



Medical Laboratory Assistant, Certificate - 24 credits

Program Area: Health (Fall 2023)

*****REMEMBER TO REGISTER EARLY*****

Program Description

A Medical Laboratory Assistant (MLA) is a multi-skilled person whose skills are focused only on assisting in the medical laboratory. Competencies include medical terminology, phlebotomy skills, blood and body fluid processing, ability to assess validity of samples collected for laboratory tests and maintain validity of samples through the processing phase. MLAs must understand and comply with government regulations and safety in regard to human testing. Other skills include loading automated instrumentation, performing waived level laboratory testing, maintaining professional demeanor at all times, engaging in communication with laboratory staff as well as staff throughout the healthcare environment in a professional and effective manner. MLAs solve problems and complete tasks using verbal and non-verbal skills including computer systems. This program includes completion of the Phlebotomy Certificate and prepares students for certification as an MLA. Students may also prepare for entry into the MLT program.

Pre-Program Courses

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term
ALTH 1410	Medical Terminology	1	
ALTH 1440 or PHIL 1130	Medical Ethics Ethics (MLT/MLS track)	1 (3)	
MEDA 1410	Professionalism and Safety in Healthcare	1	
MTLN 1574	Collection Skills	2	

Required Courses

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term
MLTN 2577	Phlebotomy Internship	1	
COMM 1105 or ENGL 1106	Interpersonal Communication or College Composition I (MLT/MLS track)	3 (3)	
BIOL 1000 or BIOL 1005 BIOL 1140 BIOL 1141	Human Body in Health and Disease or (MLT/MLS track) Introduction to Cell Biology Human Anatomy and Physiology I Human Anatomy and Physiology II	5 (1) (4) (4)	
MATH 0970 or MATH 1100	Intermediate Algebra (MLT track) or College Algebra (MLS track)	3 (4)	
MLTN 1610	Medical Laboratory Assistant Basics	4	
MLTN 1620	Medical Laboratory Assistant Clinical Practicum	3	

Total Credits

24

Courses may require a pre-requisite. Refer to course outline or check with an advisor

Program Outcomes

- Demonstrate high quality work ethic by not missing lecture or laboratory sessions and always arriving early for class and laboratory sessions.
- Demonstrate quality work ethic by completing all assigned work completely, on time and meeting expected standards.
- Demonstrate HIPAA/confidentiality in the classroom and during clinical practicum.
- Communicate effectively and in a professional manner with colleagues, instructors, patients and all members of the healthcare team during class sessions and in the clinical environment.
- Demonstrate compliance with Safety principles and guidelines as well as other laboratory regulations that may impact clinical site accreditation and patient safety.
- Demonstrate the ability to think critically, solve problems and to manage conflict.
- Demonstrate the ability to follow sequential instructions verbally and in writing, paying attention to critical details in collecting and processing patient samples.
- Demonstrate time management skills and the ability to complete tasks independently and within a team through good interpersonal communication.

- Demonstrate the ability to follow SOPs for the preparation of incoming patient samples of a variety of body fluids and tissues for transfer to laboratory analysis.
 - Demonstrate achievement in entry level competencies in performance of clinical laboratory waived testing procedures.
 - Demonstrate the ability to use expected CLSI techniques to collect blood samples from patients in a safe manner, following SOPs.
 - Demonstrate the ability to pipet, prepare patient dilutions, prepare reagents, controls, standards and other materials in support of clinical laboratory personnel performing moderate and high complexity analyses.
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Qualified applicants should be aware that program class sizes are limited, which may delay acceptance into the program. You may be required to complete additional (or less) coursework, dependent upon the results of your Computerized Placement Test (CPT) and/or previous coursework completed, or certifications awarded.

General Education courses that are required may be taken prior to entering the program, as long as the specific prerequisites for that course have been met. Prior to participating in MLA program courses, all pre-program courses listed must be completed with a GPA of 2.6 or better. A minimum of “C” is required in all college level courses. All program courses must be completed with a “C” or better to advance in the program.

Pre-Program Requirements

Successful entry into this program requires a specific level of skill in the areas of English, mathematics, and reading. Program entry will depend, in part, on meeting the prerequisites listed below.

English/Reading:

- Eligible for ENGL 1106 – College Composition I, or
- Completion of ENGL/READ 0950/0955 (or equivalent or higher). ENGL/READ 0950/0955 may not be taken concurrently with Semester I coursework.

Mathematics:

- Completion of MATH 0955 or equivalent with a “C” or better. May not be taken concurrent with program courses.

NOTE: You will need current immunizations and current negative Tuberculosis (TB) screening. Students are not required to complete CPR training, but completion of BLS CPR training is highly encouraged. Background Study approval is required from the State of Minnesota/or Wisconsin. A national criminal background study is also required.

For more information about the Medical Laboratory Assistant certificate including course descriptions, course prerequisites, and potential career opportunities see the [program website](https://degrees.lsc.edu/) (https://degrees.lsc.edu/) or contact the [professional advising team](mailto:advising@lsc.edu) (advising@lsc.edu) at 218-733-7601.



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