

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

General academic requirements for admission are those specified by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences. Students with a Bachelor's degree and all required courses will be given equal consideration with undergraduates who meet all requirements.

Minimal Prerequisites:

Baccalaureate Degree Program: Completion of all prerequisite academic courses (90-100 semester hours), as outlined in the Medical Laboratory Science degree program at each respective university. Check with the registrar of your school for exact degree requirements and school affiliations. Students from an affiliated university will receive 30 semester credit hours upon completion of the program.

-OR-

Baccalaureate Degree In related science with a minimum of 16 semester hours of biological sciences (including courses in immunology, anatomy, physiology, genetics, molecular biology and microbiology), 16 semester hours of chemistry (including organic/biochemistry), and one semester of statistics. Other course work can be substituted for required courses if deemed equivalent by the University or Program Director.

-OR-

Foreign Baccalaureate Degree: Must submit a transcript evaluation verifying U.S. baccalaureate degree equivalency. This evaluation must accompany the application form and will be required to determine the applicant's initial eligibility. The evaluations may be obtained from one of the evaluation agencies listed on the insert.

Applicants should:

- be in good health and highly motivated
- be fluent in written and spoken English
- be able to discriminate between colors
- possess manual dexterity
- possess good near vision

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applications should be filed ten to twelve months before training is to begin. Deadline for applications is December 1st of each year. An Admissions Committee considers each application after the following requirements are met:

- 1) Completed State of Texas application form
- 2) An official College Transcript.
- 3) Certification of degree status from the Registrar or faculty advisor.
- 4) Two letters of recommendation from curriculum advisors or from instructors in science courses.
- 5) Austin State Hospital MLS Program Application

Completed applications are reviewed by the admissions committee after the deadline and personal interviews are scheduled for the best qualified applicants. Final selections are made shortly thereafter.

Factors taken into consideration in selecting applicants for admission include grade point averages, references supplied, and the personal interview. Special academic honors or experience working in a laboratory are also considered.

Four students are admitted each year with a starting date of September 1st.



Austin State Hospital
Regional Clinical Laboratory

4110 Guadalupe

Austin, TX 78751

512-419-2041

512-419-2039 (fax)

www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhhospitals/AustinSH/ResMedTech.shtm

Medical Laboratory Science



at
Austin
State
Hospital



THE MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE PROGRAM

The Austin State Hospital Program in Medical Laboratory Science is an integral part of the Regional Clinical Laboratory at Austin State Hospital, a facility of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS). DSHS, an agency of the Texas Health and Human Services System, provides programs that help protect all Texans from illness, prevents the spread of disease, provides direct health services and promotes emergency preparedness.

The practice of modern medicine would be impossible without the tests performed in the clinical laboratory. The Medical Laboratory Scientist helps determine the presence, extent, or absence of disease and provides data needed to evaluate the effectiveness of treatment. Laboratory procedures require an array of complex precision instruments and a variety of automated and electronic equipment. Medical Laboratory Scientists must be accurate, reliable, have an interest in science and be able to recognize their responsibility for human lives.

The Medical Laboratory Science Program at Austin State Hospital is designed for the instruction of students in both academic and practical phases of laboratory medicine. Graduates are eligible to take the certifying examination given by the American Society of Clinical Pathology Board of Certification. Issuance of a degree or certificate IS NOT contingent upon the student passing the external certification examination.

CURRICULUM

Students enrolled in the program spend approximately eight hours a day, Monday through Friday, in clinical instruction. Supplemental training occurs at our affiliates, Brackenridge Hospital and DSHS, Bureau of Laboratories. Clinical instruction includes training under direct supervision of Medical Laboratory Scientists as well as daily group lectures given by supervisory instructors in their specialty areas.

Students rotate on an individual basis through five major areas of study. These departments and the approximate times of study in each are as follows:

- **Clinical Chemistry** - 13 weeks (includes general chemistry, toxicology, & special chemistry)
- **Microbiology** - 12 weeks (includes bacteriology, mycology, and parasitology)
- **Hematology, Coagulation and Phlebotomy** - 11 weeks
- **Blood Bank/Immunology** – 7 weeks
- **Serology** – 3 weeks
- **Urinalysis** - 3 weeks

FACULTY

Under the direction of the Medical Director and Program Director, a staff of thirteen certified Medical Laboratory Scientists are actively involved in the supervision and training of the students.

EXAMINATIONS

Practical examinations are given in each department and periodic written examinations are given over the laboratory training and the lecture series.

ACCREDITATION

The Medical Laboratory Science Program is fully accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS). The Clinical Laboratory is accredited by the College of American Pathologists.

*Contact information for NAACLS is:

5600 N. River Road Ste. 720
Rosemont, IL 60018
Telephone: 773-714-8880
www.naacls.org



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Students are required to purchase approximately \$450 worth of books. A nominal tuition of \$300 is charged. Students are required to purchase personal liability insurance - approximate cost \$25.00.

Currently students receive a monthly stipend.

Students should arrange for housing before reporting for training. Apartments or rooms are generally available in neighboring areas.

OUTCOME MEASURES

From 2010-2015, the Austin State Hospital Medical Laboratory Science Program has had a 100% graduation rate and a 0% attrition rate. Ninety five percent of graduates have found employment in a clinical setting within six months of graduation.

BENEFITS

Students in the program are classified by the State of Texas as Professional Trainees and are eligible for group health insurance written for employees of the State of Texas. Students are allowed to take major state holidays and have limited sick leave available.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Failure to maintain a grade average of 75 or above in each department may result in dismissal from the school. Violation of the school's honor system, misconduct, or any abuse or violation of state regulations will be grounds for dismissal.