MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Associate of Applied Science degree in Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT). This packet includes information on the profession, admission requirements and procedures, and the Medical Laboratory Technology curriculum.

The mission of the Medical Laboratory Technology Program of Tidewater Community College is to be an exemplary program graduating highly qualified individuals to fill the employment needs of clinical laboratories. The Program is committed to serving students and the medical laboratory community through guidance, excellent academic instruction and professional training utilizing traditional and innovative means. The faculty of the Medical Laboratory Technology Program is committed to preparing competent Medical Laboratory Technicians in the knowledge, skills, and professional characteristics as required by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS), the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP), and community shareholders.

Admission to the program requires that students complete an application to TCC and a Health Professions Program application. These applications are available on TCC's website; in the Welcome and Entry Center, Bayside Building of the Virginia Beach Campus; or by calling the Information Center at 757-822-1122. The application deadline to the Medical Laboratory Technology Program is **May 15** for fall admission.

This information packet includes information about the courses in the Medical Laboratory Technology Program that I hope you will find helpful. If you have questions or are interested in entering the program, I encourage you to attend our Medical Laboratory Technology and Phlebotomy Open House on the **third** Thursday of each month (except December) on the Virginia Beach Campus, Regional Health Professions Center from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Information on grants, loans, and scholarships is available from the Financial Aid Office by calling 757-822-1688. If you are eligible for Veterans educational benefits, please call the Center for Military and Veterans Education (CMVE) and they will assist you with your application. The CMVE can be reached by calling 757-822-7235.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Information in this packet is subject to change. Students should check periodically to see if materials have been updated. Prospective students are hereby notified that certain medical facilities require both criminal/sex offender background checks as well as drug screens prior to being authorized to attend clinical practicum. The cost of the background check is the responsibility of the student.
Tidewater Community College maintains and promotes equal opportunity without regard to ethnicity, color, gender, age (except where gender or age is a bona fide occupational qualification), religion, handicap, national origin, or other non-merit factors. Disclosure of social security number, age, gender, and ethnicity is optional.

Once again, thank you for your interest in our program. Please contact me with any further questions or concerns by either phone or email address listed below.

Sincerely,

Angela R. Bell

Angela R. Bell, MS, MT(ASCP)SM, DLM
Director, Medical Laboratory Technology/Phlebotomy Technician Program
Phone: 757-822-7276
abell@tcc.edu
Description of the Profession

Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLT) are health care professionals that work under the supervision of a physician or medical technologist (MT) by performing routine clinical laboratory tests for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease. Medical laboratory technicians analyze body fluids such as: blood, urine, sputum, stool, and cerebrospinal fluid using chemical, hematological, immunologic, microscopic, and bacteriological diagnostic methods. The results of these tests assist doctors in verifying cause of illness, making medical decisions and determining treatment options.

Medical Laboratory Technicians are skilled in all areas of the clinical laboratory and able to perform routine clinical laboratory tests in clinical biochemistry, hematology, coagulation, microbiology, bacteriology, virology, parasitology, mycology, immunology, immunohematology (blood bank), and molecular diagnostics. They perform simple and highly complex laboratory tests utilizing automated equipment, computers, and precision instruments. In addition, Medical Laboratory Technicians are responsible for confirming the accuracy of test results, and reporting laboratory findings to pathologists and other physicians. The Tidewater Community College MLT program is fully accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS), 5600 N. River Rd., Suite 720, Rosemont, IL 60018-5119, Phone 773-714-8880 http://www.naacls.org/

Employment Demand

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, “Employment of medical laboratory technologists and technicians is projected to grow 22 percent from 2012 to 2022, much faster than the average for all occupations. Despite starting salaries ranging from $32,000 to $42,000, 44 percent of health care facilities in the United States are reporting difficulties in hiring laboratory technicians/technologists according to American Society for Clinical Pathology. Projections show an even greater need for laboratory technicians by 2018 when approximately 10 percent of clinical laboratory professionals will reach retirement age. Other factors impacting the field are the increasing number of tests needed for general patient care, disease control, and the long-term care of an aging population. Industry experts predict test usage will increase 17 percent as the population ages.

Program Length

The Tidewater Community College Associate of Applied Science in Medical Laboratory Technology is five semesters in length and consists of 67 credit hours. This curriculum is designed to prepare students for employment as medical laboratory technicians upon graduation and certification.
Essential Functions of the MLT Student

To successfully complete the clinical component of the MLT program, the student must be able to perform all of the essential functions of a Medical Laboratory Technician. Students should possess and be able to demonstrate the following:

1. **Manual Dexterity**: Bilateral use of hands or terminal devices that involves coordination and strength.

2. **Fine Motor**: Ability to manipulate small objects with fingertips or adaptive devices.

3. **Vision**: Ability to distinguish red color from yellow color; distinguish clear from cloudy; and see through a microscope. Must be able to discern primary colors and/or shades thereof; and differentiate shapes macroscopically and microscopically.

4. **Hearing**: Ability to adapt (i.e. phone receivers, hearing aids, etc.)

5. **Communication**: Demonstrate effective written and oral communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others. This includes, but is not limited to, reading, following instructions, and other forms of communication.
   - **Writing**: Ability to communicate effectively in legible written form.
   - **Speaking**: Ability to verbally communicate understandably in English.
   - **Reading**: Ability to read, understand and follow directions printed in English.

6. **Emotional stability**: Ability to work independently maintaining composure and competence under stressful situations. Be able to function as a supportive member of the health care team to maintain the highest standards of the laboratory in its delivery of patient care.

7. **Interpersonal skills**: Sufficient ability to interact with individuals, families, and other health care professionals from a variety of emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.

8. **Mobility**: Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room, maneuver in small places, and stand and walk for extensive periods of time.

9. **Cognitive Abilities**: Ability to be oriented to time, place, and person: organization responsibilities, prioritizing appropriately, and making decisions in a timely manner.

10. **Health Status**: Students, who pose a risk to the health, safety or well being of patients or other students, whether due to infectious disease or otherwise, may be removed from clinical settings. If a student should contract or be a carrier of any infectious disease whether acute, chronic, active or inactive, it is the student’s responsibility to report this immediately to the course/clinical instructor. Patient well being, safety and health are the primary concern of all clinical faculties and clinical sites. All clinical sites and clinical facilities, as well as TCC, reserve the right to require medical verification that a student may participate in a clinical
setting without posing a risk to the health, safety or well-being of patients, other students or staff.

Admission Requirements

Admission to Tidewater Community College does not automatically qualify a student for admission to the Medical Laboratory Technology Program. Students must comply with all General Admission Requirements for Division of Health Professions Programs.

In addition to meeting the admissions requirements for TCC and the Division of Health Professions programs, students must meet the following specific requirements to be admitted to the Medical Laboratory Technology program. Students must:

1. Be a high school graduate or have a GED.
2. Meet current requirements for admission to TCC.
3. Attend a Medical Laboratory Technology Information Session.
4. Submit a complete application for the Medical Laboratory Technology Program. Admission to the program is based on the date the completed application was received in the Medical Laboratory Technology/Phlebotomy Program Director's office.
5. Complete the following prerequisite courses with a grade of 'C' or better: BIO 101 General Biology I; BIO 141 Anatomy and Physiology I; and MTH 158 College Algebra or MTH 157 Elementary Statistics.
6. Maintain a curricular GPA of 2.5 or better at the last school or college attended.
7. Have a personal interview with the Program Director.
8. Ensure that transcripts from all other colleges attended are on file at TCC prior to program application deadline date. These transfer credits must be evaluated before any transfer credit is granted. Applications are accepted from January 15 through May 15 for fall admission. Admission will be on a competitive placement basis of fully qualified candidates.

If the number of applicants to the program exceeds the maximum enrollment capacity, students will be selected on a competitive basis. The scoring criteria to be applied during competitive applicant review are defined in Table 1 (below). In the event that two or more students have a tied competitive placement score, the grade point average (GPA) from the last school attended will be used to break the tie.
### Table 1: Admission Requirements Weighting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Admission Criteria</th>
<th>Competitive Admission Criteria</th>
<th>% Score</th>
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<tr>
<td>High school diploma or GED</td>
<td>Must have these to be considered at all.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curricular GPA of 2.5 or better at last school attended</td>
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</table>
| BIO 101 General Biology I with a grade of “C” or higher | A= 4 points  
B= 3 points  
C= 2 points | 75% |
| BIO 141 Anatomy and Physiology I with a grade of “C” or higher | A= 4 points  
B= 3 points  
C= 2 points | |
| MTH 158 College Algebra with a grade of “C” or higher | A= 4 points  
B= 3 points  
C= 2 points | |
| Basic Admission Criteria | Competitive Admission Criteria | % Score |
| AS or AAS | 2 points | 15% |
| BA or BS | 3 points | |
| MA or MS | 4 points | |
| Interview | | 10% |

Once accepted, students must:

1. Submit a satisfactory health status as certified by submission of a completed Health Professions Physical form signed by a licensed healthcare provider within the last twelve months. The Health Physical form is available in the Division of Health Professions Administrative Office, or on TCC’s website.

2. Submit Immunization record - Health Professions students must comply with both Virginia Law and Clinical facility requirements related to immunizations. Healthcare professions include inherent health and safety risks. All health profession students are required to be compliant with Virginia laws related to immunizations for the protection of themselves and patients.

3. Submit documentation of a negative TB test or, if a previous positive TB test was obtained, record of a negative chest X-ray.

4. Complete of a criminal background check and possibly a drug screen, depending on clinical site requirements, prior to placement for clinical rotations. The cost of the background check is the responsibility of the student.

5. Maintain a ‘C’ grade point average or better to remain in good standing. Students whose academic performance is below a ‘C’ grade point average will be readmitted to the program at the discretion of the Program Director and according to space.
Program Outcomes

Tidewater Community College’s Medical Laboratory Technology uses the following criteria as outcomes measures of effectiveness of the program.

1. 70% of those students that begin the final half of the program (semester 4) will be retained and graduate as calculated by the most recent three years.
   - 100% of students that began the final half of the program were retained and graduated in 2016
   - 100% of students that began the final half of the program were retained and graduated in 2015
   - 89% of students that began the final half of the program were retained and graduated in 2014
   - 71% of students that began the final half of the program were retained and graduated in 2013

2. A minimum of 75% of students taking the MLT ASCP Certification Examination within the first year of graduation will pass as calculated by the most recent three-year period.
   - 100% pass rate for 2016
   - 91% pass rate for 2015
   - 100% pass rate for 2014
   - 100% pass rate for 2013

3. 90% of graduates who desire employment will be gainfully employed in a medical laboratory related occupation or continue their education within 1 year of graduation as calculated by the most recent three years.
   - 100% of 2016 graduates who sought employment are gainfully employed as an MLT
   - 100% of 2015 graduates who sought employment are gainfully employed as an MLT
   - 100% of 2014 graduates who sought employment are gainfully employed as an MLT
   - 100% of 2013 graduates who sought employment are gainfully employed as an MLT

4. 90% of graduates returning graduate surveys will evaluate the quality of the MLT program in positive terms of either “good” or “very good” as calculated by the most recent three years.
   - 100% of 2016 graduates rated the quality of the MLT program as “very good”
   - 100% of 2015 graduates rated the quality of the MLT program as “very good”
   - 100% of 2014 graduates rated the quality of the MLT program as “very good”
   - 100% of 2013 graduates rated the quality of the MLT program as “very good”

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING THE MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY PROFESSION

1. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN (MLT) AND A MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST (MT)?
   While both the MLT and the MT may be certified or registered by one or more nationally recognized professional organizations, MLTs have a two-year associate degree and MTs have a bachelor’s degree. MTs usually perform more complex analyses than technicians are trained to do and serve in supervisory positions. In addition, MTs generally earn a higher income than technicians do and have more opportunities for advancement.
2. WHAT DOES A MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN DO?
Working under the supervision of a medical technologist or physician, a medical laboratory technician (MLT) performs routine tests in all areas of the clinical laboratory. Medical Laboratory Technicians examine and analyze body fluids and cells. They look for bacteria, parasites, and other microorganisms; analyze the chemical content of fluids; match blood for transfusions; and test for drug levels in the blood that show how a patient is responding to treatment. They use microscopes, cell counters, and other sophisticated laboratory equipment to provide the physician with accurate and quality laboratory results.

3. DO MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS RECEIVE TRAINING IN ALL AREAS OF THE LABORATORY?
Medical Laboratory Technicians are trained in all areas of the clinical laboratory to include:

- **Clinical Chemistry**
  The clinical chemistry department performs hundreds of quantitative analyses on a variety of body fluids. Common chemistry procedures include testing for glucose, cholesterol, hormones, and electrolytes.

- **Blood Bank (Immunohematology)**
  The blood bank provides blood typing and compatibility testing for both donors and recipients and ensures the safety of the blood supply.

- **Immunology/Serology**
  Immunologic/serologic testing evaluates antibodies and/or antigens that may be indicative of many types of infectious disease. This is important in not only confirming a diagnosis, but also in treating and managing various conditions.

- **Microbiology**
  The microbiology section identifies microorganisms that may be causing disease (pathogens). The microbiology department also provides information regarding appropriate antibiotics to use as treatment for various pathogens.

- **Urinalysis**
  The urinalysis department screens urine samples for evidence of kidney disease or bladder infections.

- **Coagulation**
  Coagulation procedures are performed to identify possible bleeding or clotting disorders. Coagulation testing is also used to monitor anticoagulant therapy.

- **Hematology**
  They hematology department performs tests that are important in diagnosing many disorders such as anemia and leukemia.

4. WHERE DO MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS WORK?
Medical Laboratory Technicians have numerous choices of practice settings. They work in hospitals, physician offices, clinics, public health facilities, reference laboratories, research laboratories, and forensic laboratories. In addition, governmental agencies at the federal, state, and local level also seek the services of medical laboratory technicians.

5. CAN A MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN BECOME A MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST?
Medical Laboratory Technicians can advance and become technologists through additional education and experience. Many colleges and universities offer two-year programs that allow practicing MLTs to complete their bachelor’s degree to become a MT.
APPLICATION PROCEDURE/CHECKLIST
The following steps must be completed as soon as possible:

1. Obtain a Medical Laboratory Technology Program Packet. Information Packets are available at the Virginia Beach Campus Welcome and Entry Center (757-822-7172), the Counseling office (757-822-7211), the TCC Information Center (757-822-1122) or TCC’s website.

2. Complete a general College application for admission indicating that Medical Laboratory Technology is your curriculum choice. Return the completed form to the Virginia Beach Campus Welcome and Entry Center in the Bayside Building. Applicants should designate the Virginia Beach Campus as their home campus.

3. Attend the Medical Laboratory Technology Open House held on the third Thursday of each month (except December) from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Regional Health Professions Bldg.

4. Take the TCC English and Math placement tests if required. It is recommended you take them as soon as possible to allow adequate time to take any required developmental courses. Consult the Counseling Center (757-822-7211) for information concerning your need to take these tests and for times given.

5. Complete the Health Professions Program Application form indicating Medical Laboratory Technology as your program choice. Submit the completed application to the Domicile Health Professions and Records Office, Tidewater Community College, 1700 College Crescent, Virginia Beach, VA 23453 by the May 15 application deadline. Applications are accepted from January 15 through May 15 for fall admission.

6. Have official college transcripts sent directly to Tidewater Community College, Central Records Office, PO Box 9000, Norfolk, VA 23509-9000 from the appropriate institution's registrar. Student copies are not acceptable. Any college course work transferred to TCC requires a transcript evaluation. Verify receipt of all forms and transcripts by calling (757) 822-1900. If your official transcripts are not received by the Central Records office by the application deadline, your application will not be considered.

7. Complete the online Request for Evaluation of Previous Higher Educational Experiences, located on TCC's website: http://web.tcc.edu/central-records/transfer-credits.php. This request must be received by the Central Records Office in order to evaluate your transcripts and assign transfer credit. Verify receipt of all transcripts by calling (757) 822-1900 or by emailing to centralrecords@tcc.edu. If previous college courses were taken at TCC (any campus), this request is not needed.

*Complete application contains: health Professions Program Application and Unofficial Transcripts (other institutions).
Required Courses:

BIO 101  General Biology I  4 credits
Explores fundamental characteristics of living matter from the molecular level to the ecological community with emphasis on general biological principles. Introduces the diversity of living organisms, their structure, function and evolution.
Lecture 3 hours. Recitation and laboratory 3 hours. Total 6 hrs. per week.

BIO 141  Human Anatomy and Physiology I  4 credits
Integrates anatomy and physiology of cells, tissues, organs, and systems of the human body. Integrates concepts of chemistry, physics, and pathology.
Lecture 3 hours. Laboratory 3 hours. Total 6 hrs. per week.

CHM 111  College Chemistry I  4 credits
Explores the fundamental laws, theories, and mathematical concepts of chemistry. Designed primarily for science and engineering majors. Requires a strong background in mathematics.
Lecture 3 hours. Laboratory 3 hours. Total 6 hrs. per week.

ENG 111  College Composition I  3 credits
Introduces students to critical thinking and the fundamentals of academic writing. Through the writing process, students refine topics; develop and support ideas; investigate, evaluate, and incorporate appropriate resources; edit for effective style and usage; and determine appropriate approaches for a variety of contexts, audiences, and purposes. Writing activities will include exposition and argumentation with at least one researched essay. Prerequisite: Placement Test.
Lecture 3 hours per week.

HLT 105  Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation  1 credit
Provides training in coordinated mouth-to-mouth artificial ventilation and chest compression, choking, life-threatening emergencies, and sudden illness.
Lecture 1 hour per week.

MDL 101  Introduction to Medical Laboratory Techniques  3 credits
Introduces the basic techniques including design of the health care system, ethics, terminology, calculations, venipuncture and routine urinalysis.
Lecture 2 hours. Laboratory 3 hours. Total 5 hrs. per week.

MDL 125  Clinical Hematology I  3 credits
Teaches the cellular elements of blood including blood cell formation, and routine hematological procedures.
Lecture 2 hours. Laboratory 3 hours. Total 5 hrs. per week.
MDL 190  Coordinated Phlebotomy Internship  1 credit
Supervises on-the-job training in selected business, industrial or service firms coordinated by the college.
Laboratory 6 hours per week.

MDL 210  Immunology and Serology  2 credits
Teaches principles of basic immunology, physiology of the immune system, diseases involving the immune system, as well as serologic procedures.
Lecture 1 hour. Laboratory 3 hours.  Total 4 hrs. per week.

MDL 216  Blood Banking  3 credits
Teaches fundamentals of blood grouping and typing, compatibility testing, antibody screening, component preparation, donor selection, and transfusion reactions and investigation.
Lecture 2 hours. Laboratory 6 hours.  Total 8 hrs. per week.

MDL 225  Clinical Hematology II  3 credits
Teaches advanced study of blood to include coagulation, abnormal bloody formation, and changes seen in various diseases.
Lecture 2 hours. Laboratory 3 hours.  Total 5 hrs. per week.

MDL 251  Clinical Microbiology I  3 credits
Teaches handling, isolation, and identification of pathogenic microorganisms. Emphasizes clinical techniques of bacteriology, mycology, parasitology, and virology. Part I of II.
Lecture 2 hours. Laboratory 3 hours.  Total 5 hrs. per week.

MDL 252  Clinical Microbiology II  2 credits
Teaches handling, isolation, and identification of pathogenic microorganisms. Emphasizes clinical techniques of bacteriology, mycology, parasitology, and virology. Part II of II.
Lecture 1 hour. Laboratory 3 hours.  Total 4 hrs. per week.

MDL 261  Clinical Chemistry and Instrumentation I  4 credits
Introduces methods of performing biochemical analysis of clinical specimens. Teaches instrumentation involved in a clinical chemistry laboratory, quality control, and the ability to recognize technical problems. Part I of II.
Lecture 3 hours. Laboratory 3 hours.  Total 6 hrs. per week.

MDL 265  Advanced Clinical Chemistry  2 credits
Presents principles of current special chemistry techniques.
Lecture 2 hours per week.

MDL 266  Clinical Chemistry Techniques  3 credits
Includes performing of clinical chemistry methodologies and operation of typical instrumentation in a clinical laboratory or simulated laboratory setting.
Laboratory 9 hours per week.
MDL 276  Clinical Hematology Techniques  3 credits
Stresses performing hematological and coagulation methods and operation of typical instrumentation in a clinical laboratory or simulated laboratory setting.
Laboratory 9 hours per week.

MDL 277  Clinical Immunohematology and Immunology Technique  4 credits
Deals with performing techniques, procedures, and interpretations in Blood Banking and Serology in a clinical laboratory or simulated laboratory setting. Laboratory 12 hours per week.

MDL 278  Clinical Microbiology Techniques II  4 credits
Includes performing of techniques, procedures, and identification of microorganisms in a clinical laboratory or simulated laboratory setting. Laboratory 12 hours per week.

MDL 298  Seminar and Project  1 credit
Requires completion of a project or research report related to the student’s occupational objectives and a study of approaches to the selection and pursuit of career opportunities in the field.

MTH 158  College Algebra  3 credits
Covers the structure of complex number systems, polynomials, rational expressions, graphing, systems of equations and inequalities and functions, quadratic and rational equations and inequalities. Prerequisites: A placement recommendation for MTH 158 and Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry

SDV 101  Orientation to Health Care  1 credit
Introduces students to the skills which are necessary to achieve their academic goals, to the services offered at the college, and to the discipline in which they are enrolled. Covers topics such as services offered at the college, including the learning resources center; counseling and advising; listening, test taking, and study skills; and topical areas which are applicable to their particular discipline. Lecture 1 hour per week.
# Medical Laboratory Technology 151
## A.A.S. Degree

Tidewater Community College • Catalog 2016-2017

## PREREQUISITES taken prior to program admission for fall

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<th>Prerequisite</th>
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<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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## SEMESTER 1 Fall

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## SEMESTER 2 Spring

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*Medical Laboratory Technology Information Packet 13 September • 2016*
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**SEMESTER 3 Summer**

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**SEMESTER 5 Spring**

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*Medical Laboratory Technology Information Packet*  14  
*September • 2016*
1Placement test or prerequisite required.

2Eligible courses are listed on page 28 of the 2016-2017 catalog. See your academic advisor or counselor to choose the appropriate course(s).

The granting of the Associate of Applied Science degree in Medical Laboratory Technology is not contingent upon passing an external certification or licensure examination.