

CLINICAL LABORATORY ASSISTANT CERTIFICATE

Entry Time

Fall

Award

Certificate

1 term

The Clinical Laboratory Assistant (CLA) Certificate is designed to provide exposure to clinical laboratory techniques and procedures needed in entry-level laboratory jobs. This certificate can be completed within one semester and can be applied toward an Associate of Applied Science degree in Medical Laboratory Technology. It can also benefit students in other health career programs who are interested in enhancing their skills.

A Clinical Laboratory Assistant plays a supporting role in collecting and processing specimens in a medical laboratory. Their responsibilities can include tasks such as drawing blood samples (phlebotomy) and running laboratory tests for disease detection using manual methods or automated instruments. CLAs are also trained in infection control, biosafety practices and quality assurance. A CLA works directly under a Medical Laboratory Scientist or Pathologist. In non-hospital laboratories, they may also help with administrative and clerical tasks.

It is important that CLAs possess an interest in the sciences in addition to being professional and detail-oriented.

Upon successful completion students are eligible to take the National Healthcareer Association Certified Phlebotomy Technician (CPT) exam.

This certificate is eligible for state and federal financial aid.

Certificate Requirements

Term 1		Credit Hours
MLT-105	Pathophysiology for Lab ¹	3
MLT-106	Introduction to Biosafety ¹	1
MLT-109	Principles of Phlebotomy ¹	3
MLT-115	Clinical Lab Fundamentals ¹	3
COM-222	Communication for Health Care Professionals ²	3
Select one of the following: ¹		3
BIO-161	Basic Anatomy and Physiology	
BIO-168 & BIO-173	Human Anatomy Physiology I and Human Anatomy Physiology II	
Term Totals:		16
Program Totals:		16

¹ Minimum C grade in all MLT courses to graduate

² Recommended course, other options available, see advisor