

NORTHWOOD TECHNICAL COLLEGE
MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN
STUDENT POLICIES

PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

This program prepares students to be entry level Medical Laboratory Technicians. At career entry, the medical laboratory technician will be able to collect, process, and analyze blood and body fluids by performing routine clinical laboratory tests in the areas of hematology, clinical chemistry, immunology, immunohematology, microbiology, and urinalysis. Medical laboratory technicians are highly specialized healthcare professionals that use state-of-the-art equipment to provide laboratory test results to physicians that aid in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease. As an essential member of the healthcare team, Medical Laboratory Technicians work collaboratively with other healthcare professionals in hospitals, clinics, physician offices, and research laboratories.

Each year, a maximum of 12 students are admitted into the program in the Fall semester. The Medical Laboratory Technician Associate Degree program is two (2) years in length and can be completed in five semesters (terms) of full-time study. The program consists of 68 credits of course work, including 40 technical core MLT courses and 24 general studies courses.

The student spends five semesters at the Medical Laboratory Education Center (MLEC) and New Richmond campus taking general education and MLT core courses. The fifth semester also includes a Clinical Experience that takes place at one of the program's clinical affiliates. MLT core courses encompass all areas of the laboratory including phlebotomy, hematology/coagulation, urinalysis, microbiology, immunology, blood bank, and chemistry. Core courses consist of a lecture portion, either in-person or virtual, covering theory of test methodology and disease process and an in-person laboratory component. The laboratory component is taught in the student labs at the MLEC with up-to-date equipment and supplies which allow students to practice basic skills and perform test procedures in preparation for clinical experience in the fifth semester.

Each student is assigned to a clinical affiliate's laboratory for a 10-week Clinical Experience (Clin Exp 1 and Clin Exp 2). The clinical experience will consist of a simulated microbiology rotation at the MLEC with remaining rotations at the assigned clinical site. Beginning Spring 2027, students will complete a simulated microbiology and blood bank rotation at the MLEC with the remaining rotations at the clinical site. Students will spend 32 hours per week, unpaid, in their clinical rotations. Students may be assigned to one facility for the entire Experience or to several facilities to complete their rotation requirements.

Student/Instructor ratios for MLT core courses are listed below:

Student Setting	Student/Instructor Ratio
Lecture	12:1
Student Laboratory (MLEC)	12:1
Clinical Site Lab during Clinical Experience	1:1

Graduates of the MLT program will be qualified to take the Board of Certification (BOC) examination from the American Society for Clinical Pathology. Most Medical Laboratory Technicians work in hospital or clinic labs. Some may choose to work for veterinary, industrial, or environmental labs, insurance companies, research facilities, medical diagnostics companies, or in public health.

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The MLT Program is supported by the following faculty and staff:

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Student Services Staff:

Contact information for Student Services Staff including admissions advisors, counselors, financial aid advisors, library staff, academic support center staff, and the College health nurse can be found on-line at [New Richmond Campus Services](#) or on page 6 of the [Student Handbook](#).