



**School of Health Sciences  
Medical Laboratory Technician Program**

**INFORMATION MANUAL**



Revised May 2023  
MLT Faculty/LLN

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### Madison Area Technical College Medical Laboratory Technician Program

#### Student Handbook Overview Statement

The Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) Information Manual is intended to provide students enrolled and potential student in the MLT Program with basic information and policies used in the classroom, laboratories, and clinical setting. Please read the MLT Information Manual carefully and ask your instructor or Program Director for clarification on any policies or procedures that are unclear. The Medical Laboratory Technician Program reserves the right to make, alter, or change any statement or policy without prior notice. Students will receive revisions as they occur.

The Madison college website and Student Handbook contain additional information on all services available at Madison Area Technical College and should be used by students to obtain full knowledge of all Madison College policies and procedures. ([www.madisoncollege.edu](http://www.madisoncollege.edu)) The college reserves the right to alter or change any statement or policy without prior notice. Students will receive revisions as they occur.

**All enrolled students must read the entire MLT Information Manual, fill out the study guide, and sign the acknowledgment form and turn it in to their instructor.**

# MADISON AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN PROGRAM

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## Program Requirements Checklist

### **Castlebranch Requirements:**

CASTLEBRANCH – Do not purchase this until the semester before your Clinical Experience. You can start to gather the following at any time.

- Measles: proof of 2 doses or a positive titer
- Mumps: proof of 2 doses or a positive titer
- Rubella: proof of 2 doses or a positive titer
- Varicella: proof of 2 doses or a positive titer, history not acceptable
- Hepatitis B (at least first 2 of 3 shots BEFORE Clinical starts)
- TB Skin Test
  - History of 2 step test AND
  - TB skin test within 1 year (can be the 2 step)
- TDAP current
  - (P= Pertussis booster; T= Tetanus & is allowed every 10 years)
- CPR “Healthcare Provider” certification (Basic Life Support)
  - (American Heart Association OR Red Cross) (good for only 2 years)
- Covid Vaccine and boosters
- Proof of Health Insurance/College Insurance Plan
- Influenza vaccine (current season): may not apply to summer students

### **Scrubs:**

- All students are required to purchase scrubs
  - (MLT Students - black bottom, solid red top) and wear them to all labs and clinicals

### **Name Badge:**

- All students must order a name badge and wear during clinicals
  - <https://madisoncollege.edu/health-education-policies>

### **Paperwork:** *(will be handed out during the first class meet)*

- Blood Collection Consent Form
- Specimen Donor Eligibility Form
- Student Information Form
- Signature Form
- Confidentiality Policy Form
- Authorization to release Data Form

### **Other:**

- Textbooks
- Program Information Manual Study Guide

# OVERVIEW OF THE MLT PROGRAM

## Accreditation

Madison College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). The HLC is a commission member of the North Central Association (NCA), which was founded in 1895. It's one of six regional higher education accreditation bodies in the U.S.

Higher Learning Commission 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, Illinois 60604-1411 Phone: 800.621.7440 / 312.263.0456 | Fax: 312.263.7462 | [info@hlcommission.org](mailto:info@hlcommission.org)

The Medical Laboratory Technician program is fully accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (5600 N. River Road, Suite 720, Rosemont, IL, 60018; 773-714-8880). The first class started in 1974 and graduated in 1976. Graduates of the MLT program are eligible to take the American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP) Board of Certification MLT Examination. They may also be eligible for the certification examinations of other national agencies if they fulfill the degree requirements and/or work experience requirements of those agencies. Graduation from the program is not contingent upon passing any type of external certification exam.

## Medical Laboratory Profession

The health of all Americans depends upon the educated minds and trained hands of the Medical Laboratory Professionals. The practice of modern medicine at the standards currently required would be impossible without the scientific testing performed daily in the medical laboratory. Maintenance of these standards and progress toward improvement in the quality of laboratory services depends on the dedicated efforts of professional practitioners of medical laboratory science. Through their dedication, the medical laboratory professionals of the United States make a vital contribution to the quality of health care.

The Medical Laboratory Technician is qualified by academic and applied science education to provide service in clinical laboratory science and related areas in rapidly changing and dynamic healthcare delivery systems. Medical laboratory technicians perform, evaluate, correlate, and assure accuracy and validity of laboratory information; direct and supervise clinical laboratory resources and operations; and collaborate in the diagnosis and treatment of patients. The medical laboratory technician has diverse and multi-level functions in the areas of collecting, processing, and analyzing biological specimens and other substances, principles, and methodologies, performance of assays, problem solving, troubleshooting techniques, significance of clinical procedures and results, principles and practices of quality assessment, for all major areas practiced in the contemporary clinical laboratory.

Medical Laboratory Technicians practice independently and collaboratively, being responsible for their own actions, as defined by the profession. They have the requisite knowledge and skills to educate laboratory professionals, health care professionals, and others in laboratory practice as well as the public.

The ability to relate to people, a capacity for calm and reasoned judgement and a demonstration of commitment to the patient are essential qualities. Communication skills extend to consultative interactions with members of the healthcare team, external relations, customer service and patient education. Laboratory professionals demonstrate ethical and moral attitudes and principles that are necessary for gaining and maintaining the confidence of patients, professional associates, and the community.

## Program Outcomes

Throughout the MLT program, students acquire various skills that prepare them for entry-level MLT positions. A student who graduates from the program will be able to:

1. Collect, process and preserve blood and other body fluid samples.
2. Perform and report laboratory tests in a variety of laboratory settings.
3. Operate laboratory equipment and instruments, perform preventive and corrective maintenance as required.
4. Identify pre-analytical, analytical, and post-analytical variables that affect procedures, instruments and results, and take appropriate corrective action.
5. Perform mathematical functions as required by laboratory procedures.
6. Perform and monitor quality assurance and quality control techniques.
7. Practice laboratory safety and regulatory compliance.
8. Perform information processing functions in the Medical Laboratory.
9. Apply laboratory results to diagnosis and treatment of clinical conditions and/or diseases.
10. Communicate with colleagues and patients in a professional manner.
11. Model professional behaviors, ethics, and appearance.
12. Work effectively as a team member recognizing the comprehensive impact this has on health care.

## Essential Functions

During the course of the Medical Laboratory Technician Program, students must demonstrate, with or without appropriate and reasonable modifications to policies and practices, the ability to perform the functions listed below safely, reliably and efficiently. If you believe you may need any accommodation to demonstrate these functions, please contact the Disabilities Resource Center Services (DRS) at Madison College (608-246-6716) or email [drs@madisoncollege.edu](mailto:drs@madisoncollege.edu). More information on DRS follows under Request for Reasonable Accommodation in this manual.

### Essential Functions for the Medical Laboratory Technician Profession

STANDARD	SOME EXAMPLES OF NECESSARY ACTIVITIES (This list is not all inclusive.)
Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment and professional behavior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify cause-effect relationships in laboratory situations</li> <li>• Solve problems</li> <li>• Consider consequences of solutions</li> <li>• Make and defend sound judgments</li> <li>• Establish priorities</li> <li>• Distinguish significant from insignificant</li> <li>• Note relationships and patterns</li> <li>• Evaluate outcomes</li> <li>• Organize workload and manage time in order to complete technical tasks within realistic time limits</li> </ul>

<p>Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with others from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support peers and health care professionals in order to promote a team approach to learning, task completion, problem solving and patient care</li> <li>• Be honest and forthright about errors</li> <li>• Critically evaluate performance, accept constructive criticism, and be responsible for improving performance</li> <li>• Be compassionate and ethical</li> </ul>
<p>Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read and comprehend technical and professional materials (textbooks, journal articles, handbooks, technical inserts, and procedure manuals)</li> <li>• Follow instructions in order to correctly perform laboratory test procedures</li> <li>• Communicate concisely, effectively and courteously with patients regarding test orders and specimen collection instructions</li> <li>• Communicate effectively with instructors, peers, laboratory staff and other health care professionals</li> <li>• Maintain clear, concise and accurate laboratory records and reports</li> </ul>
<p>Physical abilities sufficient to maneuver as required to perform laboratory procedures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move freely and safely about the laboratory</li> <li>• Perform moderately taxing continuous physical work, often requiring prolonged sitting or standing</li> <li>• Reach laboratory bench tops and shelves, patients lying in hospital beds or patients seated in blood collection furniture</li> </ul>
<p>Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to work safely and effectively in a laboratory</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maneuver phlebotomy and culture equipment to collect laboratory specimens from patients without endangering patient safety</li> <li>• Control laboratory equipment (pipettes, inoculating loops, test tubes, etc.) and adjust instruments to perform laboratory procedures</li> <li>• Use electronic keyboard to operate laboratory instruments and calculate, record, evaluate and transmit data</li> </ul>
<p>Visual ability sufficient to observe and perform laboratory procedures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observe laboratory demonstrations of specimens, techniques, and instruments</li> <li>• Differentiate the color, consistency and clarity of biological specimens and reagents</li> <li>• Distinguish detail in minimal contrast mediums</li> <li>• Read and comprehend text, numbers, and graphs displayed in print or on a digital/video monitor</li> </ul>
<p>Ability to work in a high stress environment, respond to emergencies and maintain emotional control</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calmly react to urgent situations</li> <li>• Recognize own stress level and communicate need for assistance appropriately</li> <li>• Set realistic expectations to meet requirements</li> <li>• Perform multiple tasks and establish priorities</li> </ul>



<p>Ability to protect self and others from environmental risks and hazards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow established safety procedures</li> <li>• Utilize appropriate laboratory safety equipment</li> <li>• Perform frequent hand washing</li> <li>• Utilize disinfectants and cleaning agents appropriately</li> <li>• Work safely with potentially biohazardous and unpleasant biological specimens</li> </ul>
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## Castlebranch

All students must complete health and education requirements via the CastleBranch tracking website (castlebranch.com) the semester before their Clinical Experience. All costs associated with the CastleBranch tracking website are **the responsibility of the student**. Students upload their vaccination and health records into this account. The requirements include evidence of measles, mumps and rubella immunity through two immunizations or immune titers, results for a two-step TB skin test, Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis) vaccination at or after age 12, evidence of varicella (chicken pox) immunity through two immunizations or a positive varicella titer, three Hepatitis B vaccinations or an immune titer. Covid Vaccine and boosters. Influenza vaccines must be received annually during the flu season and uploaded to the site before the start of clinicals. All Madison College health occupations students who will be participating in a clinical experience are required by Wisconsin law to undergo a criminal background check through CastleBranch. Students must create an account with CastleBranch to give permission for the background check and for Madison College to release these results and all other submitted information to the clinical sites.

If a student fails to complete these health requirements by the designated due date, the student will not be able to continue to participate in their clinicals.

## Caregiver Background Check

As required by Wisconsin law, any student who has access to patients during a clinical experience must undergo a Caregiver Background Check (CBC). A completed background check as prescribed under Wisconsin's law includes: 1) completed self-disclosure Background Information Disclosure (BID) form; 2) electronic status check of professional licenses and credentials through the Department of Regulation and Licensing; 3) electronic criminal history search from the Wisconsin Department of Justice; and 4) electronic review of records kept by the Department of Health and Family Services for any substantiated findings of abuse or neglect and license restrictions or denials.

Criminal history information discovered by this process may delay or prevent a student from participating in the clinical experiences required for graduation from the program. Further information about this law and the criminal history check process may be obtained from the *Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services* at <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/> (see the *Regulation and Licensing* section). If you have something in your record that could impact your ability to complete clinicals, please reach out to the program director asap.

**Castlebranch.com** is an online service that performs the background checks and reviews health histories for health care students at Madison College. Once students sign up with Castlebranch.com, they have a permanent, electronic file, of all documents for future use. Students go through Castlebranch.com to be directed to set up their *CastleBranch* account.

## CPR

Evidence of completing CPR, American Red Cross Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers or American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers, must be on file with CastleBranch. CPR courses are available at Madison College, many local hospitals, and the Red

Cross. Submit a scanned copy of your CPR certificate with expiration date (Both sides of the certificate are required).

## **MLT PROGRAM CURRICULUM**

### **Program Goals**

Goals have been established to guide program instructors when designing curriculum, determining course content, and choosing teaching and evaluation methods. The MLT program goals are as follows:

1. Prepare technically competent students who are capable of working accurately and efficiently in a variety of laboratory settings.
2. Provide opportunities for students to develop problem solving and critical thinking skills.
3. Assist students in developing appropriate personal, social and professional work ethics.
4. Assist students in making appropriate academic choices, optimizing professional growth, and career laddering.
5. Provide opportunities for students to develop healthy interpersonal relationships and strong communication skills.
6. Individualize and personalize instruction as much as possible to meet the educational needs of a varied and diverse student population.
7. Assist students in developing self-assessment skills and setting goals for educational, personal and professional development.

### **Minimum Admission Requirements for MLT**

Applicants must:

- Meet general admission requirements for Madison College
- Be a high school graduate or have a satisfactory GED score
- Have acceptable scores on ACT or placement testing as listed on the website <https://madisoncollege.edu/program/medical-laboratory-technician>

### **MLT Program Course Descriptions**

#### **BASIC LABORATORY SKILLS (10-513-110)**

Explores health career options and fundamental principles and procedures of the Medical Laboratory. Incorporates medical terminology, basic laboratory equipment, safety and infection control procedures, and simple laboratory tests.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of the following high school courses with a grade of C or better: three years of English, one year of chemistry, one year of general biology, two years of algebra or one year algebra and one year of geometry; and a satisfactory score on the TEAS test or equivalent substitute.

#### **PHLEBOTOMY (10-513-111)**

Provides opportunities to perform routine venipuncture, capillary puncture, and special collection procedures. Prerequisite: 10-513-110

#### **LAB QA/MATH (10-513-113)**

Focuses on mathematical calculations used in the laboratory. Explores concepts of quality control and quality assurance, regulatory compliance requirements, and certification and continuing education programs.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of the following high school courses with a grade of C or better: three years of English, one year of chemistry, one year of general biology, two years of algebra or one year algebra and one year of geometry; and a satisfactory score on the COMPASS test or equivalent substitute.

### **BASIC IMMUNOLOGY CONCEPTS (10-513-115)**

Provides an overview of the immune system including testing methods for diagnosis of immune system disorders and viral and bacterial infections.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of the following high school courses with a grade of C or better: three years of English, one year of chemistry, one year of general biology, two years of algebra or one year algebra and one year of geometry; and a satisfactory score on the TEAS test or equivalent substitute.

### **URINALYSIS (10-513-114)**

Perform physical, chemical and microscopic analysis of urine. Explores renal physiology and correlates urinalysis results with clinical conditions.

Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of Basic Lab Skills

### **BASIC HEMATOLOGY (10-513-120)**

Covers theory and principles of blood cell production and function. Introduces basic practices and procedures in the hematology laboratory.

Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all first semester, first year Medical Laboratory Technician courses.

### **COAGULATION (10-513-121)**

Introduces theory and principles of coagulation and explores mechanisms involved in coagulation disorders. Emphasis is placed on laboratory techniques used to diagnose disease and monitor treatment. Prerequisite: 10-513-120

### **BLOOD BANK (10-513-109)**

Begins with basic blood banking concepts and procedures including blood typing, antibody screening and compatibility testing, and then continues covering more advanced blood banking concepts and procedures. These include antibody identification workups, follow-up procedures for adverse transfusion reactions and transfusion disease states.

Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all first semester, first year Medical Laboratory Technician courses.

### **ADVANCED HEMATOLOGY (10-513-130)**

Explores mechanisms involved in the development of hematologic disorders. Emphasis is placed on laboratory techniques used to diagnose disorders and monitor treatment.

Prerequisite: 10-513-120.

### **CLINICAL CHEMISTRY (10-513-116)**

Introduces techniques and procedures for routine analysis using photometric, potentiometric and separation techniques. Covers pathophysiology and methodologies for carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, renal function, blood gas analysis. liver, bone, cardiac markers, tumor markers, endocrine function, fetal function, miscellaneous body fluids, and toxicology. Includes techniques and procedures for analysis using sophisticated laboratory instrumentation.

Prerequisites: satisfactory completion of all second semester, first year Medical Laboratory Technician courses and 20-806-201.

### **CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY (513-133)**

Presents the clinical importance of infectious diseases with emphasis on the appropriate collection, handling, and identification of clinically relevant bacteria. Disease states, modes of transmission and methods of prevention and control, including antibiotic susceptibility testing, will be discussed.

Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all second semester, first year Medical Laboratory Technician courses and 20-806-273.

### **ADVANCED MICROBIOLOGY (513-140)**

Provides an overview of acid-fast organisms, fungi, parasites, and anaerobic bacteria. The organisms, their pathophysiology, epidemiology, the diseases and conditions that they cause, laboratory methods of handling, culturing and identification will be performed or discussed.

Prerequisite: 10-513-133.

### **INTRODUCTION TO MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS (513-170)**

Gives students background knowledge in DNA and RNA structure and functioning including nuclear packaging, transcription, translation and modifications. We will also cover basic genetic inheritance. Specific methods we will perform or discuss will include nucleic acid isolation and detection, target amplification and sequencing of target genes. We will also address the use of molecular methods to identify microorganisms, classify neoplasms and characterize MCH loci.

Prerequisites: Satisfactory Completion of all Second Semester MLT Courses.

### **PRE-CLINICAL EXPERIENCE (513-141)**

Provides opportunities to review and practice the principles and procedures of laboratory medicine in the MLT laboratory on campus. Clinical content is reviewed and students run a mock clinical laboratory from specimen collection and acquisition to result reporting. Resume writing and interviewing techniques also are discussed.

Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all Medical Laboratory Technician program courses.

### **CLINICAL EXPERIENCE I (513-151)**

Provides opportunities to practice the principles and procedures of laboratory medicine on-site, in a clinical laboratory facility. Students will practice on state of the art instrumentation in the areas of clinical chemistry and hematology, including urinalysis and coagulation.

Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of on-campus Pre-Clinical Experience 10-513-141.

### **CLINICAL EXPERIENCE 2 (513-152)**

Provides opportunities to practice the principles and procedures of laboratory medicine on-site, in a clinical laboratory facility. Students will practice in the areas of blood banking and microbiology, including serology and immunological procedures.

Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of on-campus Pre-Clinical Experience 10-513-141.

### **CAPSTONE (513-153)**

Cumulation of MLT Program. Students will prepare a portfolio of professional experiences, assessments and evaluations, and a resume for employment. Capstone also includes interview skills, diversity workshop, final case study and other skills as determined by faculty.

Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all 3<sup>rd</sup> semester courses and concurrent enrollment in Clinical Experience.

## Program Curriculum Summary

The normal sequence of courses for the MLT program is as follows.

### FIRST YEAR

<b>First Semester</b>		<b>Credits</b>	<b>Hours/Week</b>
10-513-110	Basic Lab Skills (1 <sup>st</sup> 8 week)	1	4
10-513-111	Phlebotomy (2 <sup>nd</sup> 8 week)	2	3
10-513-115	Basic Immune Concepts	2	4
20-806-206	General Anatomy and Physiology*	4	5
20-806-201	General, Organic, and Biological Chemistry*	5	6
20-801-151	Communication Skills 1* OR	3	3
20-801-201	English Composition 1*	(3)	(3)
<b>Semester Total</b>		<b>17</b>	

<b>Second Semester</b>		<b>Credits</b>	<b>Hours/Week</b>
10-513-120	Basic Hematology (1 <sup>st</sup> 8 week)	3	8
10-513-113	Lab Math/QA (1 <sup>st</sup> 8 week)	1	3
10-513-121	Coagulation (2 <sup>nd</sup> 8 week)	1	4
10-513-114	Urinalysis (2 <sup>nd</sup> 8 week)	2	6
10-513-130	Advanced Hematology (2 <sup>nd</sup> 8 week)	2	6
20-806-273	University Microbiology*	5	6
10-801-196	Oral/Interpersonal Communications* OR	3	3
20-801-201	Fundamentals of Speech	(3)	(3)
<b>Semester Total</b>		<b>17</b>	

<b>Summer Session</b>		<b>Credits</b>	<b>Hours/Week</b>
10-809-197	Contemporary American Society* OR	3	3
20-809-203	Introduction to Sociology*	(3)	(3)
10-809-199	Psychology of Human Relations* OR	3	3
20-809-231	Introduction to Psychology*	(3)	(3)
<b>Semester Total</b>		<b>6</b>	

### SECOND YEAR

<b>First Semester</b>		<b>Credits</b>	<b>Hours/Week</b>
10-513-170	Introduction to Molecular Diagnostics	2	3
10-513-109	Blood Bank	4	7
10-513-116	Clinical Chemistry	4	6
10-513-133	Clinical Microbiology	4	7
<b>Semester Total</b>		<b>14</b>	

<b>Second Semester</b>		<b>Credits</b>	<b>Hours/Week</b>
10-513-140	Advanced Microbiology	2	2
10-513-141	Pre-clinical Experience	2	40
10-513-151	Clinical Experience I	3	40
10-513-152	Clinical Experience 2	4	40
10-513-153	Capstone Project	1	3
<b>Semester Total</b>		<b>12</b>	

Students who plan on obtaining a four-year Medical Laboratory Science (Medical Laboratory Science/Medical Technology) degree after completing the two-year Medical Laboratory Technician degree should refer to the MLT program advisor for the suggested course substitutions. The MLT Program Director or designated academic advisor will also provide information pertaining to course requirements and articulation agreements with clinical technology programs. BS science-degreed students who complete the MLT training are certified as MLT(ASCP). With one year generalist work experience and the BS degree, MLT professionals may take the MLS(ASCP) certification via the Route 2 option for the 4-year degree certification.

In order to change the sequence of courses, permission should be obtained from the instructor and program director.

Students should be aware that some courses are prerequisites for other courses. They are:

- *All first semester, first year program courses, including: Basic Lab Skills, Phlebotomy, Basic Immune Concepts for all subsequent program courses.*
- *University Microbiology (806-273) for Clinical Microbiology*
- *Clinical Microbiology for Advanced Microbiology*
- *Basic Hematology for Advanced Hematology*
- *General, Organic and Biological Chemistry (806-201) for Clinical Chemistry Diagnostics*
- *All MLT program courses (except Advanced Microbiology) for Clinical Experience 1*

### **Advanced Standing and Transfer Credit**

Courses taken at another university or college may fulfill some of the requirements for graduation from the program. To have these courses considered for advanced standing, the student must request official transcripts to be sent to the Madison College Admissions Office and submit a form (from the website) to have the courses evaluated for transfer credit. The Dean, MLT program director and transfer credit assessor will review the transcripts and grant credit for all qualifying courses. Consideration for advanced standing does not apply to program (513) courses unless comparable courses have been taken at another MLT program or Medical Laboratory Science program, and the courses are 3 years old or less, or if the student has Medical Laboratory work experience related to both the didactic and clinical portions of a specific course. These situations will be considered on a case by case basis and the student may be required to successfully complete written and practical examinations before advanced standing is granted for program courses. A student who is a practicing phlebotomist can request to test out of the class. A student who has taken the phlebotomy course within one year is also eligible to test out of the class.

Acceptance of transfer students into Madison College's MLT Program is dependent on:

- Space available in the courses being requested
- Evaluation of applicant college transcript and course materials including:
  - Appropriate grades in all course work being considered for transfer
  - Comparable content, semester hours, and clinical experiences in courses being considered for transfer
- Letter documenting good standing from administrator of the transferring program
- Ability to meet all Madison college graduation requirements
- Individual program guidelines.

### **Academic Advising**

Academic advising has proven to be the single most important factor influencing student retention and success. The MLT program has a formalized advising system to ensure that all students will experience the benefits of a consistent and meaningful advising relationship. The mission of this system is to:

- Facilitate the academic and career success of MLT program students
- Foster responsibility in each student for her/his own academic success
- Provide a clear and continuous system of support for all program students
- Act as a bridge between the student and various other Madison College departments and service providers
- Enhance the quality of education at Madison College by helping to ensure that students are correctly placed in classes

Student participation in the academic advising process, including a group meeting at the beginning of the first semester, is strongly encouraged. The responsibilities of the student involved in academic advising are to:

1. Review their Academic Advising Report.
2. Know the name and office location of their faculty advisor.
3. Keep a log of completed course work.
4. Schedule appointments as needed during the academic term and be prepared for the meeting by having pertinent information and materials.
5. Keep scheduled appointments or be sure to reschedule by calling, e-mailing or stopping in the advisor's office.
6. Meet with their advisor at least once per semester (may be via email)
7. Consult with their advisor concerning registration and changes in their approved schedule (i.e., changing sections, adding or dropping classes).
8. Consult with their faculty advisor when having academic difficulty.
9. Become familiar with other campus resources (i.e., Student Development Center, Career Center, Computer Center, Library Center, Student Financial Planning, and Counseling).
10. Set goals and make decisions based on consideration of information, alternatives, and personal values. Follow through on the actions identified during each advising session.
11. Explore the consequences of their choices and accept personal responsibility for them.
12. Establish and use their Madison College email account.
13. Request a different advisor if necessary.

The MLT program director and faculty will participate in academic advising for students in the MLT program. Students will meet formally with a MLT faculty member during the first semester in the program to discuss course selection and progression through the program. During subsequent semesters, the program director or faculty advisor will review student progress and may meet with students again. Students may request an advising session with their advisor or MLT program director at any time. Student requests for changes in academic advisor assignments should be made to the program director.

## **Grade Requirements**

Students must receive at least a “C” in all program courses and supporting science courses.

Program courses include:

- Basic Lab Skills (513-110)
- Phlebotomy (513-111)
- Lab QA/Math (513-113)
- Basic Immunology Concepts (513-115)
- Urinalysis (513-114)
- Basic Hematology (513-120)
- Coagulation (513-121)
- Advanced Hematology (513-130)
- Blood Bank (513-109)
- Clinical Chemistry (513-116)

- Introduction to Molecular Diagnostics (513-170)
- Clinical Microbiology (513-133)
- Advanced Microbiology (513-140)
- Clinical Experiences (513-141, 151, 152)
- Capstone (513-153)

Supporting science courses include:

- General, Organic, and Biological Chemistry (806-201)
- University Microbiology (806-273)
- General Anatomy and Physiology (806-206)

If a student receives less than a “C” in any of the courses listed above, or withdraws from any of these courses, the student must repeat the course, obtaining a C or better grade, in order to continue in the program. The student will be allowed to repeat a course only with the permission of the MLT faculty, and if there is space available in the class. A course may be repeated only once.

In addition, students must maintain an overall “C” average (grade point average of 2.0 or better) for all coursework. If, at any time, a student’s GPA drops below 2.0, he/she will be placed on academic probation. Failure to raise the GPA to above 2.0 during the next semester will result in academic dismissal.

## Grading Policy

Each MLT instructor establishes her own course policies and decides how grades will be determined for the class. All MLT instructors, however, use the same grading scale to issue letter grades. The grading scale is as follows:

A	93 – 100%
AB	89 – 92.99%
B	85 – 88.99%
BC	81 – 84.99%
C	76 – 80.99%
D	71 – 75.99%
F	≤70.99%

## Lab Practical Examination

Lab Practical Exams (testing performance in the laboratory on the bench) must be passed with a grade of 76% or better to ensure that students demonstrate entry level proficiency before moving forward to the clinical rotations for the program. If Lab Practical Exam scores are lower than 76%, the student will receive the grade from that initial Lab Practical and must meet with the instructor to discuss the score and review the student’s standing in the class. Following remediation, the Lab Practical must be retaken to demonstrate sufficient understanding and knowledge of that specific area of expertise within the lab. Failure of the second Lab Practical is failure of the course.

## Grade of incomplete

A student may request a grade of incomplete if unusual circumstances prevent a student from completing the course activities by the end of the semester. The decision to take an incomplete is reached after a discussion with the course instructor. An incomplete grade must be completed by the end of the next semester or the grade automatically becomes an “F.” An incomplete will not be granted after a student has taken the final exam.



## Professional Behavior

Although acquiring academic knowledge and gaining technical skills are very important aspects of the MLT program, developing appropriate professional behavior is equally important. Therefore, students will be expected to exhibit satisfactory behavior in the following areas:

1. Attitude toward learning
2. Quality of work
3. Organization
4. Productivity and initiative
5. Reliability
6. Problem solving abilities
7. Professional ethics and integrity
8. Interpersonal skills
9. Teamwork
10. Laboratory safety
11. General Hygiene

These behaviors and other aspects of professionalism will be introduced to students during the first semester of the program. During the second semester, students will self-assess their professional behaviors and will receive feedback about their self-assessment from their instructors. During the third semester, each student's professional behavior will be evaluated by his/her peers and the MLT program instructors. At this time, any student receiving an unacceptable performance rating in any of the areas defined by the MLT program *Professional Behavior Evaluation* may be denied the opportunity to participate in the fourth semester clinical experience until the deficiencies are corrected. Failure to exhibit desirable professional behavior during the clinical experience may result in disciplinary action and/or dismissal from the clinical agency and/or MLT program.

Any form of dishonesty, such as cheating or plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to Madison College is considered a breach of the Madison College student code of conduct and may result in suspension, dismissal or legal action, depending on the severity of the offense (see [www.madisoncollege.edu](http://www.madisoncollege.edu); *Resources for Current Students – Rights and Responsibilities*).

The MLT Program has instituted a Corrective Action Policy. If we continually see infractions (safety, professional behavior, essential function, etc) by any student a **Corrective Action Report** will be filled out. This form consists of a description of situation, remediation already taken, a plan for the future and a spot for notes from the student. If the student gets a second Corrective Action Report the student will be put on probation and a 3<sup>rd</sup> will result in dismissal from the program.

## MLT Clinical Portfolio

As a student progresses through the MLT program, he/she will be required to maintain a portfolio to provide documentation of his/her professional growth. This clinical portfolio is completed during the fourth semester clinical experience. The portfolio will include the following sections and information.

### **Section I: Resume and References**

Students should complete their resumes during the fourth semester of the program and include a copy of it in their portfolios. They should also include a cover letter/letter of interest and a list of 3 professional references.

### **Section II: Transcripts**

This section is for your previous transcripts and to place your Madison College Transcripts when your program is complete.

### **Section III: Certifications**

This section is completed following graduation. A copy of the Board of Certification,

MLT (ASCP), with certification number and a log for listing continuing education should be included along with a copy of your college transcript. This is also a place for your CPR card.

#### **Section IV: Continuing Education**

This section includes a complete listing of the service and continuing education activities in which a student participated during each semester of the program in addition to listing organizations to which a student belongs.

#### **Section V: Organizations**

This section is for your receipts and membership cards or all professional organizations you join. At a minimum you should have your ASCP membership.

#### **Section VI: Projects and Evaluations**

The following assessments and evaluations are to be included in the portfolio.

- First semester: Phlebotomy clinical rotation student evaluation
- First semester: Urinalysis rotation student evaluation
- Second semester: Professional Behavior Self-Assessment
- Third semester: Professional Behavior Peer and Instructor Evaluation
- Fourth semester: Composite Professional Behavior Evaluation

Throughout the program, students are involved in numerous projects such as poster sessions, case studies, and oral presentations. The portfolio should include an example of the student's choosing of one project that was completed during each of the first three semesters. A copy of the student's case study completed during the fourth semester clinical externship is included here.

#### **Section VII: Awards and Distinctions**

This section is where you place any awards that you receive in school, out of school or at work.

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

Attendance is critical to MLT program courses to assure that each student acquires the skills and knowledge necessary to successfully participate in the clinical experience. Therefore, MLT instructors closely monitor attendance. Each instructor will explain his or her specific course attendance policy on the first day of class and/or on the course's Blackboard site.

A student is required to contact the instructor prior to an absence. Failure to do so will result in the student being denied the opportunity to make up missed work. The instructor has the option to excuse the absence or to record the absence as unexcused, depending on both the circumstances involved and the instructor's attendance policy. ***The student is responsible for all information and activities presented in lecture or lab during his or her absence.*** If additional help is needed from the instructor outside of class time to cover material missed during an absence, the student must schedule an appointment with the instructor within 24 hours of his/her return to class. Due to the nature of some laboratory assignments (e.g., specimens or test kits not readily available), makeup is at the discretion of the instructor. A suitable alternative learning experience may be substituted for the original laboratory assignment to allow the student to achieve the required competencies.

Personal vacations resulting in missed in-person lab time are not eligible for lab makeup. Students must schedule vacation time during planned off time from the program such as Winter Break and Spring Break. Exceptions will only be made for significant events.

According to Madison College policy:

- Students who will not be in attendance for their first class meetings must inform School of Health Sciences office in writing. Failure to comply may jeopardize continued enrollment.
- If the student is absent from class (lab and lecture) more than 25% of the time or misses 16 consecutive calendar days (not class meetings), the instructor will advise the student on their class standing and how they might successfully complete the course. An instructor cannot withdraw a student from a class. Students may choose to complete the appropriate paperwork for a withdrawal until 90% of the course is complete.

- Missing a final examination without notifying the instructor and without having a satisfactory excuse will result in an automatic “F” on the examination.

In the event of an absence in excess of three consecutive class periods, the student will be required to present a doctor's excuse at the time he/she returns to class. The student also will be required to meet with the course instructor and/or the program director to discuss whether it is possible to make up the work that was missed, or if the extended absence necessitates the student's withdrawal from the course.

Students also are expected to arrive on time and remain for the full class period. Students should not leave class until the instructor excuses them. If a student arrives late to a laboratory section, he/she may be dismissed from that particular lab, especially if directions have already been given. In this event, the student will be required to make up the lab at another time, and will not be allowed to continue in lab until the missed work is made up. **Three (3) tardies is considered excessive and will result in a Corrective Action Report being filed.**

### **Progressing through the MLT Program**

As outlined on the program webpage, the MLT program of study is normally scheduled for four semesters plus one summer session. Students who are entering the program with no advanced standing or students who have outside commitments, such as a job or family, may find this four-semester plan very intense. Therefore, students are given the option of extending the program of study over five or six semesters with the permission of the program director. Students who extend the program of study beyond six semesters will be required to audit program (513) courses prior to being allowed to participate in the clinical experience.

When extending the program of study beyond four semesters the student will take the non-MLT program courses (any course listed in the program curriculum summary that does not begin with 513) before beginning the MLT program courses. This would allow for a lighter load and may enable the student to complete all required program courses in four semesters.

Students are permitted to take a one-semester leave for legitimate, documented reasons with the permission of the MLT program director. Should the leave exceed one semester, the student must obtain permission to return, and may be required to audit, review, or repeat program courses, or take re-entry exams. If re-entry exams are required by the instructor, they must be completed at least 30 days prior to re-entry. The student must contact the instructor to schedule the exams. The exams may be written, practical, oral, or a combination of all three. A fee may be charged for the exams. The responsibility for making these arrangements lies with the student. If arrangements have not been made, the student may not re-enter the program. If the instructor gives a passing grade for these re-entry exams, the student may start the sequence of courses provided there is room in the program course requested.

The MLT program director is available to help you with any of your class scheduling questions or concerns.

### **Reasons for being dismissed from the MLT Program**

The MLT faculty reserves the right to drop a student from the program if the student performs unsatisfactorily in or withdraws from program courses and supporting science. The circumstances under which a student may be dropped from the program include but not limited to:

1. Three withdrawals from the listed courses.
2. Two withdrawals in combination with one D for the listed courses.
3. Two Ds in the listed courses, either in the same or different courses.
4. Failing the Clinical Experience courses
5. Receiving 3 Corrective Action Reports (all may be due to different or the same reason)

If a student is dismissed from the MLT Program they may reapply and start again after a minimum of 9 months. In order to restart the student must meet with the Program Director and discuss what has changed in order for the student to be successful. All MLT coursework must be completed within a 3 year window so retaking courses may become necessary.

A grade of "incomplete" may be given if a student has done passing work and, because of illness or cause beyond the student's control, fails to complete the course requirements. Refer to the *Madison College website*, [www.madisoncollege.edu/incompletes](http://www.madisoncollege.edu/incompletes), for further information regarding a grade of "incomplete."

## **Withdrawing from the MLT Program**

Any student who is considering withdrawing from any course should first consult with the MLT program director to discuss options and alternatives. The procedure for course withdrawal is outlined on the *Madison College website*. In addition, the MLT program director should be notified in writing of intentions to drop a course or the program. A student may withdraw from a class until 90% of the course has been offered. If a student withdraws from the MLT program, they can reapply at a later date. A student is only allowed to enter the program two times. Courses may have to be repeated, depending on individual circumstances. All MLT courses would need to be repeated after three years.

## **Requirements for Graduation**

General requirements for graduation from Madison College are found on the Madison College website, <http://madisoncollege.edu/graduation-information>. Requirements for graduation from the MLT program are stated under MLT Curriculum on the Madison College web site for the MLT program, <http://madisoncollege.edu/program-info/medical-laboratory-technician>

## **Clinical Rotations**

Students in the MLT program participate in clinical rotations during the fourth semester of the program. This clinical rotation is the clinical experience during the fourth semester of the MLT program. During the first 3 weeks of the clinical experiences, students are involved in a variety of lectures and workshops on campus. The remaining 12 weeks are split between phlebotomy, chemistry, hematology, blood banking and microbiology clinical rotations. Currently, the MLT program has a number of excellent affiliation sites in Madison and throughout the Madison College region. Students entering the program should be aware that there is a possibility of being placed outside the Madison area for their clinical experiences. There also is the possibility that students will be completing their clinical experience at more than one site. The clinical site placement policy and additional information about this experience can be found under the **MLT Fourth Semester** section in this information packet. In the rare instance that there are not enough clinical sites, students may have to wait and complete their rotations in the fall semester.

## **Confidentiality Policy**

Throughout the program, students are advised of the importance of maintaining confidentiality of all information pertaining to patients, medical data, and business operations while participating in clinical rotations. Students are introduced to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and are made aware of the serious implications of breaching patient confidentiality as defined by HIPAA. Prior to participating in any off-campus clinical rotation, students will be required to read and sign the MLT program confidentiality policy. Students must be aware that compliance with this policy is mandatory and that any breach of confidentiality rules may result in disciplinary action, including dismissal from the clinical site and the MLT program, and possible legal action as allowed by HIPAA.

# MLT PROGRAM COURSE INFORMATION

## Hybrid Curriculum

Some of the courses in the MLT program are presented in a hybrid curriculum format, with “lecture” material being presented on-line, in person or through other alternative delivery methods and laboratory sessions occurring face-to-face on campus. For these courses, laboratory sessions will begin with a discussion of the lecture material. The discussion will:

- Summarize key concepts encountered in the lecture material
- Clarify difficult and complex concepts
- Correlate lecture material with laboratory activities
- Provide an opportunity for students to ask questions

Students are expected to complete all required readings, assignments, and activities **prior** to coming to the laboratory so that they can fully participate in the discussion. Due to the complex content of many of the core MLT courses, students also may augment their learning experiences by utilizing instructor office hours as a forum for inquiry and clarification of subject material.

## Course Syllabus

For each MLT course, a course syllabus and other relevant course information will be given to the student during the first class period of the semester or made available on-line at the start of the course. These documents contain course descriptions, course outcomes, class schedules, textbooks, course policies, assignments, instruction methods, evaluation procedures, grading policies, attendance policies, competencies and objectives for each unit of instruction. Use the course syllabus, objectives, and expected competencies as a guide for successful course completion.

## Laboratory Sections

### LABORATORY ATTIRE

Students will be issued personal protective equipment (PPE), including disposable lab coats, gloves, face shields, and safety glasses, during the first week of class.

- Students are issued a full-length lab coat at the start of the semester. It must be clean and in good repair at all times. Lab coats are always worn when obtaining blood specimens and performing bench work. Each student will write his/her name on the lab coat.
- MLT students wear black scrub pants and solid red scrub tops while in the lab.

In order to prevent transmission of infectious material to others in the college, this lab coat **must not** be worn outside the lab.

Lab coats will be rolled and kept in the student’s drawer when not in use. When it becomes contaminated with blood or other body fluids, or becomes torn or tattered, a new lab coat should be obtained by the student.

Other items pertaining to student laboratory attire and appearance are as follows.

- Satisfactory personal hygiene is expected.
- A name badge must be purchased
- Shoulder length or long hair must be pulled back and fastened.
- No open-toed shoes or sandals are allowed in the laboratory.
- Hats and head coverings may only be worn for religious, medical or other reasons approved by faculty.

- If an instructor suspects student use of an altering substance such as drugs or alcohol, they will be asked to leave the classroom and not be allowed make-up time.

## **Safety Training**

The MLT program has a detailed safety policy that is designed to protect students from potential hazards posed by exposure to blood, body fluids, and chemicals. Annually, students are required to review this policy and participate in a safety orientation. A major component of a safe laboratory work environment is appropriate safety apparel, including gloves, lab coats, and face shields and/or safety glasses. These safety items will be provided to students as needed.

In order to provide you with appropriate and comfortable laboratory safety apparel, we ask that you notify the MLT program director in advance if you will require either extra large or extra small gloves, or if you have a known sensitivity to any type of glove material, such as latex.

## **Class Disruptions**

Students who arrive late to a laboratory session must avoid disrupting the class while demonstrations or instructions are being given. Students who arrive to a laboratory session after instructions have been given may be dismissed from class.

Cell phones and all other electronic devices must be turned off while class is in session. If a student anticipates the need to be contacted by phone during class, he/she must notify the instructor of the potential disruption prior to the start of class. In an emergency situation, the student should take the phone call outside of the lecture or lab setting, provided they have removed their personal protective equipment and washed their hands.

Intoxication is not tolerated in the classroom or lab. If your instructor has any suspicion of use of altering substances, the student will be asked to leave and the session will not be made up.

## **Use of Laboratory Computers and Telephones**

During class time, computers in the laboratories are to be used for class work only. No personal email or Internet browsing is allowed during scheduled class time. When class is not in session, students will be allowed to use computers for their personal work. Students are strongly advised to use discretion when accessing information on the Internet. Improper use of the Internet will result in disciplinary action. Downloading of programs from the Internet onto laboratory computers is strictly prohibited.

Telephones in the laboratories and office area are not for student use. If necessary, talk to your instructor if you need to make an urgent telephone call in case of an emergency.

# **FOURTH SEMESTER CLINICAL EXPERIENCES**

## **Prerequisites**

The fourth semester of the MLT program is a professional clinical experience. This clinical experience consists of four classes: Pre-clinical Experience, Clinical Experience 1, Clinical Experience 2, and the Capstone. In order to participate in these clinical experiences, the student must have:

1. Maintained an overall grade point average of 2.0 or better.
2. Satisfactory completion of all required courses up to the fourth semester of the program.
3. Exhibited satisfactory affective behaviors as outlined by the *MLT Professional Behavior Evaluation*.
4. Exhibited satisfactory punctuality and attendance.
5. Have an up to date and completed CastleBranch

6. Students are eligible to enroll for insurance through the WTCS for a nominal semester fee.

**In addition to the previous requirements, the student must:**

1. Be currently enrolled in the program.
2. Carry professional and general liability insurance during the clinical rotation. (The college purchases this on behalf of the student.)
3. Have up to date Health Insurance
4. Have an up-to-date student information form stating current address, health insurance information, etc. on file in the School of Health Education office.
5. Sign a release form granting Madison College permission to send the *Personal Health History* form, *Student Information* form and information obtained through the *Caregiver Background Check* process to the affiliating agency at which he/she will be completing his/her clinical rotation.

## **Course Outcomes**

Following successful completion of the Clinical Experiences (513-151, 152), the student will be able to:

1. Apply modern clinical methodologies including problem solving and troubleshooting according to predetermined criteria.
2. Perform preventative and corrective maintenance of equipment and instruments according to predetermined criteria.
3. Collect and process biological and other specimens.
4. Perform and report results of Medical Laboratory tests.
5. Apply laboratory results to diagnosis of clinical conditions and/or diseases.
6. Monitor and evaluate quality control in the laboratory.
7. Practice laboratory safety and regulatory compliance.
8. Communicate with colleagues and patients in a professional manner.
9. Perform information processing in the Medical Laboratory.
10. Model professional behaviors, ethics, and appearance.

## **Description of the Clinical Experiences**

The professional clinical experiences are a 16-week rotation that begins at the start of the fourth semester at Madison College. The first three weeks are spent on campus at Truax, while the last 13 weeks occur at the students' designated clinical sites.

### **On Campus Pre-Clinical Experience**

During the first three weeks of the experience, students participate in a variety of meetings, workshops, and lectures on-campus. These include:

- Meetings to review policies and procedures related to the clinical experience
- Technical workshops designed to review theory and reinforce skills learned during the first 3 semesters of the program and to provide students with the opportunity to multitask, prioritize workload, and practice teamwork skills. Some technical workshops will introduce new skills, such as specialized blood banking procedures, resume writing and interview techniques.
- Lectures addressing various clinical topics, such as proficiency testing, test method validation, viral testing, etc.
- A comprehensive serology exam covering immunology topics and the study of antibodies and antigens in serum (serology).
- Simulated lab experience

## **Affiliating Agency Clinical Experiences I & II**

At the beginning of the fourth week of the clinical semester, students report to their designated affiliating agencies for the next 12 weeks. While at the clinical agency(ies), students are supervised by clinical faculty. Objectives and evaluations prepared by MLT program faculty, guide the students' clinical learning experiences. MLT program faculty monitor student progress and communicate regularly with MLT students and clinical faculty via telephone, email, site visits, and the clinical experience website. Other requirements of the clinical experience are as follows.

- Comprehensive examinations covering the major areas (chemistry, hematology, blood bank, microbiology, and urinalysis) are taken at the college upon completion of that specific section rotation. All examinations are prepared and graded by MLT program faculty.
- Students complete their Capstone Course during their clinical experiences.

Students must be aware that the clinical experience semester is scheduled for 8 hours per day, 5 days per week. There will be time off for spring break.

## **Capstone Course**

Students complete their Capstone Course during their Clinical Experience.

Capstone includes

- Preparing a case study involving at least three laboratory sections is completed during the clinical experience. Topics are assigned by the MLT Faculty or may be selected by students if they have a good idea. Students present their case studies at Madison College for the rest of the students and faculty at the end of the semester.
- Completion of the professional clinical portfolio. Portfolios must be submitted at the end of the semester for program completion
- Completion of outreach events

Only those students who exhibit appropriate academic, safety and professional behaviors will be allowed to participate in the affiliating agency clinical experience.

## **Attendance during the Clinical Experiences**

### **On Campus Clinical Experience**

Students are required to attend all on-campus or virtual meetings and lectures and participate in the technical workshops. A student who fails to attend any meeting or lecture or to participate in any workshop without a reasonable and valid excuse will not be allowed to proceed in the clinical experience and will automatically fail the course. In the event of an excused absence, an "incomplete" will be recorded until the meetings and/or activities are completed and all requirements are fulfilled. A student will not graduate from the program and cannot take the certification examination until the "incomplete" is removed.

### **Affiliating Agency Clinical Experience**

Regular attendance at the clinical site is necessary to allow the student to achieve the level of knowledge, technical expertise and professionalism required for an entry level MLT position. Therefore, attendance will be monitored closely.

1. The affiliating agency and your assigned MLT Clinical Faculty must be notified at least one hour prior to your scheduled start time that you will be absent. Failure to do so may result in your being withdrawn from the agency.
2. Arrangements for making up missed time should be made with the affiliating agency and approved by the MLT faculty. Time can be made up by extending the day, coming in on a weekend, or by extending the length of the clinical rotation.
3. For each absence, a **Student Absence Report** must be completed by the affiliating agency and forwarded to Madison College School of Health Education office immediately



via FAX at (608)246-6013 or email it to your visiting instructor or the MLT Program Director.

4. ***Absences during the Clinical Experience may result in extended time or disciplinary action.***

## **Clinical Site Placement**

### **Clinical Sites**

The MLT program has a number of excellent clinical sites in Madison and throughout the state of Wisconsin. A list of clinical sites is posted on the MLT website. Students should be aware that not all sites on the list are available every semester. Students also must realize that there is a possibility that they may be placed outside the Madison area for their clinical experiences and that their clinical experience may occur at more than one site.

### **Placement Procedure**

Clinical site selection occurs during the third semester of the MLT program. The selection process is as follows:

1. The clinical coordinator will announce which clinical sites will be available for the clinical experience. Students will have an opportunity to gather information about the available sites and discuss placement options with the clinical coordinator.
2. After announcement of the available sites, students who will be completing all prerequisites for the clinical experience during the current semester will be allowed to indicate their top three clinical site preferences to the clinical coordinator. The clinical coordinator will then assign each student to an available site, taking into account student preferences. Although every effort will be made to accommodate student preferences, many other factors are involved in clinical site assignment, and there is no guarantee that a student will be assigned to one of their top three choices.

The following conditions apply to the clinical experience placement procedure:

1. No special consideration will be given by the MLT faculty to students who are married, have children, or may experience other difficulties related to the location of the clinical site (i.e., lack of transportation or a need to relocate), when determining clinical placements.
2. Special consideration will be given to students who have diagnosed disabilities or documented special needs that will require specific accommodations during the clinical experience.
3. When there are more qualified students than there are available clinical sites, a lottery will determine those students who will be placed. ***Those students who cannot be placed will be put on an alternate list and given a site when one becomes available, or will be matched with available sites the following semester.***
4. Changes in affiliation assignments by the affiliating agency may occur up to 30 days prior to the beginning of the clinical experience. Therefore, students should make only tentative or non-binding commitments until a firm agreement has been reached between the school and the affiliating agency.
5. If a clinical site becomes available as a result of a student's inability to complete all prerequisites for the clinical experience, another student may be given the opportunity to choose the surrendered site if the late change is acceptable to the affiliation agency involved, the MLT program director, and the MLT clinical coordinator.
6. If a student chooses not to take the affiliation site assigned to him/her during the clinical site selection process, he/she may participate in the affiliation site selection process the following semester only after all other students have ***finalized*** their site selections.

## **Clinical Facilities**

Our clinical facilities are located throughout our district. On unique circumstances we will use some additional listed facilities.

Marshfield Medical Center - Beaver Dam  
LabCorp  
Divine Savior Hospital - Aspirus  
Exact Sciences  
Fort healthcare  
GHC Clinics  
Mercy Health, Janesville  
Mercy East Clinic, Janesville  
Madison Women's Health  
Meriter Unity Point Lab  
Prairie Clinic, Sauk City  
Prairie Ridge Community Hospital  
Pro Health Care  
Reedsburg Area Medical Center  
Sauk Prairie Healthcare, Prairie du Sac  
SSM Health Clinics  
SSM Health, Janesville  
SSM Health – St. Clare Hospital - Baraboo  
SSM Health – St Mary's Hospital, Madison  
SSM health - Stoughton Hospital  
Upland Hills Health, Dodgeville  
UW Health –Central, Beaver Dam, Verona, Mt Horeb, Belleville, Odana, Deforest  
University Hospital & Clinics  
UW Health West, East Clinic  
UW Health East Madison Hospital  
Watertown Family Practice  
Watertown Regional Medical Center  
Wm S Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital

## **Participating in the Clinical Experience on a Probationary Basis**

A student who has had chronic attendance problems or has demonstrated unprofessional behaviors while at Madison College may be denied clinical experience placement. The MLT faculty and School of Health Sciences dean will make this decision. If the student has been showing recent improvement in the problem area(s), he/she may be allowed to attend clinical experience on a probationary basis. The MLT faculty, the School of Health Sciences dean and the affiliation site supervisor will determine the conditions of the probation and summarize these conditions in a written document. The student must agree to the conditions of the probation by signing the written documentation in order to be placed at an affiliation site.

## **Disciplinary Action, Suspension and Dismissal**

The clinical experience is a privilege extended to us by the clinical facilities involved. During the rotation, students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner and to abide by the affiliating agency's standards for performance. Failure to do so may result in the affiliating agency and/or Madison College initiating disciplinary action that could lead to suspension and/or dismissal of the student from the affiliating agency and/or MLT program.

Disciplinary action, suspension, or dismissal can occur for a variety of reasons other than race, creed, color, sex, age, marital status, or national origin. These reasons include:

1. Unprofessional conduct or behavior including, but not limited, to:

- a. Prefabricating laboratory results
  - b. Breach of patient confidentiality
  - c. Appearance on the job under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol
  - d. Disruption in patient care of the clinical laboratory
  - e. Dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) or knowingly furnishing false information to the affiliated agency or Madison College
2. Repeated technical, clerical, or safety errors  
The procedure that will be followed in the event that the student commits repeated significant technical errors, repeated significant clerical errors or fails to follow protocols and risks the safety of the student, peers or faculty, either in regards to phlebotomy or laboratory procedures is as follows.
- a. The student will be given a written warning, and arrangements will be made for an additional learning experience that is appropriate for the error(s) made.
  - b. If the errors continue, the student may be suspended for a period of time or dismissed from the program, according to recommendations from the clinical faculty and Madison College instructors.
  - c. If further significant technical, clerical or safety errors occur, those errors, errors may result in dismissal from the clinical site and/or program.

The **Corrective Action Report** will be used to document unacceptable performance and begin the disciplinary action procedure.

## Student Responsibilities During the Clinical Experience

1. The student shall dress professionally and abide by the dress code of the program. Madison College students wear Scrubs, Black bottoms and red tops, while at the clinical experience, and must wear their Madison College nametags.
2. The student will demonstrate responsibility for his/her education by:
  - a. Preparing for each clinical section rotation by reviewing applicable principles and procedures prior to and during the rotation.
  - b. Completing assignments required by Madison College faculty and returning them to the Madison College instructors at the end of the rotation.
  - c. Distributing evaluation forms to the affiliation education coordinator at the beginning of the clinical rotation and following up as needed to assure that the evaluations are completed, reviewed, signed, and returned to Madison College in a timely manner.
  - d. Performing satisfactorily on assignments and tests administered by the affiliating agency.
  - e. Completing weekly self-assessments and reviewing them with the clinical site instructor.
3. The student is expected to follow the policies and procedures, including safety policies, and perform up to the laboratory's standards of acceptable performance.
4. The student must follow the schedules established by Madison College and the affiliating agency, and make up all absences as requested by the MLT program director and affiliating laboratory education coordinator.
5. The student must understand that he/she is a guest of the affiliating agency and may be dismissed if his/her performance is not compatible with the laboratory's standards for quality.
6. The student will behave in a professional manner by demonstrating the desirable behaviors identified in the **Professional Behavior Evaluation**.
7. The student should be aware that he/she is covered by professional liability insurance carried by Madison Area Technical College.
8. The student is responsible for his/her own health insurance and must provide documentation that he/she is insured. Note: For students who do not have health

insurance, an insurance policy is available to them through WTCS for a nominal fee added to the semester tuition.

## **Grading Policy**

Each Clinical Experience course (513-141, 151 & 152) is assigned a grade. The grade is determined from completion of assignments, the clinical evaluations (including evaluations for technical skills, general laboratory skills, and professional behaviors), the case study, and the clinical examinations. The grading policy is explained in depth in the Clinical Experience Manual that is provided to students prior to the beginning of the fourth semester clinical experience. Capstone (10-513-153) is graded pass/fail.

## **Clinical Examination Policy**

Comprehensive examinations covering the five major areas (chemistry, hematology, blood bank, microbiology and urinalysis) are taken upon completion of the specific section rotations. The serology/immunology comprehensive exam is taken during the Pre-clinical Experience, before students leave for their off-campus clinical rotations. The examinations are prepared and graded by MLT program faculty. They cover all course information for each laboratory section.

## **Repeating or Extending a Section Rotation**

The student must maintain a minimum grade of C during the clinical experience rotation. If a student receives less than a C in any one section of the clinical experience rotation, he/she will be required to repeat the section in order to raise the grade to a C or better. If the student is unable to raise the grade to a C or better after repeating the section, the student will be dropped from the clinical experience course. If the student wishes to continue in the program, he/she will be required to do the following in order as listed:

1. Audit the specific course(s) at Madison College that relate to the failed rotation(s). The student will only be permitted to register if there is laboratory space available.
2. Follow the faculty recommendations to either repeat the entire clinical experience or repeat only the rotation(s) that were graded less than a C.

In the event that a student does not fulfill all requirements of a given section in the time allowed for the section rotation, the student may be allowed to extend the rotation. Extension of the rotation will be allowed only in those circumstances where the student is performing satisfactorily overall, but is unable to complete all requirements in the time allowed. If overall performance is unsatisfactory, the section must be repeated as described above.

The decision whether to extend or repeat a section is made by the MLT faculty after conferring with the clinical faculty. The repeat rotation may be scheduled at a different clinical site.

## **Service Work Policy**

The major emphasis of the clinical experience is to help students achieve career entry competencies. Once these competencies are achieved, repetition of procedures, techniques and skills should be limited to periodic reinforcement. After demonstrating proficiency in a particular area, students may be permitted to perform laboratory work under qualified supervision. Students should not, however, be substituted for regular staff.

Students are not required to perform work outside the regular academic hours. In the event that a student loses time from the rotation due to absence, he/she may choose to schedule make-up time outside of regular academic hours. The schedule for making up lost time must be jointly agreed upon by the student and the clinical site's education coordinator.

Students who have elected to seek employment at the affiliating laboratory during the clinical experience rotation must schedule job hours outside of the hours designated for the clinical experience rotation. Job performance as an employee of the affiliating laboratory should not affect the content or duration of the student's clinical experience rotation, nor should it influence the evaluation of the student's performance during the clinical experience rotation.

## **Certification**

Students who successfully complete the program may sit for the Medical Laboratory Technician MLT(ASCP) Board of Certification (BOC) exam offered by the American Society for Clinical Pathologists. Specific information concerning this exam is presented to students during the first semester MLT mandatory Lunch and Learn seminar, the Clinical Experience orientation meeting and is available on-line in the Blackboard courses for the Clinical Experience and Clinical Portfolio courses and also at [www.ascp.org](http://www.ascp.org). Graduation from the program is not contingent upon passing the BOC exam. Program graduates are able to seek an MLT position and begin employment prior to taking the certification exam. However, based upon the employer's policies, continued employment may be contingent upon successful completion of an exam and official certification as MLT(ASCP).

## **ADDITIONAL MLT PROGRAM INFORMATION**

### **Request for Reasonable Accommodations**

The MLT faculty is committed to providing each student with the opportunity to successfully complete the MLT program. Therefore, if you have a diagnosed disability that would interfere with your ability to complete the requirements of a course, to participate in the activities described in the course syllabus, or to perform the program related essential functions, you should contact the Disability Resource Service Office at (608)246-6716 or email [drs@madisoncollege.edu](mailto:drs@madisoncollege.edu) to arrange appropriate academic adjustments. Information about this resource can be on the Madison College Home search Disability Resources or use the URL <http://madisoncollege.edu/disability-resource-services-drs>. All requests are held in confidence. For questions, you may also see FAQs at [http:// madisoncollege.edu/providing-disability-documentation-drs](http://madisoncollege.edu/providing-disability-documentation-drs).

In order to assure accommodations are in place when classes begin, students with disabilities should ideally complete this process at least four weeks before the first day of the semester. However, accommodations can be requested at any time throughout the semester. This process includes:

1. Provide documentation to DRS.
2. Take the Compass test.
3. Meet with a disability specialist.

If you are deaf or hard of hearing, DRS will talk with you through relay or the above email. To promote your success, accommodation request cards should be given to course instructors by the end of the second week of classes.

### **Mission Statements**

As part of the Madison Area Technical College (Madison College) community, the MLT program embraces the college's mission statement, which reads:

Madison College provides open access to quality higher education that fosters lifelong learning and success within our communities.

Clarification of this mission statement and further information about Madison College's vision statement, values, and learning college principles can be found at <http://madisoncollege.edu/strategic-planning>.

The MLT program is found in the School of Health Sciences at Madison College. Faculty envision a reachable education of excellence for their students; an education which impacts the heart of the community that we serve.

The MLT Program Mission Statement is:

Madison College's Medical Laboratory Technician program serves to offer an associate degree designed for entry-level positions as a medical laboratory technician, to prepare students to successfully take national certification examinations, and to be successful medical laboratory professionals.

## Program Instructors and Personnel

NAME	OFFICE	PHONE/ EMAIL	RESPONSIBILITIES
Leah Narans MBA, MLS(ASCP)	202N SoHE	(608) 246-6787 <a href="mailto:narans@madisoncollege.edu">narans@madisoncollege.edu</a>	Program Director Faculty
Trinity Pulvermacher MLS (ASCP)	202M SoHE	(608) 616-1065 <a href="mailto:tpulvermacher@madisoncollege.edu">tpulvermacher@madisoncollege.edu</a>	Program Director Faculty
Bauj Yang MS.Ed, MLS(ASCP)	202E SoHE	608-616-1056 <a href="mailto:Byang14@madisoncollege.edu">Byang14@madisoncollege.edu</a>	Clinical Coordinator Faculty
Marci Trimborn MLT (ASCP)	205A SoHE	(608)246-6382 <a href="mailto:mtrimborn@madisoncollege.edu">mtrimborn@madisoncollege.edu</a>	Lead Laboratory Coordinator
Dr Marsha Tweedy	103 SoHE	(608)246-6685 #6685 <a href="mailto:mtweedy@madisoncollgee.edu">mtweedy@madisoncollgee.edu</a>	Dean, School of Health Sciences

## Forms Required by the MLT Program

### Personal Health History Forms

All students who are admitted into the MLT program must complete health and education requirements via the *Castlebranch* tracking website. The requirements include: evidence of measles, mumps and rubella immunity through two immunizations or immune titers, results for a two-step TB skin test, Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis) vaccination at or after age 12, evidence of varicella (chicken pox) immunity through two immunizations or a positive varicella titer, three Hepatitis B vaccinations or an immune titer, Healthcare provider CPR documentation, evidence of health insurance. Influenza vaccines must be received annually during the flu season and uploaded to the site two weeks prior to the first clinical rotation. Costs associated with the *Castlebranch* tracking website are the responsibility of the student. More information follows for this process. If a urine drug screen is required by a clinical site, students must go to the site to have the test done and pay the fee.

Failure to complete these health requirements by the designated due date will result in the following consequences:

- The student will not be allowed to begin Clinicals

Vaccines and titers are available through your private physician or through Madison College Student Health Services which provides immunizations at a reduced rate. Payment for vaccines and titers is the responsibility of the student. Some health insurance policies will cover payment for these.

### Health Services

The Student Health Clinic is located in room 151A inside the Health Education Building at the Truax Campus. All students taking degree credit courses have access to health care services with a valid OneCard. TB skin tests are available at no cost to a students registered for classes. For any accident or illness that is considered serious and possibly life threatening, emergency

personnel will be summoned by calling 9-911. All expenses incurred during an emergency are the responsibility of the student.

In addition, a variety of clinical services, including physical exams, chest X-rays, TB skin tests, vaccines (MMR, Hepatitis B series, tetanus/diphtheria, and varicella) and titers (Hepatitis B, measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella) are available to Madison College emergencies to Madison College students.

Students with a GHC Number can schedule an appointment by calling 608.441.3220.

Students without a GHC number should call 608.251.4138 to enroll.

The Clinic is located on the first floor of the Health Building on the Truax Campus, room 151A.

Clinic Hours - Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

## **Reference Authorization**

Students who want MLT faculty members to release information concerning their performance in the program to prospective employers who may contact the faculty at their request must complete the *Authorization to Disclose Academic Information & Grades* form. Absolutely no information can be given to anyone concerning a student's performance in the program unless a signed and dated authorization form is on file. A student may remove this authorization form from his/her file at any time, thus prohibiting the faculty member from releasing any information, by notifying the MLT Program Director in writing. The *Authorization to Disclose Academic Information & Grades* is available in the School of Health Education office (Room 103) or from any faculty member.

## **Program Policy Forms and Waivers**

At the beginning of the first semester in the MLT program, students are given an extensive orientation that includes a review of all policies, including the general program policy and safety policies. Each student is required to date and sign forms that state that they understand these policies and agree to abide by these policies as written. These signed and dated forms are kept in the students' files in the MLT Program Director's office. During subsequent semesters in the program, students will be required to complete safety self-study packets and/or program policy worksheets to demonstrate knowledge of policies and procedures.

## **Additional Fees**

There are some clinical sites that require additional processes that cost additional fees for drug testing or for onboarding and online tracking. Those fees are the responsibility of the student. If a urine drug screen is required by a clinical site, students must go to the site to have the test done and pay the fee.

## **Liability Insurance**

The college provides liability insurance coverage as part of course tuition for students completing their clinical experiences.

## **Health Insurance**

Due to the inherent risk of exposure to harmful agents and to the requirements of some affiliating agencies, all students in the MLT program are required to have health insurance coverage prior to being assigned to a clinical facility. A low cost student health insurance plan covering accident and illness is available to students in the health occupations programs. Information and enrollment forms are available during registration and in the Student Services and Student Life offices. Students may choose to obtain their own health insurance plan instead of the student health insurance. The range of such coverage must be at least as comprehensive as those of the student health insurance available through Madison College. Whichever type of health insurance the student chooses, evidence of coverage must be provided prior to the time when clinical assignments are made.

## **MLT Electrolyte Club**

All students in the MLT program are members of the Electrolyte Club. The major purpose of the club is to raise funds for student activities and educational seminars, to promote membership in professional organizations such as the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS), and to participate in community service projects. All MLT students are encouraged to participate in club activities.

## **ASCLS**

The American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS), as the preeminent organization for clinical laboratory science practitioners, provides dynamic leadership and vigorously promotes all aspects of clinical laboratory science practice, education and management to ensure excellent, accessible cost-effective laboratory services for the consumers of health care.

ASCLS serves as the voice of all clinical laboratory professionals, creating a vision for the advancement of the clinical laboratory practice field, and advocating the value and role of the profession ensuring safe, effective, efficient, equitable, and patient centered health care.

ASCLS recognizes that students have an integral role in shaping the profession's future. Students provide a reservoir of new talent, fresh ideas and energy. ASCLS is dedicated to create, direct and provide programs and guidance that will be of benefit to its student members.

Student members receive all of the membership services offered to full ASCLS Professional I members. Student members receive reduced fees at society sponsored continuing education programs and scholarship opportunities through ASCLS's Education and Research Fund. Students will benefit from networking opportunities and professional contact with leaders/active members of the profession. These networking contacts often result in employment for the student following the graduation. ASCLS offers discussions forums on the internet so students can communicate to each other about the profession, school, and other interest. The website section for new Graduates offers resources to recent graduates in the clinical laboratory science programs.

## **Madison College Catalog / Online Student Policies**

Information for the *College Catalog* is found on-line and available to students free of charge. This includes information regarding policies and procedures, student services, student rights and responsibilities, student resources, activities, programs of study, course descriptions, organizational structure, and faculty directory. A printed course schedule with registration information is printed each semester. You may pick up your copy of this course catalog at the Enrollment Center or the Health Education office. ***It is the responsibility of every student in the MLT program to read and be knowledgeable of the student policies and information presented at orientation and on the Madison College website.***



## **Emergency Procedures**

Booklets explaining the emergency procedures used at Madison College are posted in the MLT labs, rooms 205, 209 and 282. The emergencies addressed in this booklet include:

- Bomb threat
- Called from class
- Campus closing
- Fire
- Chemical emergency
- Injury/ Health emergence
- Security
- Tornado warning

Emergency phone numbers are listed inside the flip folder booklet for quick reference. Students should familiarize themselves with these procedures. College security can be reached by dialing 246-4357.

## **Teach-Out Plan**

In the event of a need for program closure, the first step would be suspending any new applications. Any students who have already started in the program would need to have a path to completion. This could involve independent studies, other courses at other technical schools, on-line courses, etc. Each remaining student would receive individual advising to arrive at the best plan to achieve student success.

In the event of a natural disaster, the college would seek alternative spaces to conduct laboratory sessions, either at their regional sites or at UW-Madison or both. Lectures would be presented online.

## **Student Conflict Resolution**

If a student has an academic or non-academic issue or problem that he/she feels requires attention, the student should first meet with the specific course instructor. Every effort is made to resolve the problem or address the issue at the student/instructor level. If the problem remains unresolved, the MLT program director is available to listen and advise the student and instructor on the best manner to resolve the problem. If the problem continues to be unresolved, the student may contact Conflict Management Services for assistance in resolving the conflict. Procedures for addressing specific types of conflict and the appeals process can be found on the college website under [www.madisoncollege.edu/procedures](http://www.madisoncollege.edu/procedures).

## **Mission Statement**

Madison College's Medical Laboratory Technician program serves to offer an associate degree designed for entry-level positions as a medical laboratory technician, to prepare students to successfully take national certification examinations, and to be successful medical laboratory professionals.

## **Code of Ethics**

The Code of Ethics of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS) sets forth the principles and standards by which medical laboratory professionals practice their profession.

## **PLEDGE TO THE PROFESSION**

### **I. Duty to the Patient**

Medical laboratory professionals are accountable for the quality and integrity of the laboratory services they provide. This obligation includes maintaining individual competence in judgment and performance and striving to safeguard the patient from incompetent or illegal practice by others. Medical Laboratory professionals maintain high standards of practice. They exercise sound judgment in establishing, performing and evaluating laboratory testing.

Medical laboratory professionals maintain strict confidentiality of patient information and test results. They safeguard the dignity and privacy of patients and provide accurate information to other health care professionals about the services they provide.

### **II. Duty to Colleagues and the Profession**

Medical laboratory professionals uphold and maintain the dignity and respect of our profession and strive to maintain a reputation of honesty, integrity and reliability. They contribute to the advancement of the profession by improving the body of knowledge, adopting scientific advances that benefit the patient, maintaining high standards of practice and education, and seeking fair socioeconomic working conditions for members of the profession.

Medical laboratory professionals actively strive to establish cooperative and respectful working relationships with other health care professionals with the primary objective of ensuring a high standard of care for the patients they serve.

### **III. Duty to Society**

As practitioners of an autonomous profession, Medical Laboratory Professionals have the responsibility to contribute from their sphere of professional competence to the general well being of the community.

Medical laboratory professionals comply with relevant laws and regulations pertaining to the practice of medical laboratory science and actively seek, within the dictates of their consciences, to change those which do not meet the high standards of care and practice to which the profession is committed.

As a Medical Laboratory professional, I strive to:

- Maintain and promote standards of excellence in performing and advancing the art and science of my profession
- Preserve the dignity and privacy of others
- Uphold and maintain the dignity and respect of our profession
- Seek to establish cooperative and respectful working relationships with other health professionals
- Contribute to the general well being of the community

I will actively demonstrate my commitment to these responsibilities throughout my professional life.