

Occupational Profile

Medical/Clinical Lab Technologists



SKILLS YOU NEED

Basic Skills:

- Reading Comprehension
- Active Listening
- Writing
- Speaking
- Mathematics
- Science
- Critical Thinking
- Active Learning
- Monitoring

Transferable Skills (applicable in other careers):

High level

- Developing and using computerized medical records
- Investigating data to solve problems
- Observing and analyzing physical problems
- Operating laboratory testing equipment
- Operating medical diagnostic equipment
- Reviewing and evaluating data reports
- Working as a member of a health services team

Workplace Skills:

High level

- Equipment Maintenance
- Quality Control Analysis

Medium level

- Complex Problem Solving
- Coordination
- Equipment Selection
- Instructing
- Judgment and Decision Making
- Operation and Control
- Operation Monitoring
- Repairing
- Service Orientation
- Time Management
- Troubleshooting

Additional skills for this occupation may be found at <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/career-exploration-resources>

IS THIS FOR YOU?

Provides patient services under the direct supervision and responsibility of physicians. Directly assists doctors as needed. Belongs to the Health Science cluster; Diagnostic Services and Support Services pathway.

WHAT THEY DO

Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model) by people who tend to succeed in this career:

- **Investigative** – You are a "thinker". When you have a problem, you like to analyze it and look at different ways to solve it. You like to work by yourself, and you don't like explaining your ideas to other people.
- **Conventional** – You are an "organizer". Keeping things neat and organized is important to you. You like working with charts and reports, and work well with power and authority.
- **Realistic** – You are a "doer". You like physical activities and projects. You like to find the answers to problems by doing hands-on work instead of talking about solutions.

Work Values are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

- **Independence** – It's very important to you that your work allows you to make decisions on your own. You want to try out your own ideas and work with little supervision.
- **Support**—It's very important to you to know the company stands behind its workers and has competent, considerate and fair management.

Aptitudes reflect a person's ability to acquire skills and knowledge. The following aptitudes are important for success in the career:

- **Numerical Aptitude**
- **Verbal Aptitude**
- **Form Perception**
- **Finger Dexterity**

Source: <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2012 Estimated Employment	2022 Projected Employment	2012-22 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total, All Occupations	1,758,205	1,955,480	197,275	1.1	61,665
Total Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	84,995	100,885	15,890	1.9	3,345
Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists	1,650	1,820	170	1.0	60

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

2015 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Average Wage	Average Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Experienced Wage	Experienced Salary
Total, All Occupations	19.77	41,122	9.55	19,858	24.88	51,755
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	32.07	66,705	16.54	34,407	39.83	82,853
Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists	25.73	53,527	19.53	40,616	28.84	59,982

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education	Work Experience	Job Training
Bachelor's Degree	None	None

Medical laboratory technologists typically need a bachelor's degree. Some states require technologists to be licensed. A bachelor's degree in medical laboratory technology includes courses in chemistry, biology, microbiology, mathematics, and statistics, as well as courses on clinical laboratory skills, management, and education. This degree is sometimes known as a medical laboratory scientist program. Some states require laboratory personnel to be licensed or registered. To be licensed, a technologist often needs a bachelor's degree and must pass an exam. However, requirements vary by state and specialty. For specific requirements, contact your state's department of health or board of occupational licensing. Certification of medical laboratory technologists and technicians is required for licensure in some states and by some individual employers. Although certification is not required to enter the occupation in all cases, employers typically prefer to hire certified technologists and technicians. Medical laboratory technologists and technicians can obtain a general certification as a medical laboratory technologist or technician, or a certification in a specialty, such as phlebotomy or medical biology. Most credentials require that technologists complete an accredited education program to qualify to sit for an examination. Continuing education is required in most cases to maintain certification.

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0> and <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	6
Locating Information	4
Reading for Information	4

This ACT-developed credential demonstrates achievement and a certain level of workplace employability skills. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6).

Source: <http://www.act.org/workkeys/analysis/occup.html>

PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

(Where are Medical/Clinical Lab Technologists Employed?)

Hospitals
Ambulatory Health Care
Government
Educational Services

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

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