

# POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE IN MICROBIOLOGY FOR MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

The online post-baccalaureate certificate in microbiology for medical laboratory science is designed for those seeking to advance their career and become board certified as a laboratory technologist. Program participants learn to analyze blood, urine, tissue, and other body specimens to detect, diagnose and treat disease, as well as the latest molecular techniques to investigate and determine the causes of disease.

Coursework may be completed on a full- or part-time basis. The clinical practicum is usually taken on a full-time basis upon completion of didactic coursework. Program participants are typically in a clinical laboratory eight hours per day (daytime hours), five days per week. Students must be able to fulfill the time requirement for the practicum\*.

The certificate program teaches students what they need to qualify to sit for the ASCP Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLS) exam\*.

Those who complete the program coursework and hands-on practicum are prepared to:

- Apply principles of traditional and molecular laboratory procedures to perform diagnostic analyses.
- Correlate laboratory data and quality control data to assess patient test results.
- Apply knowledge of laboratory science principles as they relate to human disease diagnosis.
- Maintain a safe work environment.
- Comply with laboratory safety regulations and regulatory policies.
- Apply ethical decision making to issues related to clinical laboratory practice.

Visit the program website (<https://bls.smhs.gwu.edu/programs/post-baccalaureate-certificate-programs/>) for additional information.

## ADMISSIONS

Admissions    A bachelor's degree  
Requirements

2.5 GPA or above on a 4.0 scale

Completed coursework - All required courses must be completed with a C grade (C- grades and lower do not transfer) or better at a regionally accredited institution of higher learning: 3 credits English Composition, 3 credits College Algebra, Statistics (or higher), a combination of 30 semester hours of Biology and Chemistry coursework including Microbiology with Lab. \*Please be prepared to provide unofficial transcripts to determine program admissibility.

A written personal - statement Statement of Purpose (Applicants must include a 250-500 word essay describing your reasons for undertaking study at GW, your academic objectives, career goals and related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities, relevant to your program of interest. Include any substantial accomplishments not already mentioned on the application form.)

Completed Application

Resume/CV

Application Fee: A non-refundable application fee of \$80 is required. The application fee is waived for active-duty U.S. military, current GW students, degree-holding GW alumni, current McNair Program Scholars.

1 Letter of Recommendation

Official transcripts from every college and university attended. All non-U.S. transcripts (including those in English) must be evaluated by an accredited foreign credential agency. Please find the list of member organizations here: <https://www.naces.org/members/>

International Students: Applicants who are not U.S. citizens are also required to submit official test scores for Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or Pearson's Test of English (PTE) Academics or the academic International English Language Test System (IELTS). The following are the minimum scores for admission consideration: TOEFL: 250 computer-based or 100 Internet-based GW's school code for the TOEFL is 5246. PTE: overall score of 86 IELTS: overall band score of 7.0, with no individual band score below 6.0 International applicants may be considered for admission without submitting the above scores if: You are a citizen of a country where English is the official language, You hold a bachelor's degree from a country where English is the official language and language of instruction, You hold a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by a U.S. regional accrediting agency.

Students who live outside of the Washington DC Metro Area are required to secure a satisfactory clinical site at the time of admission.

Successful completion of a criminal background check and a drug screen through Certiphi Screening, a third-party vendor, are required of all admitted clinical students in their first semester. Students are responsible for fees associated with these screens.

## REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 19 credits in required courses, including the practicum.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required</b>		
MLS 4116	Clinical Bacteriology I	
MLS 4117	Clinical Bacteriology II	
MLS 4119	Parasitology, Mycology, and Virology	
MLS 4141	Immunology and Serology	
MLS 4151	Molecular Diagnostics	
MLS 4158	Laboratory Management and Operations	
MLS 4164	Clinical Microbiology Practicum	

\*Clinical rotations are completed at an approved clinical site and vary in length, lasting between one to four weeks each.