

Commonly Asked Questions

1. What is "medical technology?"

A diagnostic science that involves the performance of laboratory procedures in hematology, urinalysis, blood banking, immunology, chemistry, toxicology, microbiology, virology and parasitology.

2. What does a medical technologist do?

Medical technologists aid in the diagnosis and treatment of disease by performing complex analyses requiring the exercise of independent judgment, correlation of test results and interpretation of findings with respect to normal values. Medical technologists are expected to assume responsibility and accountability for precise and accurate results.

3. What specialty areas are available in medical technology?

Hematology/Hemostasis includes quantitation and classification of normal and abnormal blood cells and monitoring of blood coagulation.

Chemistry includes chemical analysis of blood and other body fluids and drug therapy monitoring.

Microbiology includes the isolation, identification, and measurement of antimicrobial susceptibility of pathogenic bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites.

Blood Bank involves blood typing, compatibility testing and antibody identification.

4. What is the difference between a "technician" and a "technologist?"

While both technicians and technologists have working knowledge of technical and procedural aspects of laboratory tests, the technologist also has an understanding of the underlying scientific principles of the tests as well as the theoretical knowledge to evaluate and implement new test methodologies and quality control programs. Since the technologists' training includes basic management and educational theories and skills, they are also capable of assuming administrative, supervisory and teaching responsibilities.

5. How can one become a registry eligible medical technologist?

Baccalaureate Candidate:

3 + 1 Option: 3 years of college + 1 year med tech program

Post-Baccalaureate Candidate:

4 + 1 Option: 4 years of college + 1 year med tech program

6. What is the required admission GPA?

2.5 Overall GPA; 2.5 Biology/Chemistry GPA

7. What is required for national certification as a medical technologist?

Successful completion of the Saint Francis Hospital School of Medical Technology internship and fulfillment of university requirements for graduation

8. Who gives the national certification exams?

American Society of Clinical Pathologists, Board of Registry (ASCP)
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science, National Certification Agency (NCA)

9. What job opportunities are available for medical technologists?

Numerous opportunities exist in a variety of settings including hospital, private and research laboratories, clinics, doctor's offices, and private industry.

10. Whom do I contact for more information?

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