# How do a enter into a career in laboratory sciences?



Ever think of becoming a Phlebotomist?

#### Phlebotomy Technician Certificate (9 credits)

#### PREREQUISITES

#### **CORE CLASSES**

AHE 116 Explore Health Careers	4 Credits
AHE 110 The Human Body: Structure & Function	5 Credits
BSTEC 104 Medical Terminology	3 Credits
BSTEC 129 PC Basics	3 Credits
SHS 170 HIV/AIDS and	1 Credit ea
AHE 115 CPR/First Aid	

1 ST Quarter		
AHE 141 Phlebotomy Technician	5 Credits	
2nd Quarter		
AHE 143 Phlebotomy Practicum	4 Credits	



## What does a Phlebotomist do?

Phlebotomists duties and responsibilities center around the obtaining and proper handling of human blood. The basic services of the phlebotomist include taking blood samples from patients and correctly cataloging them for lab analysis.

Read more:

http://www.brighthub.com/science/medical/articl es/24735.aspx#ixzz1EuMnmYEA

#### What makes a good Phlebotomist?

Phlebotomists will work directly with patient's and other healthcare professionals.

Professionalism, verbal, written, and audio communication skills are a must. They also must possess vision acuity for close-up work or have corrected vision for such work and must also have a strong attention to detail.

### What are the classes like?

#### AHE 141 PHLEBOTOMY TECHNICIAN

Hands on practice drawing blood on "fake" arms and you classmates!

> Demonstrations & Lectures

> > Exams and Skills Testing

#### AHE 143 PHLEBOTOMY CLINICAL

In a clinical externship you will work as a Phlebotomist in a clinical or hospital. This is an un-paid position that will last for 3 weeks for 120 hours. Your instructor will appoint your site to you based on your skill level.

# So, now you're a Phlebotomist

You've noticed all those people in the front of the lab processing the blood samples you hand to them.

Who are they?



# What is a Clinical Lab Assistant?

The position of a Clinical Laboratory Assistant Program is an entry-level position in such clinical laboratory settings as medical centers, outpatient laboratory facilities, reference laboratories, and research facilities. There responsibilities do vary depending on their place of employment. Most Clinical Lab Assistants will have it stated in their job description that they will be in charge of data entry, specimen processing, quality control, and result reporting.

Clinical Laboratory Assistants serve a diverse ancillary role assisting other laboratory personnel, physicians, and often patients. Their duties may also include laboratory billing practices, phlebotomy, and the performance of assistant level testing according to standard operating procedures.

# What makes a good Clinical Laboratory Assistant?

Like Phlebotomists, Clinical Laboratory Assistants other healthcare professionals, professionalism, verbal, written, and audio communication skills are a must.

They also must possess vision acuity for close-up work or have corrected vision for such work and must also have a strong attention to detail.

#### Clinical Lab Assistant Certificate (26 credits)

#### PREREQUISITES

#### **CORE CLASSES**

AHE 116 Explore Health Careers	4 Credits
AHE 110 The Human Body: Structure & Function	5 Credits
BSTEC 104 Medical Terminology	3 Credits
BSTEC 129 PC Basics	3 Credits
SHS 170 HIV/AIDS and	1 Credit ea
AHE 115 CPR/First Aid	

\*\*\*Shoreline CC and Cascadia CC have Phlebotomy programs that will directly transfer into Edmonds CC's CLA program.\*\*\*

1 ST Quarter		
AHE 141 Phlebotomy Technician	5 Credits	
AHE 144 Clinical Lab Assistant I	5 Credits	
AHE 145 Clinical Lab Assistant II	5 Credits	
2nd Quarter		
AHE 146 Clinical Lab Assistant III	5 Credits	

AHE 146 Clinical Lab Assistant III	5 Credits
AHE 147 Clinical Lab Assistant Externship	2 Credit
AHE 143 Phlebotomy Practicum	4 Credits



#### What to expect in CLA1?

Students will learn the basic structure of the laboratory, lab safety, test acronyms, and potential job opportunities. Student will have in-class labs as well as be exposed to labs on-site at a variety of medical facilities.





#### What to expect in CLA2?

What to expect in CLA<sub>2</sub>?

**Real Laboratory Practice!** 

In this class students are able to apply the knowledge that they learned in CLA1 in a simulated laboratory environment, while developing new "essential" skills needed in the position of a traditional Lab Assistant. Students will get a chance to look up specimen requirements, use an Laboratory Information System, process specimens, and distribute them to the appropriate testing lab/department in a mock laboratory setting. Order Entry/Specimen Login/Result Retrieval

> Specimen Processing

Reference Lab "Lookup"/Problem Solving



# What to expect in CLA3 & Externship?

What to expect in CLA<sub>2</sub>?

Waived Testing! Students in this class will be able to person CLIA Waived testing in the form of testing kits and small analyzers. They will also be able to practice putting in test results into a Laboratory Information System.

Students will also gain the essentials to function in Transfusion Support Services.

What to expect in the CLA Clinical Externship?

This is an un-paid internship, in which students are placed in clinics, hospitals, and/or reference labs and work as Clinical Lab Assistants. Students are placed based on their skill level and their interest based on the "type" of lab assistant they want to become.



### **Course Schedule**

- AHE 144/145/146Core courses are designed to be completed in 2 quarters.
  - Hybrid format
  - Evening Lab Sessions
- Entry points into the program will run every Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters.

# So, now you're a CLA

You've noticed all those people in the back of the lab looking though microscopes, running large analyzers and identifying microorganisms – Who are they?



# They're MLT's and MLS's

- MLS Medical Laboratory Scientist
  - Bachelors degree
- MLT Medical Laboratory Technician
  - Associates degree
- How do I get there?
  - There are multiple routes for you to choose depending on your finances and goals
- Salary ranges
  - MLT \$19.00 to \$23.00/hr to start
  - MLS \$24.00 to \$28.00/hr to start
  - Shift differentials may be available as well



#### MLS

- There are four year medical technology schools
  - The UW has one
  - You can apply to the UW, take prerequisites and apply into their program for your 2<sup>nd</sup> two years.
  - If accepted you will complete the program and receive a 4 year degree in Medical Technology

#### MLT

- This is a two year program.
- Shoreline Community College has one.
- Two routes for this:
  - Certificate of Proficiency in MLT
  - AAAS in MLT



## MLT to MLS

- If you have a bachelors or complete a bachelors degree and have an MLT certification you may be able to take the MLS exam.
  - You must work for 2 years in an accredited laboratory in all areas and have completed your bachelors degree.
  - Requirements for both the MLT and MLS exams are listed on the ASCP website. <u>www.ascp.org</u>

#### MLT – Route 1 Certificate of Proficiency

- If you already have an Associates or Bachelors degree you can transfer or take most prerequisites at any school as long as they are equivalent to SCC's
  You then take MLT 181 and MLT 182
  - This class is only offered Spring quarter
  - During this class you apply to the second professional year of the program
  - If accepted you will complete in 4-5 quarters and receive a Certificate of Proficiency and be eligible to sit for the ASCP national Examination

## MLT – Route 2 AAAS in MLT

- As well as the science and other MLT requirements you need to meet the Core requirements to receive an Associates degree.
  - Again you need to take MLT 181 and MLT 182 in the Spring and apply to the 2<sup>nd</sup> professional year
  - If accepted you will complete in 4-5 quarters with an AAAS in MLT and be eligible to sit for the ASCP exam

## What classes do you need?

#### AAAS

- Core classes
  - English 101
  - Multicultural class
  - Quantitative Reasoning (Math 99)
  - Computer skills class

#### MLT Program prerequisites for both AAAS and CP.

- HIV/AIDS 8 hours
- Human Relations in Business
- Cell Biology
- Anatomy and Physiology
- General Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Microbiology
- MLT 181 and MLT 182 Introduction to Procedures
- A valid CPR card is required to attend clinical training

# What order do you take the science classes?

- Math 99 needed to take General Chemistry
- General Chemistry needed to take Cell Biology and Organic Chemistry
- Cell Biology needed to take Microbiology
- No prerequisites for A&P and it will transfer over from the CLA Program
- We recommend you not take more than 2 science classes at a time.
- Your grades will count in these classes for the MLT application
- MLT advisors Molly Morse and Sue Seegers can help to set up a schedule for you.

#### Ok – you've got all of these so how do you apply?

- Applications are available on the MLT Webpage beginning in February and are due in May
  - Students usually fill these out during MLT 181/182
- Students are accepted into the program based on a point system which includes science prerequisites and MLT 181 and 182. Remember these two MLT classes are only offered in the spring.

 The higher your grades – the higher your points.
22-24 students are accepted each year depending on clinical sites and students are notified in June and will begin the following fall

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Professional Year

- Fall and Winter quarter
  - Classes meet Tuesday through Thursday
- Spring or following Fall
  - 12 weeks of clinical training (40 hours a week)
    - Mostly during the days, you might be asked to come in on a different shift to see other test procedures
    - There is also one night shift clinical voluntary
  - 1 week phlebotomy clinical if needed
- Summer quarter
  - Immunohematology
    - combined lecture/lab/clinical 4 days a week on SCC campus
- Students will complete either the end of summer or end of fall quarter

#### Why are there 2 completion times?

- In the past the program was able to secure approximately 18 spaces for spring clinicals.
- If you were not accepted you would have to reapply the following year
- A few of our clinical sites agreed to train students in the fall
- Depending on your points you would then have the option to perform clinicals in the fall instead of having to reapply the next year.
- Although you will complete later then other students you will be granted a spot in the program

#### Classes 2<sup>nd</sup> Professional year

- Fall Quarter on campus
  - Hematology lecture and lab
  - Immunology lecture and lab
  - Parasitology lab
- Winter Quarter on campus
  - Clinical Chemistry lecture and lab
  - Clinical Microbiology lecture and lab
  - Phlebotomy skills lab if needed



# **Classes - continued**

- Spring or Fall Clinicals 12 weeks
  - Hematology
  - Clinical Chemistry
  - Clinical Microbiology



- Phlebotomy clinicals are scheduled during school breaks (1 week)
- Summer Quarter on campus
  - Immunohematology
  - Parasitology lecture on line
- All classes including clinicals have an online component.





# **Clinical Sites**

- Many of our clinical sites are in Seattle and surrounding areas
- Some sites are regional
  - Anacortes, Whidbey, Mt Vernon, Bremerton, Port Angeles
- Depending on where you place in the point rank you may have to complete your clinical at a regional site
  - You need to be prepared to travel to one of these sites.
- Upon acceptance you will be given a general idea of where you might go. (ie: local or regional, spring or fall etc). You can then decide if you will accept a space in the program
- We are not able to accommodate requests for specific sites









### **More Questions**

- Visit the Shoreline CC's MLT Webpage
  - <u>http://www.shoreline.edu/MedicalLabo1.aspx</u>
- Come to an Information Meeting
  - <u>http://www.shoreline.edu/hope/meetings.aspx</u>
- Set up an appointment to meet with an MLT Advisor
  - Molly Morse <u>mmorse@shoreline.edu</u>
  - Sue Seegers <u>sseegers@shoreline.edu</u>

### More Questions – continued.

- Visit the Edmonds CC Allied Health Webpage
  - http://ahe.edcc.edu/Come to an Information Meeting
- Set up an appointment to meet with an Phlebotomy or CLA Advisor.
  - Erika Ferreri <u>erika.ferreri@email.edcc.edu</u>