

Medical Laboratory Technology (AAS)

Degree Type: Associate of Applied Science Degree

Division: Health & Human Services

Purpose: Career and Technical Education. The Medical Laboratory program at Three Rivers College was developed to meet the increasing demand in the area for highly competent medical laboratory technicians. The purpose of this associate degree program is to prepare selected individuals from the local area to achieve an Associate of Applied Science degree, to be eligible to apply for national registration in Laboratory Medicine by examination as a medical laboratory technician, and to demonstrate professional behaviors and technical skills consistent with employer expectations in the community service area.

Both general education and medical laboratory technology courses are included in the program of study; clinical laboratory experiences are planned in local health care facilities under the direct guidance of the Medical Laboratory Technology faculty. Health care facilities utilized for this program are:

- Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center (North and South campuses)
- Kneibert Clinic—Poplar Bluff
- John J. Pershing Veterans Administration Medical Center—Poplar Bluff
- Missouri Delta Medical Center—Sikeston
- St. Francis Medical Center—Cape Girardeau
- Pemiscot Memorial Hospital Health Systems—Hayti
- Parkland Health Center—Farmington

The program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS), 5600 N. River Rd., Suite 720, Rosmont, IL 60018, (773) 714-8880.

NOTE: MLT students are required to have one physical examination prior to the beginning of the second-year classes. Students must meet certain criteria for clinical practice in agencies including, but not limited to, random or for-cause drug screenings, negative pre-admission drug screen and criminal background check.

Students must be able to function with sufficient manual dexterity, visual acuity and communication skills to meet job requirements including drawing blood, manipulating specimens and equipment, viewing details under a microscope (including color differentiation), performing quality control measures, operating technical instruments, validating the results, and communicating clearly with patients, families and health care team members.

Admission Criteria

Because of the number and nature of laboratory courses it is recommended, but NOT required, that applicants complete the general education requirements of the program while awaiting the next admissions cycle.

1. To become an eligible applicant, each individual must have on file no later than May 1:

- Completed college application.
- COMPASS, ACT or SAT scores (current within 5 years).
- Final high school transcript or GED certificate.
- Transcripts of previous college courses.
- Completed MLT application.

Applications must be received in the MLT Office by 4 p.m. on May 1 or the next Three Rivers business day if the deadline fall on either a weekend or holiday. Applications received by mail must be postmarked or shipped by other traceable means by midnight on the appropriate deadline dates.

The application fee covers the cost of the test and must be paid to the Business Office. Receipt must accompany application or the application is considered incomplete.

2. Minimum requirements for initial screening of applicants:

- Placement into intermediate algebra by COMPASS or ACT score, or completion of college level beginning algebra with “credit.”
- Successful completion of CHEM 111—Introduction to Chemistry with a grade of “C” or better, or successful completion of MATH 153—Intermediate Algebra or an ACT/COMPASS test score placement of MATH 163—College Algebra.
- Satisfactory performance on the Health Occupation Basic Entrance Test (HOBET V) available through the Testing Center.
- Applicants meeting the minimum requirements must meet with a MLT faculty member or the Division Chair of Health and Human Services before May 1.

3. Applicants will be notified by letter of their admission status. Final admission is contingent upon submission of a satisfactory confidential medical history and physical exam, a negative drug screen and a negative criminal background check.

NOTE: Eligible applicants who are residents of the college district will be given preference for admission. See statement on residence elsewhere in this catalog.

In addition to the college tuition and fees, MLT students will be charged \$15 per academic year for student malpractice insurance, \$50 per credit hour MDLB courses, and \$65 per semester for lab supplies, name badges, photos and registry review.

Progression And Retention Policy

1. Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 throughout their enrollment in the MLT program in accordance with college policies regarding academic standing as outlined in the current Three Rivers Bulletin under ACADEMIC STANDING.
2. Students must achieve a minimum grade of "C" as well as a satisfactory grade for the clinical component of each MLT course. In the instructional Med Lab courses, a laboratory evaluation of the following percentages must be achieved.

Hematology	70%
Introduction to Laboratory Sciences	70%
Microbiology	70%
Chemistry Instrumentation	70%
Immunohematology	80%
Immunology	70%
Clinical Chemistry	70%

In the clinical practicum courses a 70% must be achieved on behavior/performance evaluation and all competencies must be completed. A grade of unsatisfactory as defined above will result in a non-passing grade for the course regardless of the theory grade.

3. Students must achieve a "C" in MLT related courses. Related courses are defined as: Anatomy and Physiology I and II, General Chemistry I, Organic Chemistry, Introduction to Chemistry and Intermediate Algebra.
4. Any student who earns a final grade lower than "C" in any MLT or MLT-related course must repeat the course and earn a final grade of "C" or higher before that course can be used as a prerequisite for any other MLT course or before that student can graduate from the program. Students who must repeat a course will be admitted to that course on a space available basis.

FIRST YEAR

Fall Semester			Hours	✓
MDLB	118	Hematology and Coagulation	5	
MDLB	115	Introduction to Laboratory Science	1	
BIOL	231	Anatomy and Physiology I	4	
ENGL	111 ⁽¹⁾	College Writing	3	
CHEM	121 ⁽¹⁾	General Chemistry I	5	
TOTAL HOURS			18	

Spring Semester			Hours	✓
MDLB	128	Clinical Microbiology	5	
CHEM	240	Organic Chemistry	5	
BIOL	232	Anatomy and Physiology II	4	
MDLB	138	Immunohematology	3	
TOTAL HOURS			17	

Summer Term			Hours	✓
GOVT	121	National and State Government	3	
MATH	153 ⁽¹⁾	Intermediate Algebra	3	
		Psychology or Sociology	3	
IST	100	Computer Literacy	3	
TOTAL HOURS			12	

⁽¹⁾Course has prerequisite or placement requirements.

⁽²⁾Two of the four courses are completed in the fall semester and the remaining two in the spring semester. Courses are four weeks in length.

⁽³⁾Courses are eight weeks in length.

SECOND YEAR

Fall Semester			Hours	✓
MDLB	248 ⁽³⁾	Clinical Chemistry	5	
MDLB	296 ⁽²⁾	Hematology and Coagulation Clinical Practicum	4	
MDLB	297 ⁽²⁾	Clinical Chemistry Practicum	4	
MDLB	298 ⁽²⁾	Immunohematology Clinical Practicum	4	
MDLB	299 ⁽²⁾	Microbiology Clinical Practicum	4	
TOTAL HOURS			13	

Spring Semester			Hours	✓
MDLB	245 ⁽³⁾	Chemistry Instrumentation	1	
MDLB	228 ⁽³⁾	Immunology	3	
MDLB	296 ⁽²⁾	Hematology and Coagulation Clinical Practicum	4	
MDLB	297 ⁽²⁾	Clinical Chemistry Practicum	4	
MDLB	298 ⁽²⁾	Immunohematology Clinical Practicum	4	
MDLB	299 ⁽²⁾	Microbiology Clinical Practicum	4	
TOTAL HOURS			12	