



A Unit of the Technical College System of Georgia - Equal Opportunity Institution

Medical Laboratory Technician Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What does a Medical Laboratory Technician do?

Medical laboratory technicians perform medical laboratory tests for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease. Medical laboratory technicians typically do the following:

- Test and analyze body fluids, such as blood, urine, and tissue samples
- Operate laboratory equipment, such as microscopes and automated cell counters
- Use automated equipment that analyzes multiple samples at the same time
- Record data from medical tests and enter results into a patient's medical record
- Discuss results and findings of laboratory tests and procedures with physicians

Q: Am I the right fit for becoming a Medical Laboratory Technician?

If you enjoy the laboratory portions of your science classes, you would enjoy a career in Medical Laboratory Technology. This career allows you to use your love of science and laboratory methods to solve medical mysteries.

Q: Will I be able to maintain a full-time job while in the Medical Laboratory Technician program?

No, we do not recommend maintaining a full-time job while in the program. Typically, students do better with a part-time position or not working at all. This is due to the many hours of studying needed to be successful in the program.

Q: Is there an externship available?

Yes, to complete the MLT Program, you will spend the last two semesters completing clinical rotations at one of the many hospital laboratories in our service area.

Q: Where do Medical Laboratory Technicians work?

MLT's find employment in a variety of locations: hospital laboratories, reference laboratories, cancer centers and doctor's offices.

Q: Are there certifications available as MLT?

Yes, to work in the laboratory field as an MLT, you must be nationally certified. There are two certifying bodies for MLT's which include: ASCP (American Society of clinical pathologists) and AMT (American Medical Technologist). Chattahoochee Technical College MLT graduates are eligible to sit for either exam.

Q: How are the classes taught in the MLT Program?

Classes are taught as a blended program with lectures online and on-campus labs and testing two days per week.

Q: What is the salary of a Medical Laboratory Technician?

The salary of a Medical Laboratory Technician is based on a many factors: education, experience, geographical location, etc. The [Bureau of Labor Statistics Website](#)¹ provides the average salary nationally and geographically for MLT's.

Q: What are the typical hours of a Medical Laboratory Technician?

MLT hours vary depending upon the type of medical facility. In a hospital or reference lab setting, an MLT may be scheduled to work five 8-hour days or four 10-hour days. These hours can fall during day, evening or night shifts as well as weekends. In a doctor's office, hours fall during day hours,

Q: What is the dress code for the class?

You are required to wear royal blue scrubs as well as closed toed & closed healed shoes during the program and at the clinical rotation site.

¹ <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/clinical-laboratory-technologists-and-technicians.htm#tab-5>