

Medical Laboratory Professionals – Save Lives with Science

Medical laboratory science combines the use of sophisticated instruments and techniques with the application of theoretical knowledge to perform complex procedures on tissue specimens, blood samples and other body fluids. The tests and procedures that are performed in the medical laboratory provide critical information enabling physicians to diagnose, treat and monitor a patient's condition. Over 70% of medical decisions are based on lab results – without lab professionals, your doctor is just guessing!

Medical Laboratory Technologists (MLT)

Medical Laboratory Technologists are regulated health professionals who serve in hospital, private, public health, and blood transfusion labs in both urban and rural centers. Long-term career growth may result in appointments in education, management, or specialties such as molecular genetics. MLTs also work in industry research and development, and sales and service.

For a career as a Medical Laboratory Technologist, you will study full-time in an accredited, post-secondary Medical Laboratory Science program for 2-3 years at college, or 4 years at university. The curriculum will be science-focused and will include chemistry, math, and biology courses. Upon completion of an MLT program, students are required to write the national certification exam through the Canadian Society of Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS) and then must be registered to practice with the College of Medical Laboratory Technologists of Ontario (CMLTO).

Ontario Programs:

- [Anderson College](#) (Toronto) – 2 years
- [Cambrian College](#) (Sudbury) – 3 years
- [Conestoga College](#) (Kitchener) – 3 years
- [Georgian College](#) (Barrie) – 3 years – program starts fall 2025
- [Humber Polytechnic](#) (Toronto) – 3 years – program starts fall 2025
- [Michener Institute of Education at UHN](#) (Toronto) – 2.5 years
- [St. Clair College](#) (Windsor) – 3 years
- [St. Lawrence College](#) (Kingston) – 3 years
- [Ontario Tech University](#) (Oshawa) – 4-year BSc in Medical Laboratory Science

MLT salary range in Ontario hospitals - \$33-50/hour (\$64,350 - \$97,500 annually)

Learn more about MLT certification [here](#).

Medical Laboratory Assistant/Technicians (MLA/T)

Medical Laboratory Assistants/Technicians serve in urban and rural settings in the public and private sectors. Hospitals, physicians' offices, diagnostic labs, clinics, pharmaceutical research, testing clinics, fertility clinics, specimen collection sites and blood centers all require the services of MLA/Ts. They collect blood from patients (phlebotomy), perform components of sample analysis, and process samples. They work under the supervision of MLTs.

To become a Medical Laboratory Assistant/Technician, 8-10 months post-secondary education at a recognized institution is required. Graduates qualify to write the MLPAO Medical Laboratory Assistant/Technician (MLA/T) Certification exam. There are >30 MLA/T programs in Ontario offered at a variety of community and private colleges.

MLA/T salary range in Ontario - \$27-37/hour (\$52,650 - \$72,150 annually)

Learn more about MLA/T certification [here](#).