

# Northwood Technical College

## FY26 (2025-26) Medical Laboratory Technician Program

The following is additional information about the Northwood Technical College Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) program.

This information supplements the program webpage and district catalog.  
**Degree: Associate in applied science-Medical Laboratory Technician**

### MLT PROGRAM - 64 semester credits

The Medical Laboratory Technician Program includes 40 technical core (513-xxx) and 24 general studies credits. Students may take some or all of the general education courses prior to beginning the MLT (513-xxx) courses. The program can be completed in five semesters of full-time study. Additional options may be available. Semester 1 of the MLT core program has 4 (513-xxx) credits. Semester 2 of the MLT core program has 14 (513-xxx) credits. Semester 4 of the MLT core program has 14 (513-xxx) credits. Semester 5 of the MLT core program has 12 (513-xxx) credits. Note: Semester 3 does not have any MLT core program courses but does have general studies courses.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR	PROGRAM LOCATIONS	CLINICAL EXPERIENCE LOCATIONS
<b>Karla Sampselie, MS, MLS(ASCP)BB, AHI(AMT)</b> MLT Program Director/Instructor Northwood Technical College 1019 S Knowles Ave New Richmond, WI 54017 Email: <a href="mailto:karla.sampselie@northwoodtech.edu">karla.sampselie@northwoodtech.edu</a>	Northwood Tech-New Richmond combination of onsite and online instruction	Northwood Tech district, Wisconsin, and Minnesota

### ACADEMIC ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Due to the limited availability of clinical experience sites, classes are limited to 12 students. You will be admitted to the program based on the date and time the admission criteria are met.

### PART-TIME (PRE-PROGRAM) STATUS

When you successfully complete the admission requirements, you will be invited to begin your course work. The following courses apply to the MLT program and may be completed prior to the core MLT courses (513-xxx) and prior to admission to the program. In planning your approach to these courses, please note that some of them have prerequisites as listed below:

COURSE #	COURSE NAME	CREDITS	PREREQUISITE
806-177	General Anatomy and Physiology	4	Note: Successful completion of a chemistry course within the last five years is highly recommended.
806-197	Microbiology	3	PREREQUISITE: 10806177 General Anatomy and Physiology OR 10806105 Principles of Animal Biology, each preferably within the last five years.
801-136	English Composition 1	3	None
809-198	Introduction to Psychology	3	None
809-172	Introduction to Diversity OR 10-809-166 Introduction to Ethics: Theory & Application	3	None
801-196	Oral/Interpersonal Communication	3	None
806-186	Introduction to Biochemistry	4	COREQUISITE: Complete one year, or one credit, of high school chemistry or one credit of 10806140 Chemistry (college-level chemistry) with a 2.0 or better.

Northwood Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or status in any group protected by state or local law in employment, admissions or its programs or activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the College's nondiscrimination policies: Amanda Gohde, Associate Vice President, Talent and Culture, 1900 College Drive, Rice Lake WI 54868, 715-731-1223, Wisconsin Relay TTY:711, [amanda.gohde@NorthwoodTech.edu](mailto:amanda.gohde@NorthwoodTech.edu).

## **SEE WHAT THE MLT PROGRAM IS ALL ABOUT**

If you are interested in the MLT program, you may schedule a classroom shadow (observation) of an MLT lab. This observation of the "real" classroom gives you the opportunity to meet an MLT Program Director and current students enrolled in the program. It is recommended that you attend for a minimum of 2 hours. Please contact the Admission Advisor. The Admission Advisor will work with the MLT Program Director and you to schedule this experience.

## **DISTANCE EDUCATION POLICY**

All MLT courses have a Blackboard component requiring the internet to access. You will work collaboratively with other MLT students using Blackboard. Note: All labs will be in person.

## **CLASS COMMITMENT**

The average amount of time spent in the classroom for a full-time student is between 20 and 25 hours per week. In addition to scheduled class time, it is expected that students spend at least two to three hours studying for each hour of classroom lecture they attend. This represents a significant time commitment, and most students find it necessary to reduce work hours during the program.

## **TRANSFER CREDIT**

Official college transcripts must be submitted for any college coursework that has been completed. Official college transcripts must be sealed and sent from the sending institution.

## **ACCREDITATION**

The Medical Laboratory Technician Program is seeking accreditation from the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS). NAACLS is located at 5600 N. River Rd, Suite 720, Rosemont IL 60018-5119; phone: 773-714-8880; website [www.naacls.org](http://www.naacls.org).



## **CERTIFICATION**

Graduates of the program may be able to sit for the Medical Laboratory Technician national certification examination administered by the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP). Graduates must take the certification examination within five years of the graduation date.

After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be a Certified Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>). All states require certification in order to practice; however, some states may also require licensure.

For more information about ASCP Board of Certification Exam including cost visit [www.ascp.org](http://www.ascp.org).

## **BACKGROUND CHECK AND CONVICTION RECORD**

Northwood Technical College students accepted into this program are required to have Caregiver Background and/or Criminal History checks at the state and/or national levels. These checks are run after the student has been admitted into their program and before starting specific coursework or entering clinical agencies. Results from these checks for students admitted to these programs may:

- Prevent enrollment, participation, and/or admission in coursework required for graduation
- Affect ability to secure employment in the field of study upon graduation

The Background Information Disclosure form requires disclosure of all pending criminal charges and convictions. This includes pending charges, as well as conviction of a felony, misdemeanor, or municipal ordinance violation in any court, including all military courts, or a tribal court.

If a student is uncertain as to whether a pending charge or conviction is covered, they should disclose it. Convictions are reviewed on an individual basis with respect to impact upon admission to the program and will not necessarily prevent a student from entering and participating in the program. However, failure to disclose a charge or conviction will prevent program admission or result in dismissal from the program.

Fees for these background checks are the student's responsibility. Costs can be found on Northwood Tech's website at: [Tuition and Fees | Northwood Technical College](#)

#### [Wisconsin Caregiver Program offenses affecting caregiver eligibility](#)

Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) students are required to complete clinical rotations during the last semester of the program. Wisconsin Caregiver background checks will be run on students at the start of the MLT program. A national criminal background check will also be run if the clinical facility requires it. The Program Director will continue to attempt placement for an MLT student with results other than "NO RECORD FOUND" until the Program Director receives three negative responses from three different potential clinical agencies. Once three different potential clinical agencies have declined a MLT student based on the results of their background check, the Program Director will cease to pursue placement for the student. It is the prerogative of the clinical facility to refuse to allow students to complete clinical rotations at their facility based on background check information. Inability to complete MLT clinical rotations based on background check findings may result in dismissal from the program since course competencies could not be met.

### **MLT HEALTH FORM**

Prior to the start of the first (Fall) semester of core (513-xxx) courses, you must complete the Northwood Tech Health Sciences Health Form including immunizations, medical history, and physical. BLS Basic Life Support is required prior to the start of fifth semester. Forms and directions are located on the [MLT program web page](#). More information is discussed at MLT Orientation.

### **MLT ORIENTATION**

The Program Director and MLT faculty provide a mandatory orientation before Fall courses begin. This is required for students enrolling in core (513-xxx) courses for Fall semester. The orientation provides an overview of the MLT program at Northwood Tech including policies and strategies for success. The program and clinical experiences are discussed.

### **GRADUATE SALARY EXPECTATIONS**

Current graduates starting salary is \$56,000 and up.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID**

Full-time students are eligible for financial aid. Scholarships are available.

## **FACTS ABOUT MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS**

### **WHAT DO MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS DO?**

Certified Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLT) will be able to perform routine clinical laboratory tests (such as hematology, clinical chemistry, immunohematology, microbiology, serology/immunology, coagulation, molecular, and other emerging diagnostics) as the primary analyst making specimen-oriented decisions on predetermined criteria, including a working knowledge of critical values. Communications skills will extend to frequent interactions with members of the healthcare team, external relations, customer service and patient education. The level of analysis ranges from waived and point of care testing to complex testing encompassing all major areas of the medical laboratory. The medical laboratory technician will have diverse functions in areas of preanalytical, analytical, and post-analytical processes. The medical laboratory technician will have responsibilities for information processing, training, and quality control monitoring wherever medical laboratory testing is performed.

### **WHERE DO MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS WORK?**

MLTs work in healthcare settings such as hospitals, medical and diagnostic laboratories, and doctor's offices. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2022) the projected percent change in employment for MLTs for 2022-2032 is 5% or much faster than average.

### **WHAT ATTRIBUTES WOULD ASSIST ME IN BEING A SUCCESSFUL MLT?**

MLTs need to be flexible, personable, creative, and ethical in order to provide quality patient care. MLTs need to accept supervision and work closely with other laboratory professionals. A Medical Laboratory Technician will need to think quickly, problem solve situations, make decisions regarding patient care, and deal with stressful daily situations. Other important attributes include effective communication skills, the ability to work independently and on a team, manage time efficiently, comprehension skills, critical thinking and analysis skills.

### **HOW DO I BECOME A CERTIFIED MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN?**

To become certified, Medical Laboratory Technicians must graduate from an accredited educational program, receive an associate degree, and pass the certification exam. Following graduation, students take a national certification exam administered by the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP). The student must pay a fee and register to take the exam. The student must receive a passing score to be eligible for employment as a MLT. All states require certification, some require state licensure. Graduates may gain employment while going through the certification and licensure process.

### **WHAT IS UNIQUE ABOUT MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN PROGRAMS?**

All programs require that students complete clinical experience in a health care setting. This is required prior to graduation. Students are assigned to a hospital or clinic laboratory where they work full-time, without pay, applying the skills and knowledge they have acquired in the classroom to a practical setting. Students are supervised by a certified Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLS) or a certified Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT). Clinical placements require travel. Clinical locations are within the Northwood Tech district as well as other portions of Wisconsin and Minnesota. Work during clinicals is difficult due to the demand and time constraints. Reliable transportation is required for clinicals.

### **WHAT IS THE EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK LIKE?**

The Department of Labor has predicted that employment for Medical Laboratory Technicians is expected to grow much faster than average through 2032. Current graduates starting salary is \$56,000 and up.

### **HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?**

Contact the Associate Dean of Health Sciences, Brad Baumgartner, at [brad.baumgartner@northwoodtech.edu](mailto:brad.baumgartner@northwoodtech.edu)

**Checklist for Medical Laboratory Technician Admission****Admission Requirements**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Complete Online application
- \_\_\_\_\_ Students who are considering the program must meet one of the following:
- Minimum High School GPA of 2.8
  - ACT Score of 21
  - Minimum College GPA 2.2 (min 3 cr)
  - Associate or bachelor's degree
  - Accuplacer scores
- Additional measures may be considered as determined by the counselor.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have earned a high school diploma or GED certificate. Current high school seniors must provide both a current high school transcript and a final (official) transcript with confer date.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Review and sign Background Check Disclosure
- \_\_\_\_\_ Review and understand the Technical Standards for this program
- \_\_\_\_\_ Complete one year, or one credit, of high school chemistry or one credit of college-level chemistry with a 2.0 or better.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Complete Admissions meeting with a Northwood Tech counselor (academic admission requirements apply)

**Program-Specific Requirements**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Submit Background Check fee to Student Services as designated on cover page.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have acceptable results on the Wisconsin Caregiver Background Check, National Criminal Background Check, Minnesota Caregiver Background Check (if applicable), and other states, if applicable (required at program start and may be required prior to clinical experience).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pass a physical exam, have current immunizations, and demonstrate negative status for Tuberculosis (TB). Decision not to receive vaccinations may limit ability to obtain clinical placement based upon meeting site placement requirements.
- \_\_\_\_\_ COVID-19 vaccination---highly recommended NOTE: Northwood Technical College cannot guarantee clinical placement or ability to progress in the program if a student is not able to meet the clinical site requirements including but not limited to; influenza vaccine, COVID-19 vaccine, negative TB skin test or QuantiFERON®-TB Gold In-Tube test (QFT-GIT) or T-SPOT®.TB test (T-Spot), up to date acceptable background check, or any other clinical requirements required by the clinical site. Northwood Technical College cannot guarantee clinical placement if the clinical site must be changed due to a student's inability to meet the site-specific requirements. Many sites require the student information 4-6 weeks prior to the clinical start date.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Possess current certification of "BLS Basic Life Support" (Required prior to entering Clinical Experience 1)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Review and sign Health Sciences Confidentiality Statement.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Participate in a mandatory Medical Laboratory Technician Program orientation.

FY26 (2025-26)

**MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN PROGRAM**

Prices listed are approximate costs and subject to change

TEXTBOOKS (MLT occupational specific courses)	\$1,821.00
BACKGROUND CHECKS (required): \$68.00	
National Criminal Background Check	\$68.00
ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: TBD	
Uniforms	\$30.00
PROGRAM/COURSE PREREQUISITES	
47-531-437 BLS Basic Life Support	\$74.48
FIRST TERM - TUITION/FEEES: \$2,581.90	
10-513-110 Basic Lab Skills	\$223.10
10-513-111 Phlebotomy	\$408.40
10-513-113 QA Lab Math	\$164.20
10-806-177 General Anatomy & Physiology	\$651.80
10-806-186 Intro to Biochemistry	\$651.80
10-801-136 English Composition 1	\$482.60
SECOND TERM - TUITION/FEEES: \$2,693.80	
10-513-114 Urinalysis	\$408.40
10-513-116 Clinical Chemistry	\$816.80
10-513-120 Basic Hematology	\$612.60
10-513-121 Coagulation	\$204.20
10-806-197 Microbiology	\$651.80
THIRD TERM - TUITION/FEEES: \$1,447.80	
10-801-196 Oral/Interpersonal Communication	\$482.60
10-809-198 Introduction to Psychology	\$482.60
10-809-172 Introduction to Diversity Studies	\$482.60
FOURTH TERM - TUITION/FEEES: \$2,773.80	
10-513-109 Blood Bank	\$816.80
10-513-115 Basic Immunology Concepts	\$408.40
10-513-130 Advanced Hematology	\$408.40
10-513-133 Clinical Microbiology	\$816.80
10-513-170 Introduction to Molecular Diagnostics	\$323.40
FIFTH TERM - TUITION/FEEES: \$2,195.40	
10-513-140 Advanced Microbiology	\$323.40
10-513-141 Pre-Clinical Experience	\$408.40
10-513-151 Clinical Experience 1	\$482.60
10-513-152 Clinical Experience 2	\$816.80
10-513-160 MLT Seminar	\$164.20
ASCP Certification Exam	\$225.00
WI Caregiver Background Check	\$15.00

**APPROXIMATE PROGRAM TOTAL**

**\$13,926.18**

Transportation costs to and from clinical agencies will vary

Computer, other required hardware, or upgrade costs will be discussed on an individual basis.

Students are responsible for additional clinical agency requirements.

Students are responsible for health form costs (TB test, Immunizations, titers, exam, etc.)