

# Medical Laboratory Science Program

## UnityPoint Health-St. Luke's Hospital

### Fact Sheet for Applicants: 2024-2025 Program Year

This information is intended to provide an overview for those interested in attending the MLS Program at St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids, IA.

**Notification of selection:** Students will be notified by December 1<sup>st</sup> of their status within the program. Up to four students will be accepted each class.

**Tuition and Books:** A \$300 non-refundable enrollment fee is paid at the time of acceptance and is applied toward the tuition. Tuition for the program is \$7500. The remaining \$7200 is paid at the start of the program. Payment plans can be set up with prior approval from the Program Director. Financial aid should be arranged through the student's affiliated college/university. Scholarship opportunities will be shared with students throughout the year. The cost of books are covered with the tuition and are property of the hospital. Students are able to check them out for use during the program.

**Health Policies & Health Insurance:** A physical health exam, TB blood test, and proof of immunizations are required before classes begin. It is strongly recommended that students have received the Hepatitis B vaccine series prior to starting the program.

**Didactic & Clinical Schedule:** The program typically starts mid-August and is a 35 week program. Classes meeting Monday-Friday and the hours are typically 0700-1430. There are some rotations where it is required to come in before 0700 or stay until 1530. Mornings are spent in the clinical laboratory rotation with lecture in the afternoon.

There is a two week break around the Christmas/New Year holidays and a one week review break at the end of the clinical rotations. Students return from the review week to complete a 6 week review period, going back through all clinical departments.

Orientation/Phlebotomy: 2 weeks

Clinical Chemistry and Toxicology: 6 weeks

Clinical Hematology/Coagulation/Urinalysis/Body Fluids: 9 week

Clinical Immunohematology: 5 weeks

Clinical Microbiology: 7 weeks

Review Rotation: 6 weeks

**Grades:** Students will receive a separate grade for both the didactic (lecture) and clinical experience. The college/university will receive a transcript upon completion for those in degree seeking programs. A final grade is earned after satisfactory completion (70% or higher) for all requirements for both didactic and clinical.

**Criminal Background Check:** As a student you will be classified as an employee at St. Luke's Hospital. You must pass a criminal background check.

**Program Outcomes:**

- **Graduation Rate:**
  - 2021: 100%
  - 2022: 100%
  - 2023: 100%
- **Attrition Rate:**
  - 2021: 100%
  - 2022: 100%
  - 2023: 100%
- **Graduates Passed the ASCO-BOC exam within the first year of graduation:**
  - 2021: 100%
  - 2022: 100%
  - 2023: 100%
- **Graduates that obtained a medical laboratory science-related job or pursued further education within a year of completing the program**
  - 2021: 100%
  - 2022: 100%
  - 2023: 100%

**Program Staff:**

- Cassie Hartgrave, MPH, MLS(ASCP)<sup>cm</sup>, Program Director
- Jonathan Newberry, MD, Medical Director
- Jackie Krauss, BS, MLS(ASCP)<sup>cm</sup>, Chemistry/Immunoassay Instructor
- Heather Lai, BA, MLS(ASCP)<sup>cm</sup>, SH(ASCP)<sup>cm</sup>, Hematology/Coagulation/Urinalysis Instructor
- Marci Schmatt, BS, MT(ASCP), Immunohematology Instructor
- Anna Tesdahl, BS, MLS(ASCP)<sup>cm</sup>, Microbiology Instructor
- Ryan Long PBT(ASCP), Phlebotomy Instructor

For additional information or questions please reach out to the program staff at:

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