Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Science

The National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences provides the following description for medical laboratory scientist: At career entry, the medical laboratory scientist will be proficient in performing clinical laboratory tests in areas such as hematology, clinical chemistry, immunohematology, microbiology, serology/immunology, coagulation, and molecular and other emerging diagnostics, and will be able to play a role in the development and evaluation of test systems and interpretive algorithms. Graduates will have diverse responsibilities in areas of analysis and clinical decision-making, regulatory compliance with applicable regulations, education, and quality assurance/performance improvement. They will also possess basic knowledge, skills and relevant experience in:

- Communications to enable consultative interactions with members of the health care team, external relations, customer service and patient education.
- Financial operations, marketing and human resource management of the clinical laboratory to enable cost-effective, high-quality, value-added laboratory services.
- Information management to enable effective, timely, accurate and cost-effective reporting of laboratory-generated information.
- Research design/practice sufficient to evaluate published studies as an informed consumer.

Upon graduation and initial employment, the medical laboratory scientist should be able to demonstrate entry-level competencies in the above areas of professional practice. Graduates are eligible to sit for national certification examinations in medical laboratory science after completion of the program.

The Medical Laboratory Scientist performs and makes clinical decisions in urinalysis, hematology, microbiology, transfusion services, and clinical chemistry. This provides valuable patient information to assist in medical diagnosis and treatment. The Medical Laboratory Science program prepares students to become skilled members of the healthcare team.

The Bachelor of Science (BS) Medical Laboratory Science degree articulates with the undergraduate Medical Laboratory Technician degree program. The BS Medical Laboratory Science program is accredited through the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS).

Licensure and/or Certification

Graduates of the BS Medical Laboratory Science program are eligible to sit for the American Society of Clinical Pathology Board of Certification examination.

Please go to UAA’s Authorization by State (https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/office-of-academic-affairs/provost_office/uaa-state-authorization/authorization.csh.html/) website for information about licensure or certification in a state other than Alaska.

Admission Requirements

- Complete the Application and Admission Requirements for Baccalaureate Programs (https://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/)
- Complete, or be in the process of completing, the following courses with a minimum grade of C within two attempts:
  - CHEM A104 /CHEM A104L (or CHEM A106 /CHEM A106L and CHEM A321 )
  - CHEM A103 /CHEM A103L (or CHEM A105 /CHEM A105L )
  - BIOL A112
  - BIOL A111
- Submit documentation of a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 including all transfer coursework.
- Submit a Medical Laboratory Science application according to instructions and deadlines on the program website (https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/college-of-health/departments/school-of-allied-health/academics/medical-laboratory-science/bachelorofscience.csh.html/).
- Students may initially be admitted to a pre-major status. Admission to the pre-major status does not guarantee subsequent admission to the major. As a pre-major, students work with an advisor to assist them in completing pre-major requirements and preparing to apply for the full major.

Special Consideration

Prior to beginning practicum courses, student must provide documentation of:

- The following immunizations: Hepatitis B titer showing immunity, Hepatitis A, MMR, TdA/P, Varicella, Influenza vaccine within the previous 12 months, and two step PPD test or Quantiferon Gold
- Current Basic Life Support certification
- State of Alaska background check
- Current health insurance (must be maintained throughout time in practicum)

Practicum sites may establish additional requirements including, but not limited to, drug screening and health physicals.

Graduation Requirements

- Complete the General University Requirements for Baccalaureate Degrees (http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/baccalaureaterequirements/)
- Complete the General Education Requirements for Baccalaureate Degrees (http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/baccalaureaterequirements/gers/)
- Complete the major requirements listed below with a minimum grade of C:
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