

# **Medical Laboratory Science Program**

## **Technical Standards and Program Requirements**

Applicants to the Medical Laboratory Science Program must review the Technical Standards below. As part of the application process, applicants must acknowledge that, to the best of their knowledge, they can meet these standards and program requirements, with or without reasonable accommodation. These standards and requirements describe the essential functions required to complete the program and to perform the duties of a Medical Laboratory Scientist in clinical practice.

### **I. Technical Standards (Essential Abilities)**

Admission to the MLS Program requires the ability to perform the following essential functions. These functions may be met with or without reasonable accommodation.

#### **1. Visual and Sensory Abilities**

Students must be able to effectively interpret visual and sensory information necessary for laboratory practice, including reading manuals, labels, and instrument displays; interpreting data from computer monitors and laboratory equipment; recognizing instrument indicators and auditory alarms; distinguishing cellular components, colony morphology, and specimen characteristics; and safely handling specimens, reagents, and laboratory equipment.

#### **2. Communication Skills**

Students must be able to read and interpret scientific and technical information; accurately document laboratory data; prepare written reports; and communicate effectively with faculty, peers, and healthcare professionals in both academic and clinical settings.

#### **3. Motor and Technical Skills**

Students must be able to perform laboratory procedures safely and accurately, including operating instruments and equipment; manipulating laboratory tools and materials; and completing required tasks within established timeframes consistent with patient safety and workflow demands.

#### **4. Critical Thinking and Judgment**

Students must be able to apply critical thinking, analysis, and judgment to ensure accurate, reliable, and safe laboratory testing and decision-making in academic and clinical environments.

## **5. Professional Behavior and Emotional Stability**

Students must be able to demonstrate professional conduct, work effectively independently and as part of a team, interact respectfully with others, maintain confidentiality and ethical standards, respond appropriately to feedback, adapt to changing environments, and participate in required educational activities, including blood collection procedures.

## **6. Safety and Infection Control**

Students must be able to comply with laboratory safety procedures, standard precautions, and infection control policies, and work safely in environments involving potential exposure to biological, chemical, and infectious hazards.

## **7. Physical Endurance**

Students must be able to carry out required laboratory and clinical activities, which may include prolonged standing or sitting, repetitive tasks requiring manual dexterity, and moving or transporting materials in compliance with program and clinical site requirements.

## **8. Changes in Ability**

Students who experience changes that may affect their ability to meet technical standards are required to notify the program director to allow for timely review and determination of appropriate next steps.

# **II. Other Program Requirements**

## **1. Health Requirements**

Students must complete required health screenings and provide documentation of immunizations and TB testing in accordance with clinical affiliate requirements before clinical rotations.

## **2. Attendance and Participation**

Students are expected to attend and actively participate in all lectures, laboratory sessions, and clinical rotations. Excessive absences may affect academic standing and clinical placement. Missed clinical time must be addressed in coordination with faculty and clinical sites.

### **3. Background Check and Drug Testing**

Students must complete required background checks and drug testing before clinical participation. Findings that restrict clinical eligibility may affect continuation in the program.

### **4. Insurance and BLS Certification**

Students must maintain health insurance, professional liability coverage, current BLS certification, comply with HIPAA and confidentiality requirements, adhere to professional conduct and dress codes, and maintain access to required technology.

### **5. Confidentiality / HIPAA Compliance**

Students must adhere to HIPAA and institutional confidentiality policies when handling patient information.

### **6. Reasonable Accommodation**

The Medical Laboratory Science Program complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and applicable institutional policies. Students who wish to request a reasonable accommodation must contact the Accessibility Resource Center at [arc@lamar.edu](mailto:arc@lamar.edu). The website is <https://www.lamar.edu/accessibility-resource-center>. Accommodation determinations are made on an individual basis.

### **Student Acknowledgment**

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the **Technical Standards** and **Program Requirements** for admission to and participation in the Medical Laboratory Science Program. To the best of my knowledge, I can meet these standards, with or without reasonable accommodation, and understand that meeting essential requirements is necessary for participation in clinical rotations and program completion.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_