GPA x 7.6) and completion of admission requirements. All other factors being equal, the date of application will be the deciding factor for admission.
2. Program applications will be reviewed for completion of program admission requirements. Written notification of program acceptance status will be mailed to each applicant at the address given on the application.

- Following acceptance into the program, students must respond in writing, confirming their intent to enroll, within 10 days after the postmarked date of their acceptance letter. A student who fails to respond will forfeit his/her place in the class.

### **Program Expectations**

Students admitted into the Medical Laboratory Technician program are expected to comply with the Health Science Program Regulations and Expectations as published in the Programs of Study section of the Wallace State Community College catalog.

### **Upon Admission**

- Students must submit a completed physical examination form, current within one year, to the MLT program director, certifying that they are in good health and are able to meet the requirements for clinical performance. The completed form must include:
  - Documentation of Hepatitis B immunization (at least two out of three of the initial series)
  - Documentation of two immunizations or lab data (titer) indicating adequate immunity against Mumps, Measles, Rubella and Varicella
  - Documentation of Tetanus booster, current within 10 years and documentation of one TDAP as an adult
  - Documentation of Flu vaccine (October – March)
  - Negative 2-step TB skin test (Mantoux)
- MLT students are required to carry malpractice, accident, and health insurance.
- Drug testing and background screening is required according to Health Science division policy.
- Students are required to submit proof of current CPR certification through a health care provider course.
- Students accepted into the MLT program must attend the mandatory MLT orientation session. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of their place in the class.

### **Progression**

Students enrolled in the MLT Program must attain a minimum grade of “C” or better in all MLT and general education courses. Failure to achieve a grade of “C” or better in a MLT course will result in program dismissal.

MLT students are required to exhibit professional behavior at all times.

### **Readmission to Program**

Students whose progression through the MLT program is interrupted for any reason and who desire to reenter the program must schedule an appointment with a MLT faculty advisor to discuss re-entry. The student must apply for program readmission within 2 semesters from the term of withdrawal or failure. Students who apply for readmission will be required to prove competency in all previous coursework to avoid retaking MLT classes which have been successfully completed previously. If a student cannot prove

competency, the student must repeat all courses of the program regardless of previous grades obtained.

Readmission or transfer may be denied but not limited to any of the following:

- Failure to maintain a 2.0 GPA in all general education and MLT courses.
- Two or more semesters have elapsed since enrollment in MLT coursework.
- Limited space availability in the courses needed.

Students can be readmitted to the MLT program one time only. Graduation requirements must be met within three (3) years of initial MLT program entry (transferred courses included) to avoid having to repeat all major required courses.

### **Transfer Students**

Students transferring into the MLT program must meet all WSCC and MLT Program requirements for admission. Only those equivalent general education and MLT courses taken at other accredited institutions and passed with a “C” or better will be applied toward completion of the program. Students attempting to transfer credit hours must be eligible to return to the previous Medical Laboratory Technician Program in good standing. Students will be required to provide a letter of good standing from the transferring institution. Students who apply for transfer will be required to prove competency in all previous coursework to avoid retaking MLT classes which have been successfully completed previously.

### **Career Path**

Graduates of the Medical Laboratory Technician Program are employed in hospital laboratories, physicians’ offices, and other laboratory facilities as Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLT). These graduates are allied-health professionals that perform analyses in the areas of microbiology, hematology, immunology, biochemistry, and immunohematology.

Students in the Medical Lab have many options upon completion of training at WSCC. The Associate Degree courses may be applied toward earning a Bachelor of Science Degree. Upon earning a B.S. the technician may challenge the National Certification Exam to become a “Medical Technologist” earning \$5.00 to \$7.00 more per hour. Clinical Specialty Certificates may be earned for any or all of the laboratory areas. The Medical Technology certificate may be used to earn a Masters Degree and also a PhD in Clinical Laboratory Science.

Median annual wage-and-salary earnings of medical and Medical Laboratory Technicians were \$37,240 in May 2012. The middle 50 percent earned between \$29,730 and \$46,880 and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$57,710. (Source: U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics) Associate in Applied Science Degree

It is recommended but not mandatory that all General Required Courses be completed before entering the professional phase.

*NOTE: The curriculum for Fall 2018 admission will require completion of all academic coursework prior to the professional phase of the program. Curriculum is currently under review. Please contact program personnel for advisement.*

*NOTE: The Guided Pathways Curricular Maps below contain all the elements required for degree/certificate completion. However, courses may be offered or taken in other semesters so long as prerequisites are met. Additional options for elective courses are available. Please see Degreeworks for allowable substitutions. Courses may be available days, nights, hybrid, and online. Sample maps for part-time attendance may also be available. Please see an advisor.*

**ASSOCIATE DEGREE:**

**OPTION I – AAS MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN –**

**Guided Pathway/Map**

**1st Semester**

ORI 110 Freshman Seminar	1
ENG 101 English Composition I	3
MLT 111 Urinalysis/Body Fluids	4
MLT 131 Laboratory Techniques	4
MLT 151 MLT Medical Chemistry	5
Total Semester Credit Hours	17

**2nd Semester**

BIO 103 Principles of Biology I	4
MLT 106 Laboratory Calculations and Statistics	2
MLT 121 MLT Hematology	5
MLT 141 MLT Microbiology I	5
MLT 181 MLT Immunology	2
Total Semester Credit Hours	18

**3rd Semester**

MLT 142 MLT Microbiology II	4
SPH 106 Fundamentals of Oral Communication	3
MTH 116 Mathematical Applications	3
Total Semester Credit Hours	10

**4th Semester**

CHM 104 Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry	4
PSY 200 General Psychology	3
HUM 101 Introduction to Humanities	3
MLT 161 Integrated Laboratory Simulation	2
MLT 191 MLT Immunohematology	5
MLT 293 MLT Clinical Seminar	2
Total Semester Credit Hours	19

**5th Semester**

MLT 294 Medical Lab Practicum I	3
MLT 295 Medical Lab Practicum II	3
MLT 296 Medical Lab Practicum III	3
MLT 297 Medical Lab Practicum IV	3
Total Semester Credit Hours	12
<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>76</b>