

Clinical Laboratory Science

Individuals working in Laboratory Science use equipment and technology to collect and prepare blood, tissue, and body fluids. They perform laboratory tests, which provide important information in the diagnosis of disease.

Careers within this section include:

- **Clinical Laboratory Technician**
- **Cytotechnologist**
- **Histotechnologist/Histotechnician**
- **Medical Technologist**
- **Phlebotomist**

Clinical Laboratory Technician



To be a successful Clinical Laboratory Technician you should

- **Be patient**
- **Be conscientious and precise**
- **Be able to follow orders**
- **Be a problem solver**
- **Be able to work under pressure**
- **Have good manual dexterity and good color vision**



What would I do?

To aid in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases, Clinical Laboratory Technicians (CLTs) perform routine laboratory tests on blood, tissue, and body fluids using laboratory instruments such as microscopes and computers. CLTs collect, type, and group blood, and stain slides. Also, CLTs report lab results to other medical personnel, maintain laboratory records, and work with analytical instruments.

Clinical Laboratory Technicians may specialize in one of five areas: blood banking, chemistry, hematology, immunology, or microbiology.

Where would I work?

Clinical Laboratory Technicians work in hospitals, reference laboratories, and research laboratories. They may also work in physicians' offices, nursing homes, pharmaceutical companies, and universities.

What would I earn?

\$31,116–\$41,330

What do I need to know?

Clinical Laboratory Technicians obtain a two-year associate's degree in medical technology from a community college or university. To be certified, CLTs must pass a competency exam after completing their degree. They must be certified in their area of specialization and complete an externship.

What schools can I attend?

New Hampshire Community Technical
College-Claremont
One College Drive
Claremont, NH 03743
(603) 542-7744
(800) 837-0658
www.claremont.nhctc.edu

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American Medical Technologists
710 Higgins Road
Park Ridge, IL 60068
(847) 823-5169
(800) 275-1268
www.amt1.com

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
6701 Democracy Boulevard, Suite 300
Bethesda, MD 20817
(301) 657-2768
www.ascls.org

American Society for Clinical Pathology
Board of Registry
2100 West Harrison Street
Chicago, IL 60612
(312) 738-1336
www.ascp.org

National Accrediting Agency
for Clinical Laboratory Sciences
8410 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Suite 670
Chicago, IL 60631
(773) 714-8880
www.nacls.org



Cytotechnologist



To be a successful Cytotechnologist you should

- Be patient and precise
- Be detail oriented
- Be a problem solver
- Enjoy working at a microscope
- Be a responsible decision maker
- Be willing to stay seated for long periods of time

What would I do?

Cytotechnologists are specially trained laboratory technologists who specialize in the study of cells. They examine samples under a microscope, looking for any abnormalities that may be the sign of cancer or some other disease. If abnormalities are detected, Cytotechnologists report them to a Pathologist for final diagnosis.

Where would I work?

Cytotechnologists work in hospitals, private laboratories, research facilities, educational institutions, or government facilities. They work with a variety of lab instruments.

What would I earn?

\$40,700–\$48,000

What do I need to know?

Most Cytotechnologists earn a four-year bachelor's degree in Cytotechnology. Some students with a science-related college degree (such as biology) may go on to gain an additional year of clinical training in Cytotechnology at an accredited school or hospital. Cytotechnologists may become certified by taking the national registry examination given by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP).

What schools can I attend?

At the current time there are no academic institutions in New Hampshire offering a program for Cytotechnologists. In the past, New Hampshire students have attended out-of-state schools such as Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield, MA, or Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American Society for Clinical Pathology
Board of Registry
2100 West Harrison Street
Chicago, IL 60612
(312) 738-1336
www.ascp.org

American Society of Cytopathology
400 West 9th Street, Suite 201
Wilmington, DE 19801
(302) 429-8802
www.cytopathology.org

American Society for Cytotechnology
1500 Sunday Drive, Suite 102
Raleigh, NC 27607
(919) 787-5181
(800) 948-3947
www.asct.com

National Accrediting Agency
for Clinical Laboratory Sciences
8410 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Suite 670
Chicago, IL 60631
(773) 714-8880
www.naacls.org

Histotechnologist/ Histotechnician



To be a successful Histotechnologist/Histotechnician you should

- **Have good color vision**
- **Be attentive to detail**
- **Be able to concentrate well**
- **Be patient**
- **Be able to work under pressure and to work quickly when necessary**



What would I do?

Histotechnologists (HTLs) and Histotechnicians (HTs) prepare tissue slides for microscopic examination to be used in diagnosis, research, or teaching. Slides are prepared by freezing and cutting tissues, mounting them on slides, and dyeing them to emphasize the details. Histotechnologists perform more complicated tasks than Histotechnicians, and may serve as supervisors or teachers.

Where would I work?

Most HTs and HTLs work in hospital laboratories, but others may work in doctor's offices, research laboratories, pharmaceutical companies, or government agencies.

What would I earn?

\$31,117–\$41,330

What do I need to know?

Histotechnicians need clinical education in a histotechnician (HT) program accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) or an associate's degree from a community college and training at a hospital.

Histotechnologists first obtain a bachelor's degree and then complete a year of additional laboratory experience. They may also complete an accredited histotechnology program.

Certification for both positions may be required and can be obtained after passing a national exam available through the American Society for Clinical Pathologists.

What schools can I attend?

At the current time there are no academic institutions in New Hampshire offering a program for Histotechnologists or Histotechnicians. In the past, New Hampshire students have attended out-of-state schools such as State University of New York in Cobleskill, NY, or Hartford Hospital in Hartford, CT.

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
6701 Democracy Boulevard, Suite 300
Bethesda, MD 20817
(301) 657-2768
www.ascls.org

American Society for Clinical Pathology
Board of Registry
2100 West Harrison Street
Chicago, IL 60612
(312) 738-1336
www.ascp.org

National Accrediting Agency
for Clinical Laboratory Sciences
8410 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Suite 670
Chicago, IL 60631
(773) 714-8880
www.naacls.org

National Society for Histotechnology
4201 Northview Drive, Suite 502
Bowie, MD 20716-2604
(301) 262-6221
www.nsh.org



Medical Technologist



To be a successful Medical Technologist you should

- **Have excellent analytical skills**
- **Have good manual dexterity**
- **Be able to work under pressure**
- **Be attentive to detail**
- **Be organized**

What would I do?

Medical Technologists (MTs)—also known as Clinical Laboratory Scientists—collect, prepare, and analyze body tissues, blood, and fluids to aid doctors and researchers in the diagnosis of disease. They supervise and train medical laboratory technicians. MTs usually perform more complex tests than medical laboratory technicians.

Laboratories provide opportunities for MTs to specialize in one of many areas, including blood banking, chemistry, hematology, immunohematology, immunology, or microbiology. MTs may work as generalists or supervisors.

Where would I work?

Most Medical Technologists work in hospitals, reference laboratories, or research laboratories. Others may work in physicians' offices, nursing homes, research facilities, pharmaceutical companies, and universities.

What would I earn?

\$37,024–\$44,388

What do I need to know?

Medical Technologists complete a four-year bachelor's degree and may complete an additional year of clinical practice in an accredited health facility. Certification is available after passing a national competency exam.

What schools can I attend?

University of New Hampshire
4 Garrison Avenue
Durham, NH 03824
(603) 862-1360
www.unh.edu

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American Medical Technologists
710 Higgins Road
Park Ridge, IL 60068
(847) 823-5169
(800) 275-1268
www.amt1.com

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
6701 Democracy Boulevard, Suite 300
Bethesda, MD 20817
(301) 657-2768
www.ascls.org

American Society for Clinical Pathology
Board of Registry
2100 West Harrison Street
Chicago, IL 60612
(312) 738-1336
www.ascp.org

College of American Pathologists
325 Waukegan Road
Northfield, IL 60093
(800) 323-4040
www.cap.org

National Accrediting Agency
for Clinical Laboratory Sciences
8410 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Suite 670
Chicago, IL 60631
(773) 714-8880
www.naacls.org

Phlebotomist



To be a successful Phlebotomist you should

- **Enjoy working with people**
- **Be patient**
- **Be able to work under pressure**
- **Be attentive to detail**
- **Be an effective communicator and a good listener**
- **Have good manual dexterity**



What would I do?

Phlebotomists collect and process blood to be analyzed in a laboratory. They are trained in laboratory safety and must adhere to strict policies and procedures. Phlebotomists also perform special tests and procedures, such as activated clotting times, vital signs, and throat cultures. They have a lot of contact with patients and perform clerical duties using computerized systems.

Where would I work?

Phlebotomists work in hospital or commercial laboratories, physicians' offices, blood banks, and home health agencies.

What would I earn?

\$22,776–\$27,976

What do I need to know?

Phlebotomists complete either on-the-job training or a formal phlebotomy program, which lasts four to eight months. Certification is available through many national credentialing associations; listed on this page are the most recognized associations.

What schools can I attend?

Health Career Training Associates
60 Rogers Street
Manchester, NH 03103
(603) 622-8400
www.hcta.net

New Hampshire Community Technical
College-Claremont
One College Drive
Claremont, NH 03743
(603) 542-7744
(800) 837-0658
www.claremont.nhctc.edu

New Hampshire Community Technical
College-Manchester
1066 Front Street
Manchester, NH 03102
(603) 668-6706
(800) 924-3445
www.manchester.nhctc.edu

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American Medical Technologists
710 Higgins Road
Park Ridge, IL 60068
(847) 823-5169
(800) 275-1268
www.amt1.com

American Society for Clinical Pathology
Board of Registry
2100 West Harrison Street
Chicago, IL 60612
(312) 738-1336
www.ascp.org

American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians
PO Box 1831
Hickory, NC 28603
(828) 327-3000
www.aspt.org

National Accrediting Agency
for Clinical Laboratory Services
8410 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Suite 670
Chicago, IL 60631
(773) 714-8880
www.naacls.org