

Career Information

Medical Technology

Bachelor of Science

On-Campus or Internet Options

Professional Tasks and Working Environment

Medical technologists perform laboratory tests used to diagnose and treat disease and maintain health. Medical technologists, or clinical laboratory scientists, work in blood banking, chemistry, hematology, immunology, microbiology and urinalysis. They assure that test results are accurate and reliable. In the hospital clinical laboratories, laboratory scientists analyze blood, body fluids and tissues to detect disease. They work with sophisticated computerized technology such as automated chemistry and hematology analyzers, GLC-Mass spectrophotometers and molecular testing such as PCR and DNA probes. Medical technologists also develop and evaluate new test procedures, maintain quality assurance programs, educate laboratory professionals and manage the laboratory. Medical technologists are sought in clinical areas, research and industry.

Skills and Interests Suited to a Career in Medical Technology

Accuracy, dependability, a strong sense of responsibility, the ability to communicate effectively, the ability to consistently meet deadlines, manual dexterity and good interpersonal skills are essential.

Career interests include research, quality improvement and process control, clinical specialties, computer analysis, forensic science, education and management.

Employment and Career Opportunities

Medical technologists (clinical laboratory scientists) are employed in general hospital laboratories, physicians' offices, private laboratories, mission fields, armed forces, Peace Corps, Project HOPE, public health, medical research programs, pharmaceutical laboratories, blood banks, forensic laboratories, bioterrorism response and industry.

Students with a baccalaureate degree in medical technology may advance to supervisory or specialist positions, depending on capability, experience and/or additional education. Opportunities are available for graduate education in biochemistry, microbiology, immunology, immunohematology, education, management and specialist categories.

Salary Information

Beginning salaries for recent graduates with baccalaureate degrees in medical technology average \$35,000 in clinical areas and \$55,000 in industry, depending on location and job responsibilities. Experienced technologists who become laboratory managers in large hospitals may earn \$90,000 or more.

Programs Offered at MCG

MCG grants a bachelor of science degree in medical technology. The program is a "2+2," meaning the student completes the first two years of core and science prerequisite courses at any accredited college or university and the last two years through MCG. All students begin the MCG program fall semester of their junior year. On-campus students have five semesters of classroom, laboratory and clinical experiences. Internet students have six semesters of courses offered via the internet with Web-based technologies and internships through clinical affiliates.

The bachelor of science degree program is also available to college graduates in biology, chemistry, microbiology and related sciences. Laboratory and clinical experiences are conducted at affiliated clinical sites. Internet students are encouraged to identify possible internship sites convenient to them. The Department of Medical Technology will contact these sites to explore the establishment of a clinical affiliation. The internet option also requires students to have acceptable computer capability and internet connectivity.

Graduates of both programs are eligible to take national certification exams.

General Admissions Criteria

Admission is based on college grade point averages, personal interviews and assessment of motivation and personal qualities needed to successfully complete the program. A 2.5 overall GPA on a 4.0 scale is required and all applicants must have completed prerequisite course requirements. References should be from individuals who can evaluate your academic performance. Applicants whose first language is not English must submit official TOEFL scores of at least 550 paper-based (213 computer-based).

Technical Standards

In addition to demonstrating personal characteristics appropriate for a health professions career, students must satisfy general and specific technical standards for this program. Please visit www.mcg.edu/sah/brt/MTstandards.htm to review these requirements.

Accreditation

National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science
8410 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Suite 670
Chicago, Illinois 60631
(773) 714-8880



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Financial Aid and Scholarships

Financial aid and other assistance is available. MCG participates in all federal student aid programs as well as state and private programs. MCG helps students fund their education through grants, scholarships, loans, a service commitment program and/or employment.

When and How to Apply

This is a transfer program that requires applicants to attend another accredited college or university of their choice to complete the required core curriculum courses (see the *Courses to Take the First Two Years* section). Students may apply for transfer admission to MCG during their sophomore year. Accepted applicants transfer fall semester to begin their junior year.

A minimum college GPA of 2.5 is required. Grades of D in prerequisite courses do not transfer. Course work more than 10 years old must be updated in organic chemistry, microbiology and algebra.

For best chance of acceptance, application to this program should be made during the fall preceding the fall in which admission is sought to allow adequate time receipt of all required information. All application materials should be RECEIVED in MCG's Office of Academic Admissions by March 1. Applications completed after this date are considered on a remaining space available basis. Complete applications include the application, references, official academic materials, documentation of shadowing hours, and documentation of professional certifications, if applicable. If accepted to the program, documentation of current CPR and First Aid certification is required upon enrollment.

How to Get an Application

To receive an application for this degree program, visit www.mcg.edu/admissions, or call or write:

Office of Academic Admissions
170 Kelly Building—Administration
Medical College of Georgia
Augusta, Georgia 30912
Telephone: (706) 721-2725
1-800-519-3388
E-mail: underamd@mcg.edu
Web site: www.mcg.edu/admissions

Courses to Take the First Two Years

The courses required to graduate from MCG comprise a core curriculum divided into six categories (Areas A-F). The options for completing these prerequisites for transfer to MCG are listed below.

A. Essential Skills 9 semester hours
 English Composition I 3 hours
 English Composition II. 3 hours
 (Literature based)

College Algebra, Mathematical Modeling, Trigonometry,
 Pre-calculus or Calculus 3 hours

B. Institutional Options** 4-5 semester hours

Introduction to Computers
 Critical Thinking
 Creative Writing
 Ethics
 Health and Wellness
 Statistics
 Economics
 Speech
 Medical Terminology
 Any approved guided elective from Area F

C. Humanities and

Fine Arts** 6 semester hours
 Ethics
 Foreign Language
 Speech, Oral Communications
 Literature
 Philosophy
 Drama, Art or Music Appreciation
 Logic
 Electives in Humanities and Fine Arts
 Religion

D. Science, Mathematics

and Technology 10-11 semester hours

One eight-hour laboratory course sequence in biology, chemistry for science majors (required in either Area D or F) or physics[†] (not recommended for this program) and an additional course in science, mathematics or technology.

E. Social Science** 12 semester hours

United States History
 United States Government
 Other History
 Economics
 Psychology
 Sociology
 Anthropology
 Racial and Ethnic Minority Groups
 Lower division electives in Psychology and Sociology

F. Courses Appropriate

to the Major 18 semester hours

Biology w/lab* 4 hours
 Organic Chemistry w/lab* 4 hours
 Microbiology w/lab 4 hours
 Guided electives. 6-14 hours
 General Chemistry[†] for science majors (one eight-hour laboratory sequence required),
 Courses from Area B or D

* If this is taken in another area of the core, the hours would be taken in additional guided electives.

** If a student planning to transfer to MCG from another school in the University System of Georgia has completed this area with courses taken there or at another institution from which MCG accepts transfer credit, MCG will accept the area as satisfied. A student planning to transfer from a school not in the University System of Georgia should choose from the list of courses.

† If a physics sequence is taken in Area D, take an eight-hour chemistry sequence in Area F.

Estimated Full-Time Academic Expenses

	Tuition	Fees	Books/Supplies/Other
Per semester	\$1,819*	293	1,000**

* Non-residents of Georgia pay an additional \$5,457 tuition per semester. Residents of Aiken and Edgefield counties in South Carolina receive a waiver of non-resident tuition.

** Costs vary by major. Please check with your department for details.
 (Costs are for 2005-2006. All tuition charges, board, room rent or other charges are subject to change at the end of any academic term.)

Estimated Living Expenses

	On- or off-campus apartment	Commuter
9 months	\$13,869	\$9,864
12 months	18,492	13,152

The Medical College of Georgia is an Equal Opportunity Educational Institution.