

Admissions Checklist

Applying to Mercy College can be a breeze. Planning ahead helps. Here's a checklist to keep you on track with the application process.

To Do List

- ❑ Download the online **Clinical Laboratory Science Program Application Packet**. Complete and mail your application including the **\$25 non-refundable application fee** to the Admissions Office. (*The fee is waived if you visit campus.*)
- ❑ Send your **Official Transcripts from all Colleges and Universities** attended to the Admissions Office.
- ❑ Submit three **letters of recommendation**.
- ❑ Submit a **one page essay of career goals** and explain why you are choosing a career in clinical laboratory science.
- ❑ Complete an **interview** with the Program Chair by December 1. This interview is scheduled by the Program Chair after all other documents have been received by the Admissions Office.

Application for College Admission

The application packet (includes the CLS application and reference forms) may be downloaded at mchs.edu/cls. Upon request, the Admissions Office will mail you the application packet.

The application deadline is November 1st. All application materials must be received in the Mercy College of Health Sciences Admissions Department by November 1st to be considered for admission. All interviews must be completed before December 1st.

After all of the necessary documents have been received, you will be invited for a tour of the laboratory and personal interview with the Program Chair.

Admission into this program is on a competitive basis. Meeting the minimum admission criteria does not guarantee admission into this program. Admission into Mercy College does not guarantee admission into this program.

An Official Transcript

A transcript is considered official when stamped with the official school seal, signed by the appropriate school official and received in a sealed envelope. During the application process, request that official transcript(s) be sent to the Mercy College Admissions Office from any colleges you have attended.

Admissions Office Mailing Address
Mercy College of Health Sciences
Admissions Office
921 6th Avenue, Suite A
Des Moines, Iowa 50309-1222

Affiliated/Non-Affiliated Institutions

The Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) program is affiliated with several institutions of higher learning. Accepted students from affiliated institutions complete their senior year at Mercy College, earning up to 46 semester hours of upper level science credits.

Students must complete all other institution graduation requirements to qualify for a BA or BS degree upon completion of the clinical laboratory science certificate at Mercy.

Students from non-affiliated institutions must have completed a Bachelor's Degree at an accredited institution and must have completed all science prerequisites to meet eligibility requirements before the program begins.

Academic Requirements

The successful applicant for admission to the certificate program must be admitted to the College and meet the criteria listed below:

- ❑ Achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale in college-level coursework overall as well as in the sciences.
- ❑ Earn a grade of "C" (not "C-") or higher in all required courses listed below **prior to enrollment**:
 - ❑ Sixteen (16) semester hours of Chemistry, including Biochemistry and/or Organic Chemistry that are part of a science major curriculum.
 - ❑ Sixteen (16) semester hours of Biology, including Immunology and Microbiology, that are part of a science major curriculum.
 - ❑ Three (3) semester hours of college level mathematics e.g. college algebra or above.

Note: Coursework taken to meet the biology and chemistry requirements completed seven or more years before application may require updating. This is determined by the Program Chair with assistance from the certifying agencies.

Additional Recommended Coursework: Applicants may consider taking the following courses in preparation for the CLS program: Parasitology, Genetics, Physiology, Hematology, Immunohematology, Quantitative Analysis, Statistics, Computer Science, Management and Human Relations and Instrumentation. Although recommended, the courses above are not required and will not exclude the student from consideration for acceptance into the program.

Selection Process

Following the November 1 application deadline, the process to select students begins. Each qualified applicant is invited to interview with program officials and tour the laboratory. Complete applications are reviewed by the selection committee, which considers the following:

- Types and difficulty of courses taken
- Evidence of well-rounded education, such as better than average grade in English composition
- Courses taken that are not required but are recommended
- Work experience
- Volunteer and extra-curricular activities
- Letters of recommendation
- Activities that indicate social consciousness and involvement
- Essay
- Cumulative and science GPA

Acceptance letters are sent to accepted students on December 1. Accepted students must reply in writing to the College to accept or decline the offered position by December 15.

cls curriculum plan (Fall Start)

Please note the Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) program does not follow traditional semesters. The program begins the first week in August and ends mid-July. Students attend class Monday-Friday from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Didactic Courses

Course #	Course	CR	Completed
CLS 401	Intro to CLS	2	_____
CLS 411	Clinical Immunology	1	_____
CLS 412	Clinical Immunohematology	2	_____
CLS 413	Clinical Hematology	5	_____
CLS 414	Urinalysis, Body Fluids, Microscopy	1	_____
CLS 415	Clinical Microbiology	6	_____
CLS 416	Clinical Chemistry	4	_____
CLS 470	Management and Education Methods	4	_____
CLS 475	Pathology Lecture Series	1	_____
Didactic Total Hours		26	_____

* Didactic courses occur throughout the program year

Rotation I Courses

Course #	Course	CR	Completed
CLS 432	Clinical Immunohematology and Immunology Rotation I	2	_____
CLS 433	Clinical Hematology and Urinalysis, Body Fluids and Microscopy Rotation I	2	_____
CLS 435	Clinical Microbiology Rotation I	3	_____
CLS 436	Clinical Chemistry Rotation I	2	_____
Rotation I Total Hours		9	_____

* Rotation I courses occur during the first half of the program year

Rotation II Courses

Course #	Course	CR	Completed
CLS 462	Clinical Immunohematology and Immunology Rotation II	2	_____
CLS 463	Clinical Hematology and Urinalysis, Body Fluids and Microscopy Rotation I	2	_____
CLS 466	Clinical Chemistry Rotation II	2	_____
CLS 465	Clinical Microbiology Rotation II	3	_____
CLS 480	Rotation Week	1	_____
CLS 485	Phlebotomy	1	_____
Rotation II Total Hours		11	_____

* Rotation II courses occur during the second half of the program year

CLS Certificate Program Total 46

This is the course sequence for completing the CLS certificate requirements. Mercy College reserves the right to change this sequence as necessary.

Office Use Only

Student Name: _____ Date Reviewed: _____

Term: Fall Spring Summer _____ (Year) Reviewed by: _____

Student Status:

Admitted to program Alternate Decline

Required Prerequisites Met:

16 hrs. Chemistry 16 hrs. Biology 3 hrs. Mathematics

Letters of Recommendation* Career Goals Essay Interview*

*Program Chair will provide the required information and forms.

College(s): _____ GPA _____

Comments: _____

