

Major in Clinical Laboratory Sciences

College of Health and Human Sciences
Northern Illinois University

Transfer Guide for Illinois Community College Students

[Clinical Laboratory Sciences](#) (CLS), formerly known as Medical Technology (MT), is a dynamic, exciting profession that continually changes as new technological and medical advances occur. The profession provides valuable information through the performance and interpretation of hundreds of scientific analyses of blood, other body fluids, and tissues. Clinical laboratory scientists use the most current biomedical equipment, interfaced with computers, to generate highly accurate, reliable test results. The results of laboratory tests determine the presence of disease, guide treatment strategies, and monitor therapies. The CLS interacts with physicians, nurses, other health care professionals, patients and their families.

Career opportunities include working in hospital, clinic, and physician office laboratories; forensic, research, and public health laboratories; health administration; infection control; marketing and sales of biomedical products, and more. Program graduates successfully obtain graduate and medical degrees. Nationwide, an acute and long-term shortage of CLS professionals virtually ensures that program graduates are in high demand for employment positions. Typically, all program graduates who wish to be employed secure positions within three months or less following completion of the program.

Clinical laboratory sciences is a limited admissions program, which requires students to submit a program application directly to the Clinical Laboratory Sciences office. Students may enter the program in the fall only and must submit the required application materials by March 1. Additional applications may be considered between March 2 and June 1 based on space availability.

Program highlights include a professional curriculum structured around a strong background in biology and chemistry; small classes taught by faculty members who take a personal interest in students; a modern and attractive on-campus laboratory equipped with a full range of biomedical and safety equipment; a state-of-the-art campus classroom with Internet and other audio-visual capabilities; a nine-month clinical experience at an affiliated clinical site; and affiliations with 16 clinical sites in the northern Illinois region. The program faculty has a national and international reputation for leadership and innovation within the field.

This transfer guide is designed as an advising tool to facilitate a smooth transition between institutions by identifying relevant course work recommended to be completed prior to transfer. Community college students are advised to also complete an A.A. or A.S. degree prior to transfer and to consult the [NIU Articulation Handbook](#) for information regarding the transferability of courses. To view course equivalencies, students are encouraged to review the section on [Limited Admissions Programs Transfer Course Equivalents](#) provided by the NIU Transfer Center. All

students planning to transfer are advised to consult with the College of Health and Human Sciences for detailed information.

Special Notes:

- Prospective students should make formal application to the clinical laboratory sciences program by March 1 of their sophomore year. Additional applications received by June 1 are considered based on space availability.
- Students are encouraged to consult with an NIU adviser as soon as possible to discuss possible options with regard to math and biology courses as listed.
- A student who enters the clinical laboratory sciences program with the courses listed here and who has completed an A.A. or A.S. degree can usually expect to complete the NIU program in two years.
- Prospective students with an A.S., A.A., or A.A.S degree, who are certified (or eligible) as Clinical Laboratory Technicians (CLT) through the NCA or Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLT) through the ASCP, are encouraged to discuss options for completion of the CLS baccalaureate degree with program advisors.

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Courses Recommended Prior to Transfer

AHCD 318	Medical Terminology (3)
BIOS 208	Fundamentals of Biology I (3) and BIOS 210, Fundamentals of Biology I Laboratory (1)
BIOS 209	Fundamentals of Biology II (4) and BIOS 211, Fundamentals of Biology II Laboratory (1)
BIOS 213	Introductory Bacteriology (3), or BIOS 313 Microbiology (4)
BIOS 357	Human Anatomy and Physiology (5)
CHEM 210	General Chemistry I (3) and CHEM 212, General Chemistry Laboratory I (1)
CHEM 211	General Chemistry II (3) and CHEM 213, General Chemistry Laboratory II (1)
CHEM 230	Introductory Organic Chemistry (3)
CHEM 231	Introductory Organic Chemistry Laboratory (1)
STAT 208	Basic Statistics (3)

Courses to be Completed at NIU

AHCD 440	Introduction to Teaching in the Allied Health Professions (1-3)
AHLS 211	Introduction to Clinical Laboratory Sciences (2-3)
AHLS 300	Urinalysis (1-2)
AHLS 301	Immunology (2-3)
AHLS 302	Hematology (2-3)
AHLS 308	Body Fluids (1)
AHLS 311	Immunohematology (1-2)
AHLS 312	Hemostasis (1)
AHLS 336	Clinical Diagnostic Microbiology (2-3)
AHLS 337	Clinical Diagnostic Mycology and Parasitology (1)

¹ Based on requirements in the 2008-2009 *Undergraduate Catalog*

AHLS 344	Clinical Diagnostic Biochemistry (3)
AHLS 345	Clinical Diagnostic Biochemistry Laboratory (2)
AHLS 446	Principles of Laboratory Management and Practice (1) or IHHS 450, Administration for Professionals in Health & Human Sciences (3)
AHLS 448	Introduction to Research in Clinical Laboratory Sciences (2) or PHHE 467, Public Health Research and Evaluation (3)
AHLS 470	Topics in Applied Clinical Laboratory Sciences (1-9)
AHLS 471	Clinical Laboratory Science Lecture Series (2-4)
AHLS 475	Clinical Laboratory Sciences Competency (1)
CHEM 370	Introduction to Biochemistry (3)

Specific information about admission requirements to Northern Illinois University and to programs in the College of Health and Human Sciences can be found in the current [NIU Undergraduate Catalog](#). Contact the Office of Admissions to obtain an application for admission. For additional information on programs in the college, contact HHSAdvisingHelp@niu.edu

- ❖ College of Health and Human Sciences (815) 753-1891
- ❖ Department of Military Science (815) 752-7682
- ❖ School of Allied Health and Communicative Disorders
 - Clinical Laboratory Sciences (815) 753-1382
 - Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Rehabilitation Counseling (815) 753-1484
 - Physical Therapy (815) 753-1383
- ❖ School of Family, Consumer, and Nutrition Sciences (815) 753-6350
- ❖ School of Nursing and Health Studies
 - Nursing (815) 753-1231
 - Health Studies (815) 753-1891
- ❖ Gerontology Program (815) 753-0031
- ❖ Office of Admissions (815) 753-0446

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