Medical Laboratory Science

Department of Medical Laboratory Science
Allied Health Sciences Building (AHS), Room 148, (907) 786-6928

The mission of the Medical Laboratory Science Department is to graduate competent and ethical clinical laboratory professionals with the knowledge and the skills for career entry. It is also the department’s mission to prepare graduates for leadership roles in the clinical laboratory and professional organizations and to instill an understanding of the need for maintaining continuing competency in a rapidly changing and dynamic profession.

The Medical Laboratory Science Department has a strong commitment to the career ladder approach to higher education. With career ladder programs, the students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science have an option to gain phlebotomy certification in one year and medical laboratory technician certification in two years as they pursue a bachelor’s degree. The Associate of Applied Science graduates who wish to obtain a bachelor’s degree in medical laboratory science may “career ladder” without loss of credit.

General admission requirements for all students entering programs offered by the Medical Laboratory Science Department include:

1. Complete the medical laboratory science program application.
2. Read and sign the essential requirements for enrollment.
3. High school diploma or GED equivalency.
4. Documentation of the following prior to enrollment in MEDT A132 (https://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/search/?P=MEDT%20A132):
   - Immunity to rubella, rubeola, mumps and chicken pox confirmed by titer or current immunization.
   - Immunity to hepatitis A and hepatitis B. Students must have started the immunization series prior to enrolling in the courses.
   - Proof of one dose of Tdap as an adult followed by Td booster every ten years thereafter.
   - Freedom from active tuberculosis, demonstrated by initial two-step PPD followed by annual PPD. If PPD is positive, provide documentation of TB clearance.
5. Documentation of the following prior to enrolling, and maintained through the duration of enrollment, in a practicum (MEDT A195A (https://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/search/?P=MEDT%20A195A), MEDT A395 (https://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/search/?P=MEDT%20A395) or MEDT A495 (https://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/search/?P=MEDT%20A495)):
   - Influenza immunization for students enrolling in clinical practicums during flu season.
   - Criminal background check within six months prior to start of practicum; some facilities also require drug screening.
   - Personal medical insurance.

Additional admission requirements are listed under program descriptions.

The Medical Laboratory Science Department assumes no responsibility for illness or injuries experienced by students in conjunction with student labs. It is strongly recommended that students maintain personal medical insurance while enrolled in any of the programs offered by the Medical Laboratory Science Department. Students enrolled in practicum (MEDT A195A, MEDT A395 or MEDT A495) must provide their own transportation to the clinical facility. Personal protective equipment is provided by the training facility. The clinical facilities require proof of medical insurance coverage; therefore, students are required to maintain personal medical insurance while enrolled in practicum courses. Medical insurance is available through the Student Health and Counseling Center. Liability insurance is purchased by the Medical Laboratory Science Department to cover the student’s practicum. The occupational endorsement certificate, AAS and BS degrees are not contingent upon students passing any type of external certification or licensure examination.

The AAS in Medical Laboratory Technology and the BS in Medical Laboratory Science are accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS), 5600 N. River Road, Suite 720, Rosemont, IL 60018-5119, (773) 714-8880. NAACLS is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and by the Council for Higher Education.

Advising

All students are encouraged to meet with their academic advisor each semester for the purpose of reviewing their academic progress and planning future courses. It is particularly important for students to meet with their advisor whenever academic difficulties arise.