

MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST

Medical Laboratory personnel perform tests and procedures ordered by physicians and surgeons. They analyze bodily fluids, such as blood, urine, and tissue samples. They are solely responsible for both qualitative and quantitative data collection, cell morphology, and blood type of their samples. More than 80% of the information used by a physician to diagnose a patient comes from the clinical lab.

CAREER DESCRIPTION*

- » National median salary: \$60,780
- » National projected career growth: 5%
- » Many work in hospital clinical laboratories
- » Utilize automated equipment and computerized instruments

TYPICAL EDUCATION**

- » Years of School (including undergraduate): 4-5
- » Average Entering GPA: 3.37

NEARBY SCHOOLS

- » University of Nebraska Medical Center
- » Methodist Hospital Pathology Center
- » University of Iowa

COMPETITIVE STUDENTS ALWAYS...

- » Maintain a competitive academic record
- » Display strong academics in math and science courses
- » Shadow professionals in the field
- » Gain medical experience through volunteer or work

AREAS OF SPECIALTY

- » Immunohematology technologist (blood bank tech)
- » Clinical chemistry technologist
- » Immunology technologist
- » Microbiology technologist
- » Molecular biology technologist

WHAT PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL SAY



In the Radiation Laboratory, we count it as a privilege to do everything we can to assist our medical colleagues in the application of these new tools to the problems of human suffering."
-Ernest Lawrence



Modern Science is fast moving, and no laboratory can exist for long with a program based on old facilities. Innovation and renewal are required to keep a laboratory on the frontiers of science.
-Burton Richter

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*Data and information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Data and information from UNMC

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Click here for requirements from the schools listed below:

University of Nebraska Medical Center	University of Iowa
Nebraska Methodist Hospital	

*Prerequisites vary by program. Students are responsible for ensuring all entrance requirements are met.

*Most schools prefer science classes to be taken in-person versus online.

UNMC's Prerequisites

S = Spring, F = Fall, M = Summer

Need a total of 77 credit hours

Biological Sciences (minimum credits: 16)			
Course	Credits	Semester	Prerequisites
BIOL 1450 Biology I & Lab	5	F, S, M	High school Biology and Chemistry
BIOL 1750 Biology II & Lab	5	F, S, M	BIOL 1450
BIOL 2440 The Biology of Microorganisms & Lab	4	F, S, M	High school Biology and Chemistry
BIOL 2140 Genetics & Discussion	4	F, S, M	BIOL 1450 & 1750 & CHEM 1140 or 1180
BIOL 3240 Introduction to Immunology	3	F, S	BIOL 1450, 1750, & 2140, *BIOL 3020 Strongly
Strongly Recommended Courses:			
BIOL 2740 Human Anatomy & Physiology I & Lab	4	F, S, M	High school Biology and Chemistry
BIOL 2840 Human Anatomy & Physiology II & Lab	4	F, S, M	BIOL 2740
BIOL 3020 Molecular Biology of the Cell	3	F, S, M	BIOL 2140 and a Gen. Chem course
BIOL 3830 Biology of Pathogenic Microorganisms	3	S	BIOL 2140 or 2440 or 3240
BIOL 4140 Cellular Biology	4	F, S	BIOL 2140, 3020 & CHEM 2210 or 2250

*Prerequisite course for required courses

Chemistry (minimum credits: 14)			
CHEM 1140/1144 Fund of College Chemistry & Lab	5	F, S, M	MATH 1300 or 1320
CHEM 2210/2214 Fund of Organic Chemistry & Lab	5	F, S	CHEM 1140 & 1144 or CHEM 1190 & 1194
CHEM 3650/3654 Fund of Biochemistry & Lab	4	F, S	CHEM 2210 & 2214 or CHEM 2260 & 2274
OR			
CHEM 1180/1184 General Chemistry I & Lab	4	F, S, M	MATH 1300 or 1320 or CHEM 1140 & 1144
CHEM 1180 & 1184 General Chemistry I & Lab	4	F, S, M	MATH 1300 or 1320 or CHEM 1140 & 1144
CHEM 2210/2214 Fund of Organic Chemistry & Lab	5	F, S	CHEM 1140 & 1144 or CHEM 1190 & 1194
CHEM 3650/3654 Fund of Biochemistry & Lab	4	F, S	CHEM 2210 & 2214 or CHEM 2260 & 2274

Statistics (minimum credits: 3)			
BIOL 2020 Statistics for Life and Environ. Science	3	F, S	MATH 1120, 1130, 1300, or 1320
PSYC 3130 Statistics for Behavioral Sciences	3	F, S, M	MATH 1120, 1300, 1320, or STAT 1530
SOC 2130 Social Statistics	3	F, S, M	MATH 1120, 1300, 1320, or STAT 1530
STAT 1530 Elementary Statistics	3	F, S	ACT 19 or ALEKS 4
STAT 3000 Statistical Methods I	3	F, S	MATH 1300 or 1320
Other statistics courses can fulfill the requirement as well but should be approved by an admissions advisor.			

English Composition (minimum credits: 3)			
ENGL 1150 English Composition I	3	F, S, M	AP Score 3, ACT 14-26, HS GPA 2.3+
ENGL 1160 English Composition II	3	F, S, M	AP Score 4, ENGL 1140 or 1150, or ACT 27+ or Reading or English ACT score of 29+

*Need an additional 41 credits of electives to meet the minimum requirement; 18 credits of recommended Biology electives listed above.