



A Unit of the Technical College System of Georgia - Equal Opportunity Institution

Medical Laboratory Technician Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What are the responsibilities of a Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT)?

An MLT performs laboratory tests on blood, body fluids, and other specimens to help diagnose, monitor, and treat diseases. They operate complex lab equipment, analyze samples, record data, and ensure quality control. MLTs work under the supervision of medical laboratory scientists or pathologists and play a critical role in delivering accurate and timely lab results to support patient care.

Q: What career opportunities are available for MLTs?

MLTs have a variety of career opportunities in healthcare and beyond. They can work in hospitals, clinical laboratories, physician offices, public health departments, research facilities, and biotechnology companies. With experience and further education, MLTs can advance into roles such as Medical Laboratory Scientists (MLS), laboratory supervisors, quality assurance specialists, or educators. Some MLTs also choose to specialize in areas like microbiology, hematology, or molecular diagnostics. Additionally, MLTs may transition into sales, technical support, or regulatory roles within laboratory-related industries.

Q: Why should I choose Chattahoochee Technical College's MLT Program?

Chattahoochee Technical College's MLT Program provides students with:

- **Hands-On Diagnostic Training:** Gain practical experience performing laboratory tests that help diagnose and treat diseases—an essential part of the healthcare team.
- **Work with Cutting-Edge Lab Technology:** Train on modern lab equipment and techniques used in clinical chemistry, hematology, microbiology, and more.
- **High Demand, Meaningful Careers:** Enter a growing healthcare field with strong job prospects and the opportunity to make a real impact in patient care.
- **Fast-Track to a Professional Credential:** Graduate in as little as 2 years ready to sit for national certification exams and begin working immediately.
- **Clinical Internships with Real-World Experience:** Complete supervised clinical rotations in hospitals and labs to build confidence and job-ready skills.

Q: How do I apply to the MLT Program?

The student must start by applying to the college (Chatt Tech) and be accepted. The student must complete the required pre-requisites.

Information on applying to the program is available at [Medical Laboratory Technology Admission](#)

[Information.](#)

Q: Is it hard to get into the MLT Program?

The MLT Program does have competitive admissions (even though Chatt Tech is Open Enrollment). Selection is based on a point system that is available at [MLT Admission Points](#).

Q: I already have a college degree. Will you accept my transfer credit?

When you apply to the college (Chatt Tech), you can submit your transfer credits for evaluation by our Admissions office. They will determine if your previous coursework meets the prerequisite requirements for the MLT Program. You can find more information about transfer credits on the college's website.

Q: Is the MLT Program offered online or available through night classes?

The MLT course format is blended which will include a combination of online lectures using Blackboard learning system and on-campus laboratory skills offered in person on the Marietta campus. Currently, classes are only offered on Monday-Friday during regular business hours.

Students participate in clinical/applied learning site rotations during the final year of the program (2 semesters). Students must have dependable transportation and may be required to travel for some clinical rotations. Rotations on evenings, nights or weekends may be required. Non-traditional shifts may be created to accommodate the clinical sites.

Q: Can I take MLT classes “part-time”, or take them on my own schedule?

No, the MLT Program is only available as a “full-time” schedule in a closed cohort.

Q: What is a “Closed Cohort”?

The MLT Program uses a “closed cohort” model. This means that only students in the MLT Program may take MLT classes, and students in each cohort will take all their classes together. Students in the MLT Program must take their classes in a specific order, and they register for a set of pre-determined courses each semester.

Q: How long does it take to complete the MLT Program?

The MLT Program takes 5 semesters, with the students participating in a summer semester. Students start in the Fall Semester each year (in August), and graduate at the end of spring semester the following year (in May). It will take 2 years to complete the MLT program once accepted.

Q: What are the requirements for students to participate in clinical/applied learning site rotations?

A clinical/applied learning site is a hospital or clinical site where students perform rotations to practice under the guidance of qualified clinical staff to achieve entry-level competency in specific laboratory skills. Students are required to get a Background Check, Drug Screen, vaccinations, and other requirements. Specific requirements can be obtained by contacting Dr. Lori Bane at lori.bane@chattahoocheetech.edu.

Q: What are the estimated costs for the MLT Program?

Semester	Tuition & Fees for GA Residents	Books	Clinical Fees	Licensure Exam Prep & Comp Exam	Total
1 Fall	\$749 7 credits \$496 fees \$100 Supply fee	\$302	Uniforms/shoes-\$200		\$1847
2 Spring	\$1391 13 credits \$496 fees \$100 Supply fee	\$409	N/A		\$2396
3 Summer	\$535 5 credits \$496 fees \$100 Supply fee	\$95	N/A		\$1226
4 & 5 Fall & Spring	\$2354 22 credits \$496 fees \$100 Supply fee	\$135	Drug Screen/Criminal Background Check-\$80.00 <u>Proof of Immunizations (estimated: \$1290)</u> • Flu vaccine (annually)-\$20–\$50 • COVID-19 vaccine-\$0–\$130 per dose • MMR (Measles/Mumps/Rubella)- \$60–\$130 • Varizella Zoster (Chickenpox)- \$120–\$200 per dose (2 doses needed) • Hepatitis B (full series)- \$40–\$100 per dose (3 doses = \$120–\$300 total) • Td, Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis)- \$45–\$80 • QuantiFERON GOLD PLUS for TB (annually) – If positive some sites may require proof of treatment along with chest x-ray-\$100–\$200	\$225	\$4680
Total					\$10,149

Tuition cost is \$107 per credit hour for GA residents. See CTC Website for specific description of fees. Costs for food, housing and transportation during clinical internships are not included. ***All supply costs are estimates.***

Q: Can I work while I go through the MLT program?

It is possible to work while in the program, but not recommended due to the difficult nature of the program, as well as the variable schedule. Your clinical schedule can also vary (including evenings and weekends), or you may be out of town. If you do choose to work, a flexible schedule is strongly recommended.

Q: I still have questions. How can I find out more information about the MLT Program?

You can contact MLT Program Advisor, April Tolley, at april.tolley@chattahoocheetech.edu.