

Laboratory Science Profession

Profession in high demand

- Numerous and varied job opportunities
 - Phlebotomist
 - Laboratory Assistant
 - Medical Laboratory Technician
 - Medical Laboratory Scientist / Medical Technologist
 - Cytotechnologist
 - Histology Technician
 - Histology Technologist
 - Cytogeneticist
 - Molecular biologist
- Profession ranked in the top 18 of “best jobs” in comprehensive national survey
- Positions available for Master degree and PhD level practitioners
- Unlimited choice of practice settings: hospital, reference laboratory, physician office, research, industry, biotechnology, education....

Career Description

Medical laboratory professionals perform laboratory tests necessary to provide information for use by physicians in detecting, diagnosing or treating diseases. They are vital members of the health care team; 70-80% of all clinical diagnosis is based, in some way, on laboratory test results.

Training and Requirements

The minimum education requirements for the **Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLS) / Medical Technologist (MT)** is the completion of a Bachelor’s Degree program, which includes three to four years of course work plus a clinical experience in an accredited educational program in clinical laboratory science. Academic course work is available at Central Washington University, Eastern Washington University, Pacific Lutheran University, Seattle Pacific University, Seattle University, the University of Washington and Washington State University. The education programs providing the clinical experience are Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center, the University of Washington, and Heritage University CLS Program.

The most common training for the **Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT)** is a two-year Associate Degree program. In Washington, training for MLT-AD is available



at Clover Park Technical College, Shoreline Community College and Wenatchee Valley College. Wenatchee Valley College also has regional programs located in Spokane, Omak, Tri-Cities, Pendleton, Walla Walla, and Moses Lake.

There are no schools for **Cytotechnology (CT)** in Washington at the current time. Information about Cytotechnology can be obtained from the American Society for Cytotechnology at www.asct.com. Clover Park Technical College in Lakewood has an associate degree histology technician program. Information can be found at <http://www.cptc.edu/wrl.asp?iSRN=11073&t=wrl>. The National Society for Histotechnology at www.nsh.org can also provide information on Histotechnology careers.

Information on **cytogenetics** training, can be obtained from the Association of Genetic Technologists at www.agt-info.org.

Skills needed include:

- Aptitude for science course work
- Good eye/hand coordination and manual dexterity
- Good communication abilities
- Ability to work with precision and accuracy
- Ability to problem solve
- Ability to work well under pressure
- Ability to work as a team player

Training Programs In Washington State

Medical Laboratory Science / Medical Technologist Programs (Bachelor Degree):

Heritage University CLS Program

3240 Fort Road
Toppenish, WA 98948

Contact: Terese Abreu
Phone: (509) 454-6100
e-mail: clinicallab@heritage.edu
Website: <http://www.heritage.edu/FutureStudents/UndergraduatePrograms/tabid/166/Default.aspx>

Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center

School of Medical Technology
101 West 8th Avenue
Spokane, WA 99220

Contact: Cynthia Hamby
Phone: (509) 474-3382
e-mail: cynthia.hamby@providence.org
Website: <http://www.shmclab.org>

University of Washington

Medical Technology Program
Department of Laboratory Medicine
Box 357110
Seattle, WA 98195

Contact: Cara Calvo
Phone: (206) 598-0428
e-mail: calvo@u.washington.edu
Website: <http://depts.washington.edu/medtech>

Medical Laboratory Technician Programs (Associate Degree):

Clover Park Technical College

Medical Laboratory Technician Program
4500 Steilacom Blvd. SW
Lakewood, WA 98499-4098

Contact: Mikelle Newry
Phone: (253) 589-5625
e-mail: mikelle.newry@cptc.edu
Website: http://www.cptc.edu/index.php/programs/degrees_certificates/medical_laboratory_technician/

Shoreline Community College

Medical Laboratory Technology Program
16101 Greenwood Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98133-5696

Contact: Molly Morse
Phone: (206) 546-6947
e-mail: mmorse@shoreline.edu
Website: <https://www.shoreline.edu/MedicalLab01.aspx>

Wenatchee Valley College

Medical Laboratory Technician Program
1300 5th Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Contact: Pamela Wilson-McNamara
Phone: (509) 682-6668
e-mail: pwilson-mcnamara@wvc.edu
Website: <http://www.wvc.edu/go/mlt>

