WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY

Choose a Career in Clinical Laboratory Science!

Sponsored by the Clinical Laboratory Science Program at West Liberty University
West Liberty, WV, 26074
304-336-8177
Main Hall houses the West Liberty University Clinical Laboratory Science Program
Did you know…..?

• It is estimated that 80% of all physician decisions are based on laboratory tests performed by the Clinical Laboratory Scientist (CLS). In fact, two-thirds of a patient’s medical records are laboratory tests.

• There is currently a shortage of the CLS in the U.S. The American Society of Clinical Pathologists Board of Registry found vacancy rates for the CLS at between 7-20% depending on the job type and location.

(Laboratory Medicine, 2001, 32:124-137)
Currently there is a national shortage of properly trained clinical laboratory personnel.

There are many opportunities in this exciting and fulfilling career.
Why There's a Shortage Of Clinical Lab Scientists

Lab Coalition, Hospitals Struggle to Find Viable Solutions

By Sue Auxter

It will come as no surprise to most laboratorians that there's been a steady increase in job vacancy rates over the last 12 years. According to data collected by the American Society for Clinical Pathology's (ASCP) Board of Registry (Lab Med 2000; 32:124–38), vacancy rates for clinical laboratory scientists in the U.S. are now between 7% and 20%, depending on job type and geographic location. To make matters worse, clinical laboratory science programs continue to close, meaning that there are fewer programs available to educate tomorrow's clinical laboratory scientists.

"This is an immense problem. We are currently graduating fewer than half of what the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics says is the annual delta for new employees. It's about 9,800, and we are graduating only about 4,100 people per year," said James Griffith, Convener of the Coordinating Council on the Clinical Laboratory Workforce (CCCLW), a council of twenty laboratory organizations and four government agencies that is examining the lab workforce shortage issue in an attempt to find some solutions.
2000 Wage and Vacancy Survey of Medical Laboratories
Wages on the Upswing, Vacancy Rates Accelerate

Kory Ward-Cook, PhD, MT(ASCP),¹ and Suzanne Tannar²

From the ¹ASCP Board of Registry, Chicago, IL, and ²Morpace International, Detroit, MI
Laboratory Medicine 2001, volume 32, number 3
Summary and Conclusions

“Overall, the wages for all medical laboratory positions are on the upswing. The percentage median wage increases are collectively greater than in any other time in the 12-year comparison period. Vacancy rates are concurrently continuing to accelerate for 8 of the 10 positions. Difficulty in filling shifts, coupled with more staff turnover, presents a challenge for laboratory directors and managers.”
Bureau of Labor Statistics

- 53,000 new jobs
- 40,000 vacancies
- 93,000 positions to be filled
- 9,000 openings per year
- 4,990 graduates/year
Listen! Would you like to know...

How you can help doctors diagnose and treat disease?

How you can have an exciting and rewarding career helping others?

How you can join a growing field with flexibility and job security?
A Career in the Clinical Laboratory is your answer!
Clinical Laboratory Science is a dynamic, exciting profession that continually changes as new medical knowledge is discovered.
Let’s Talk…

Positions available in the clinical lab
Education, preparation and training
A look at a typical clinical laboratory
Career path and options
The Clinical Laboratory Scientist...

Also known as a Medical Technologist or Medical Laboratory Scientists

Four year Bachelor of Science Degree

Work in all areas and perform routine and complex tests with little or no supervision

Microscope, electronic equipment, computers.

Provide accurate and reliable results to doctors.
Why Choose to Become a Clinical Laboratory Scientist …?

• Laboratory tests are extremely valuable
• Contribute up to 70% to all medical decisions made by doctors
• Modern medicine could not function without lab tests.
• Demand for laboratory professionals will exceed supply in the near future
Education, Training, Preparation

High School: Solid skills in Math and Sciences like Chemistry, Biology, Computer Science

West Liberty: Combo of classroom and clinical training. 2 years general studies and science courses, 2 years in the CLS program
Education, Training, Preparation cont...

NAACLS accredited program (National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science, 5600 N. River Rd., Suite 720, Chicago, IL., 60018-5119, 773.714.8880) Guidance Counselor or local hospital laboratory can provide more info or email us at:

Dr. William Wagener, Ph.D., MT(ASCP), Professor and Program Director, Clinical Laboratory Science Program
wagenerw@westliberty.edu
“Real life” training directly prepares you for the job.

ASCP National Certification Exam

State Licensure may be required

Masters Degree in Specialties

Many graduates continue on to graduate or professional schools
Do You Have What it Takes?

Problem solvers

Enjoys challenge and high level of responsibility

Focus on accuracy and reliability

Perform many tasks at the same time

High standards and demand quality

Commitment to help others
Typical Laboratory Configuration
Organization of the Clinical Laboratory

*Typical (Discipline-Specific)*

- Microbiology
- Immunohematology (Blood Bank)
- Clinical Chemistry
- Hematology/Coagulation
- Immunology
- Urinalysis
- Esoteric Testing
MICROBIOLOGY
Bacteriology, mycology, parasitology, virology
Bacteriology
Parasitology
Mycology
Clinical Chemistry
Hematology
Blood Bank
Molecular Diagnostics
West Liberty University Clinical Laboratory Science

Nationally Accredited

Hands-On
Freshman Year

General Studies
Introductory Science Courses
Lab Math Course
Sophomore Year

General Studies
Microbiology
Organic/Biochemistry
Junior Year

- Clinical Chemistry
- Immunology
- Blood Bank
- Body Fluids
- Hematology
- Clinical Microbiology
- Student Labs
Senior Year

Senior level courses

Clinical Rotations

Preparation for National Certifying Exams
Where you will work…..

Hospitals Laboratories
Physician Office Laboratories
Independent or Reference Laboratories
Public Health Laboratories
Pharmaceutical Companies
Fertility Clinics
Veterinary Laboratory
and others
Career Options...

Educational Program Director
Research/ Clinical Trials
Product Development
Sales and Marketing/Consulting
Genetics
Information Technology
Multi-departmental Manager/Hospital Administration
Medical Informatics
Basic Working Levels....

Clinical Departments: Hematology, Chemistry Blood Bank, Microbiology, Immunology

“Bench” testing

Supervisor

Manager
A great Career...

Perfect Blend of Science, Medicine and Technology

Reasoning and Technical Skills

Interesting, Life Long Learning

Allows for branching into other fields

and......
 ...... a challenging, rewarding, way to help people.
Finally...

Though we are behind the scenes....
We are the Heroes of the Health Care Team
Solving Today’s Medical Mysteries.
If you are interested about learning more about the Clinical Laboratory Science Program at West Liberty University please call us at 304-336-8177

Or you may email the Program Director at: wagenerw@westliberty.edu

This presentation was prepared by William Wagener, Ph.D., MT(ASCP), Program Director, and is intended for educational purposes only