

# MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE, CERTIFICATE

Saint Louis University's medical laboratory science certificate offers a certificate to become a medical laboratory professional to students who have an undergraduate degree in an alternate field and are pursuing a career change.

The SLU certificate has three concentration options: clinical hematology, clinical microbiology and clinical chemistry.

## Curriculum Overview

SLU's medical laboratory science certificate curriculum provides students with a strong science background, medically applied coursework and corresponding practicum experiences in the clinical laboratory.

Each concentration consists of two semesters of didactic coursework at the undergraduate level, followed by a clinical practicum that varies in length between five to seven weeks. The typical program takes between 12-18 months to complete.

## Clinical and Research Opportunities

Clinical internship experiences in clinical practice settings (e.g., hospitals, clinics, reference labs, etc.) are required for SLU's medical laboratory science certificate curricula.

## Careers

Graduates with a certificate in medical laboratory science are prepared to conduct and manage a broad spectrum of laboratory testing. These tests evaluate the health status of individuals, diagnose disease and monitor treatment efficacy. Graduates of this program frequently work in diagnostic, research and/or other laboratory settings.

Upon successfully completing the program, graduates are eligible for national certification by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) as categorical medical laboratory professionals.

## Admission Requirements

- Completion of a conferred degree from an institution that is accredited by one of the regional accreditation agencies (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/regional-accreditation/>) is required.
- Students must complete a combination of 30 credits (45 quarter credits) of biology, chemistry and/or medical sciences for program admission consideration.
- A college minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50 on a 4.00 scale, including a minimum 2.50 science/math GPA with at least a "C" in all biological sciences, chemistry and math, is required.

## International Applicants

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students, along with the following:

- You must demonstrate English language proficiency (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency/>).
- Proof of financial support must include:

- A letter of financial support from the person(s) or sponsoring agency funding your time at Saint Louis University.
- A letter from the sponsor's bank verifying that the funds are available and will be so for the duration of your study at the University.
- Academic records, in English translation, of students who have undertaken postsecondary studies outside the United States must include the courses taken and/or lectures attended, practical laboratory work, the maximum and minimum grades attainable, the grades earned or the results of all end-of-term examinations, and any honors or degrees received. WES and ECE transcripts are accepted.

## Transcript Evaluation

Students interested in clinical hematology, clinical microbiology or clinical chemistry should contact Amanda Reed at [amanda.reed@health.slu.edu](mailto:amanda.reed@health.slu.edu) ([amanda.reed@health.slu.edu](mailto:amanda.reed@health.slu.edu)) or 314-977-8686 for transcript evaluation.

## Admission Decisions

The number of students admitted into each certificate program is based on the availability of clinical placement sites for practicum experiences. No student will be admitted until clinical placement for practicum experiences has been secured.

In the event of a limited number of available placement spots, a competitive entry process based on GPA, previous coursework, and letters of recommendation will be used to admit students. Admission decisions will be made on or before June 1 to enter the fall cohort.

All applicants must meet the professional performance standards required for the profession.

## Required Background Check

Regulations require all students to complete a criminal background check and a drug test at least once during the program; either or both may be repeated as agency requirements demand. Positive results from the criminal background check or drug tests may result in ineligibility to attend clinical rotations and/or to graduate from the program. A felony conviction will affect a graduate's professional certification and professional practice eligibility.

## Tuition

Tuition	Cost Per Credit
Undergraduate Tuition	\$2,070

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Information on Tuition and Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/>)

Miscellaneous Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/>)

Information on Summer Tuition (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer-current/>)

## Scholarships and Financial Aid

Students who graduated with a bachelor's degree and are seeking a second bachelor's degree or post-baccalaureate certificate do not qualify for most SLU and federal financial aid.

Financial aid may be available in the form of federal loans, which require repayment. Federal loan eligibility is based on what was borrowed as an undergraduate student. (Find more information on loan limits. (<https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans/subsidized-unsubsidized/>)) Federal loan consideration requires a completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA (<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa/>)).

Information on Federal and Private Loans (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/types-of-aid/student-loan-information/>)

## Accreditation

The Medical Laboratory Science program at Saint Louis University has been continuously accredited since the graduation of its first class in 1933.

We are one of the oldest programs in the nation, founded in 1929, and boast more than 90 years of educational service to the medical laboratory science profession.

The program is accredited by:

National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science  
5600 N. River Road, Suite 720  
Rosemont, IL 60018

phone: 773-714-8880

fax: 773-714-8886

[www.naacls.org](https://www.naacls.org) (<https://www.naacls.org>)

## Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
BLS 4130	Principles & Techniques in Molecular Biology	2
BLS 4411	Fundamentals of Immunology	2
BLS 4420	Medical Immunology	2
MLS 3210	Clinical Education & Laboratory Management	2
MLS 3400	Laboratory Operations	1
<b>Concentration</b>		<b>15-16</b>

Select one of three concentrations:

Clinical Hematology (p. 2)

Clinical Microbiology (p. 2)

Clinical Chemistry (p. 2)

**Total Credits** 24-25

## Continuation Standards

Students must maintain a minimum 2.50 grade point average (GPA).

## Clinical Hematology Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
BLS 3110	Urinalysis & Body Fluids	2
BLS 4210	Hematology	4
BLS 4220	Hemostasis and Thrombosis	2

MLS 3150	Urinalysis and Immunology Laboratory	1
MLS 4250	Hematology Laboratory	1
MLS 4740	Clinical Hematology Practicum	2
MLS 4750	Clinical Hematology	1
MLS 4770	Clinical Phlebotomy Practicum	1
MLS 4820	Clinical Urinalysis Practicum	1

**Total Credits** 15

## Clinical Microbiology Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
BLS 4510	Medical Microbiology	4
MLS 4520	Medical Bacteriology	2
MLS 4541	Medical Mycology and Parasitology	3
MLS 4550	Medical Bacteriology Laboratory	2
MLS 4800	Clinical Microbiology Practicum	3
MLS 4811	Clinical Microbiology	1

**Total Credits** 15

## Clinical Chemistry Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
BLS 3110	Urinalysis & Body Fluids	2
BLS 4110	Medical Biochemistry I	3
BLS 4120	Medical Biochemistry II	2
MLS 3150	Urinalysis and Immunology Laboratory	1
MLS 4150	Analytical Chemistry	2
MLS 4701	Clinical Chemistry Practicum	3
MLS 4710	Clinical Chemistry	1
MLS 4770	Clinical Phlebotomy Practicum	1
MLS 4820	Clinical Urinalysis Practicum	1

**Total Credits** 16

## Contact Us

Apply for Admission (<https://www.slu.edu/admission/>)

### Contact Doisy College of Health Sciences

Recruitment specialist

314-977-2570

[dchs@health.slu.edu](mailto:dchs@health.slu.edu)