

CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment opportunities for medical technologists are expected to grow by 10 to 20 percent over the next ten years. This rate is equal to the average growth for all occupations in the United States. Although the aging population will increase the need for laboratory tests, advances in technology is expected to make it possible for non-laboratory personnel to conduct the more routine tests.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Medical Technologists
710 Higgins Road
Park Ridge, IL 60068-5765
Phone: (847) 823-5169
Fax: (847) 823-0458
E-mail: mail@amt1.com
Web: www.amt1.com

The American Society for Clinical
Laboratory Science
7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 530
Bethesda, MD 20814
Phone: (301) 657-2768
Fax: (301) 657-2909
E-mail: ascls@ascls.org
Web: www.ascls.org



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MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

Medical technologists perform essential laboratory testing that is critical to the detection, diagnosis, and treatment of disease. They prepare and analyze body tissues, blood and fluids for doctors and researchers in the diagnosis of diseases.

Most medical technologists are baccalaureate level laboratorians that are educated as generalists in clinical laboratory science. Their work includes the use of microscopes, chemicals, computers, and complex laboratory equipment and instruments.

They perform tests in all sections of the laboratory including hematology, bacteriology, chemistry, urinalysis, serology, immunohematology, forensic pathology, immunology, and toxicology. Their work includes collecting blood specimen, inoculating cultures needed to identify bacteria, monitoring the quality control of tests and procedures, and reporting abnormal results to pathologists or higher level medical technologists.

Medical technologists may also perform complex and sophisticated laboratory analysis, evaluate the effects that a patient's physiological conditions have on the results of the test performed,

confirm test results and provide the physician with the necessary data to determine the presence, extent, cause, and treatment of the disease. They must also assume the responsibility for accurate results.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

Medical technologists are employed in hospital laboratories, clinics, public health laboratories, research facilities, technical college and university programs, pharmaceutical companies, industrial laboratories, and the military.

HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in becoming a medical technologist should take courses such as biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, computer skills, English, health occupations/medical professions, physical education, algebra and geometry.

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Medical technologists must complete a four year Bachelor Degree plus additional clinical training. After completing all educational and clinical requirements, medical technology candidates must pass a national certification examination.

Students interested in medical technology should contact schools for information on admission and course of study.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

University of MS
Medical Ctr.
2500 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39216
Phone: (601) 984-1080

University of Southern
Mississippi
Box 5101
Hattiesburg, MS 39406
Phone: (601) 266-5001

Jennifer Knight MBMC
1225 N State Street
Jackson, MS 39202
Phone: (601) 968-1000

NMMC
176 South Main Street
P.O. Box 790
Pontotoc, MS 38863
Phone: (662) 489-5510

SALARY RANGE

Average Annual Salary--\$38,210
Salary Range--\$29,100 to \$44,300