



Medical Laboratory Technology

Train to perform and evaluate diagnostic laboratory tests – a vital role in the treatment and prevention of disease – working in hospitals, medical or research labs and scientific supply companies.

As integral members of the health care team, medical laboratory technologists are trained to perform a broad spectrum of laboratory testing and procedures, playing a vital role in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease. Based in large part on the national competency profile issued by the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS), the two year, full time fast paced Medical Laboratory Technology program trains students to become skilled in applying the scientific, technical, and medical principles needed to perform and evaluate laboratory testing in a health care setting. As part of Canada's fourth largest group of health care professionals, medical laboratory technologists play an integral role in our health care system.

The first year of the Medical Laboratory Technology program consists of classroom instruction and laboratory training. The second year consists of theory instruction and an extensive clinical practicum at affiliated sites. The practicum provides a range of clinical experiences where students are given opportunities to develop and integrate the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes in practical or simulation settings. In the last term, students will write practice competency-based exams in preparation for challenging the national CSMLS certification exam.

Is this the right fit for me?

Students who experience success in this program and profession:

- have higher secondary and/or post-secondary grades
- are committed to attend 30 hours per week of classroom activities and spend another 30 hours per week outside of the classroom due to the intensity of this program
- are committed to consistent program attendance and to the significant additional self-study required
- possess integrity and a professional attitude
- have an aptitude for mathematics and science, and a keen interest in scientific work
- are able to follow verbal and written instructions, and are highly attentive to detail and accuracy
- can work quickly and accurately, and take precise readings
- have strong hand and finger dexterity to facilitate handling specimens and small laboratory equipment
- have strong visual colour and form perception
- possess good interpersonal and communication skills in English
- can adapt quickly and easily to change
- enjoy working in a team environment
- are physically fit, including the ability to spend a considerable amount of time standing or sitting while performing tasks that may be repetitive
- are mindful of observing safety precautions in order to reduce the risk of exposure to infectious body fluids or dangerous chemicals

Accreditation

This program is designed so that graduates achieve clinical competence as defined by the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS) and meet the compliance requirements of Accreditation Canada.

Graduates are eligible to challenge the CSMLS exams to obtain national certification as a medical laboratory technologist, which will allow national portability.

Credentials

After successfully completing this program, graduates will receive a SAIT Medical Laboratory Technology diploma.

Admission requirements

Application dates

- **Fall 2022 start:** application are accepted Oct 6, 2021 to Jan. 31, 2022*

***Please note:** Access to the MLT Profession Specific Entrance Assessment will close end of day Feb. 11, 2022.

Program requirements

Completion of the following courses or equivalents **AND** a combined average of 75%:

- At least 70% in Math 30-1 or Pure Math 30, or at least 75% in Math 30-2,
- At least 70% in English Language Arts 30-1,
- At least 70% in Chemistry 30,
- At least 70% in Biology 30

AND,

- A mark of at least 50% on the scoring rubric for the [School of Health and Public Safety's Entrance Testing Process](#).

Entrance testing process

All applicants must demonstrate [English Language Proficiency](#) prior to admission,

SAIT accepts [high school course equivalents](#) for admission. If you don't meet the requirements, consider [Academic Upgrading](#).

Direct entry: five-step process

Step 1: Read the program information to see the qualities needed for student success.

Step 2: Review the information related to the necessary components of the [School of Health and Public Safety Entrance Testing Process](#)

Step 3: Complete the School of Health and Public Safety Entrance Testing Process non-academic admission requirement. Ensure that you meet all of the academic admission requirements listed above.

Step 4: [Apply](#) to the Medical Laboratory Technology program and submit your [transcripts and/or anticipated final grades](#) prior to the application close date.

- Admission is offered on a first-qualified, first-offered basis until the program is full.

Step 5: Log in to [mySAIT.ca](#) to check your admission status. Find out how to monitor your [application status](#).

Failure to meet anticipated final grades will result in offers being rescinded.

Communication during admission

Email is the primary source of communication during the admission process. Ensure your personal email account is managed appropriately to receive our emails, files and communications. We recommend you add clinical.supportservices@sait.ca and the [sait.ca](#) domain to your safe senders' list or you risk missing critical email messages.

Practicum requirements

Created Date: 07/06/22

<https://www.sait.ca/programs-and-courses/diplomas/medical-laboratory-technology>

The [School of Health and Public Safety](#) has many practica partners located within Alberta and across Canada. Practicum placements in Calgary are limited and students may be required to relocate outside of Calgary for practicum.

Successful candidates will be informed of the allocation of their practicum placement by the program. There is no guarantee that students will be placed at their desired practicum location. Special considerations of personal circumstances will not be given in regards to assigning practicum placements. Students will be responsible for fees associated with practicum such as entrance requirements, relocation and travel costs.

In compliance with the practica agreements with our clinical partners, successful candidates will be requested to provide proof of the following requirements:

- Updated immunization records
- Security clearance - Police Information Check including Vulnerable Sector Check
- N95 respiratory mask fitting
- Health and wellness status

[Learn more](#)

Costs 2022/23

Domestic tuition and fees

Cost per credit: \$146

Year	Number of semesters	Tuition fees	SAIT fees	Saitsa fees*	Total
1	3	\$7,665	\$1,214	\$698.50	\$9,577.50
2	3	\$5,256	\$1,214	\$698.50	\$7,168.50

*Maximum fee. Actual fees may be less and are based on the number of credits a student takes per semester and whether they opt-out of health and dental benefits.

SAIT fees

- Campus athletic and recreation fee: \$294
- Universal transit pass (Upass): \$320
- Student support fee: \$300
- Student technology fee: \$300

Saitsa fees

Student Association fee

- Maximum: \$436.50

This is the maximum amount the student will pay. Actual fees may be less and are based on the number of credits the students take per semester.

Health and dental fees

- Health plan: \$127
- Dental plan: \$135

Students with existing health and/or dental plans can opt-out. Please refer to [Saitsa's website](#) for information.

For more information on health and dental benefits for international students, please contact the [International Centre](#).

Books and supplies*

Books, supplies and uniforms are approximately \$1,600 for the entire program. The CompTracker fee is \$165.

Students are responsible for any additional expenses related to their practica (i.e. relocation costs if placed outside of Calgary, food, housing, transportation, etc.).

Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS) national exam fee is approximately \$1500 for members or \$2000 for non-members who are Canadian residents. CSMLS national association dues for students are approximately \$85.

CSMLS national association dues for recent grads are approximately \$150.

College of Medical Laboratory Technologist of Alberta (CMLTA) provincial dues are approximately \$285 for recent grads plus \$150 for an initial application fee.

There is a fee associated with obtaining a criminal record check (including vulnerable sector check) and is payable to the Police or the RCMP.

Students must have their immunizations reviewed by the SAIT Health Clinic. There is a \$75 charge to review vaccine history. Any vaccines to be administered will result in additional charges.

There is a fee, approximately \$50-\$100, associated with an Electronic Student Permit Checking submission which is required for clinical practicum placements, payable to Synergy Gateway through the Verified software platform.

For an estimate of the costs associated with purchasing a computer that meets the program's hardware and software requirements, see our [computers and laptops page](#).

Learn more about [tuition and financial aid](#).

*Tuition, fees, books and supply costs are subject to change.