Medical Laboratory Science BS Degree Program

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) ♦ Effective Fall 2019

1. Do I need to submit official transcripts as part of my application for admission to the MLS program?  
   **Answer:** Yes! Official transcripts from all colleges and universities you have attended, including DSU, must be submitted as part of your MLS program application packet.

2. I already have a college degree (Baccalaureate or Associate’s). Do I have to complete all four years of the MLS program to earn my BS in Medical Laboratory Science at DSU?  
   **Answer:** Not necessarily. You may need only leverage your college degree coursework to fulfill DSU graduation requirements and complete MLS program requirements. For more information see page 17 for the MLS program requirements, prerequisites and degree requirements.

3. Must all program prerequisites be met or completed for me apply to the MLS program?  
   **Answer:** No, not all program prerequisites must to be completed to apply to the MLS program. However, any offer of admission to the MLS Professional Program is not finalized if program prerequisites are not completed before the fall term start date of the program. NOTE: Any prerequisite coursework taken at other college(s) or universities after an application for admission is submitted requires the applicant send official transcripts, documenting successful completion of the prerequisite(s), to the DSU registrar not later than 1 week before the start of the fall term of the year the applicant is admitted to the MLS program.

4. What happens to my application once it is received?  
   **Answer:** All application packets received by the close of the application period: March 31, 2020, are reviewed for completeness and to make sure applicants have met minimum requirements to apply. Incomplete application packets and/or those applicants that do not meet minimum requirements are disqualified and removed from further consideration, and the applicants notified. Qualified applications are further evaluated and scored based on criteria for academics, statement of intent, recommendations, and life and work experiences. Application scores along with interview scores are used by the MLS Program Admissions Committee to make admission selections.

5. Is every applicant interviewed?  
   **Answer:** No. Interview slots are limited. Only applicants whose completed application packet is received by 3/31/2020 and who meet minimum application requirements may be offered an interview with the MLS Program Admissions Committee.

6. What is the instructional format of the professional phase of the MLS program?  
   **Answer:** During the first 3 of the 4 semester-long terms of the professional phase of the MLS program, students take integrated lecture-lab courses in the MLS classrooms located in the DSU College of Health Sciences’ Taylor building. With some exceptions, students may expect to be in classes every day, Monday – Friday, for 6-8 hours per day. Upon successful completion of the on-campus MLS coursework, each student is assigned to one or more program-affiliated laboratories to complete a clinical internship during the 4th semester. During this internship, students spend 40-hours per week performing a wide variety of medical lab tests in a contemporary, accredited medical laboratory under the supervision of professionally credentiaed Medical Laboratory Scientists.

7. Is every student guaranteed placement for clinical training?  
   **Answer:** Yes. The MLS professional program policy is that we only accept as many students as we can place in clinical training. However, prospective applicants should note that students are not guaranteed placement at a clinical training site in St. George or the State of Utah.
FAQs – continued

8. Where do students go for clinical training?
   **Answer:** For clinical training, MLS professional program students who have successfully completed the on-campus coursework may be assigned to one or more program-affiliated medical laboratories. Currently the program has affiliations with labs located in Utah, Nevada, Arizona, and New Mexico.

   Due to the variable and limited availability of training slots in St. George and Utah, year to year, and the nature of contractual agreements with clinical training sites, no student is guaranteed local placement for clinical training. Clinical training site assignment is based on multiple factors. But, ultimately, student placement for clinical training is determined by the program faculty in consultation with clinical affiliate training sites. Therefore, applicants are **strongly encouraged to make plans early and to be prepared for assignment outside of St. George and Utah.**

9. What are the costs associated with completing the MLS professional program?
   **Answer:** DSU tuition and fees are best estimated by consulting the DSU Tuition & Fees website at URL [http://catalog.dixie.edu/tuitionfees/](http://catalog.dixie.edu/tuitionfees/). However, prospective students should be aware that the Medical Laboratory Science program tuition is the base price of either resident or non-resident DSU tuition plus an $143.00 per credit tuition differential. Books as well as travel and living expenses associated with clinical training, are other costs associated with completion of the program.

10. Can I work while in the MLS program?
    **Answer:** The MLS program curriculum is academically rigorous, fast-paced, and students have homework and assignments outside of regularly scheduled class time. Additionally, class attendance is required. Consequently, we recommend students not work. However, if a student must work because of financial circumstances, we strongly suggest that work be limited to as few hours as possible and it must be during non-school hours.

11. How many students per year are admitted to the MLS program?
    **Answer:** The program admits a cohort of no more than 15 students per academic year.

12. If I still have questions after I have submitted my application, who may I contact?
    **Answer:** If you still have questions after submitting your application for admission to the MLS professional program, you may contact:

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    OR

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