

What can you do with a major in Clinical Laboratory Technology?

Campus(s) program is offered: Canton Campus

What are the most likely job titles one can expect to qualify for after completing this program?

Clinical Laboratory Technicians

What do students express as the thing they enjoy the most about this program?

CLT students enjoy the ability to use their love of science and laboratory skills to help in diagnosis and treatment of diseases.

What is the least?

CLT students understand there is a tremendous amount of material to learn.

What are some typical misconceptions about this program of study?

Students are always surprised to learn how important even the smallest detail can be in analyzing patient samples for disease.

What are typical skills and abilities that a student gains once he/she has completed the program of study?

CLT students will have the skills to perform complex tests and procedures in the major laboratory disciplines: Urinalysis, Immunology, Hematology, Coagulation, Blood Banking, Microbiology and Chemistry. Students will have the knowledge and skills to qualify participants for the clinical laboratory profession and be able to sit for a National Certification Exam.

Typical work activities/occupational functions:

- Analyze body fluids such as blood, urine, and tissue samples to determine normal or abnormal findings
- Collect and study blood samples for use in transfusions by identifying the number of cells, the cell morphology or the blood group, blood type, and compatibility with other blood types
- Operate sophisticated laboratory equipment such as microscopes and cell counters
- Use automated equipment and computerized instruments capable of performing a number of tests at the same time
- Log data from medical tests and enter results into a patient's medical record
- Discuss results and findings of laboratory tests and procedures with physicians
- Supervise or train medical laboratory technicians

What additional training would you recommend for a student who wants to go to the next level in this field?

Chattahoochee Technical College has a 2 + 2 articulation agreement with 3 Georgia Universities to help students advance their education through a seamless process to complete their 4 year degree in Clinical Laboratory Science.

Do any of the occupational courses transfer easily?

The occupational courses transfer into the 3 Georgia Universities that offer a BS in Clinical Laboratory Science.

What are some common limitations, if any, in this program that students face?

Technicians can be on their feet for long periods collecting samples, and they may need to lift or turn disabled patients. Laboratories are usually clean and well lit. However, some of the materials they use may produce fumes.

Medical laboratory personnel are trained to work with infectious specimens. When they follow proper methods to control infection and sterilize equipment, few hazards exist. They usually wear protective masks, gloves, and goggles for their safety and protection.

Are there any exams/certifications that a student needs to take after completing the courses? Are these exams/certifications offered on campus?

Yes, the State of Georgia requires that a National Certification Exam is passed within 18 months after employment. The tests are offered through ASCP or AMT at their testing facilities

Possible employment settings:

- Hospitals laboratories
- References laboratories
- Public health laboratories
- Blood and organ banks
- Physician offices
- Research centers
- Forensic laboratories
- Environmental and food industry laboratories

Names of potential employers:

- Northside Hospital
- WellStar Health System
- Piedmont Hospital
- North Georgia Medical Center
- Redmond Regional Medical Center
- Cartersville Medical Center
- Emory Healthcare
- Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
- JDC Group
- State of Georgia

The Chattahoochee Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age or disability. The following person(s) has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Chattahoochee Technical College Title IX Coordinator, Dianne Lassai Barker, 5198 Ross Road, Room 132P, Acworth, GA 30102, (770) 975-4023, or dianne.barker@chattahoocheetech.edu or Chattahoochee Technical College Section 504 Coordinator, Mary Frances Bernard, 980 South Cobb Drive, Building G1125, Marietta, GA 30060, (770) 528-4529, or maryfrances.bernard@chattahoocheetech.edu.

Chattahoochee Technical College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate degrees. Inquiries related to the college's accreditation by the Commission may be directed to SACSCOC, 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or telephone 404-679-4500. Questions related to admissions and the policies, programs, and practices of Chattahoochee Technical College should be directed to the College.