

NORTHWOOD TECHNICAL COLLEGE
MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN
STUDENT POLICIES

RESPONSIBILITY FOR LABORATORY TESTING AT CLINICAL AFFILIATES

During Clinical Experience and/or any learning experience that is occurring off campus at a clinical affiliate, students will have the status of learner and will not replace laboratory staff nor give service apart from its educational value.

After demonstrating competency, students may perform tests on actual clinical specimens. However, the student's work must be supervised by the laboratory staff, either through direct supervision or review of test results. The amount of supervision will vary by procedure and comfort level of the supervising laboratory personnel and student. **All responsibility for test results and reporting must be assumed by the clinical staff.**

A clinical affiliate may choose to hire or have previously hired a student to work as a phlebotomist or a lab assistant outside of their scheduled educational periods. The student will be paid and treated as an employee during those hours. Students are not required to seek employment and provide service at their clinical site.

Students who are receiving stipends or scholarships toward their education from a clinical affiliate are not considered employees of the affiliate unless they have gone through a formal hiring process. Regardless of employment status, students receiving stipends or scholarships will have the status of learner and will not have the responsibility of direct patient and/or reportable work during scheduled educational periods.

If a student is being asked to perform as an employee and provide service that is above the status of learner during scheduled educational periods, the student should discuss the situation with the Program Director.

Adherence to this policy will be verified during clinical site visits and through discussion with the student and clinical affiliate preceptors. Failure to adhere to the policy may result in disciplinary action for the student and loss of a clinical site due to violation of the affiliation agreement between Northwood Technical College and the clinical affiliate.