BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE DAO

Medical Laboratory Technicians and Clinical Laboratory Technicians interested in pursuing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Medical Laboratory Science may now apply to the BSMLS Degree Advancement Option (DAO), College of Allied Health Professions, at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC).

Applicants must be pre-approved for enrollment by the CAHP Academic and Student Affairs office. Accepted applicants must have completed a minimum of 85 semester credits hours of specific college prerequisite courses and an accredited MLT or CLT program. Technicians must be registry-eligible or certified.

Qualified candidates are interviewed and mentored by a faculty advisor who works with you to best meet your needs as both a student and employed practitioner in choosing a plan of study that varies by the number of credit hours taken each semester. The plan of study includes completion of the Level I and Level II MLS Program’s core curriculum, with access given to the orientation coursework.

You are allowed up to five years to complete the DAO; however it is possible to complete the program in five semesters. Most clinical practicum competencies can be documented at the student's workplace or assessed as proctored, virtual, simulated activities.

Courses are available through a variety of distance learning technologies. Students are required to write papers, complete projects, conduct research, communicate with professors and students online, work independently on assignments and with coworkers on group projects, do case presentations, take quizzes and exams, etc.

The DAO is available through distance education technology and can be completed on a part-time basis by practicing laboratory professionals.

Program Objectives
The BSMLS Degree Advancement Option (DAO) has three objectives:

- To enable practicing medical laboratory professionals, currently registry-eligible or certified, to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Laboratory Science.
- To utilize distance learning technologies; providing access to education and the opportunity for technicians to continue to work in their profession while they complete their degree.
- To provide medical laboratory professionals the opportunity to advance professionally and personally, develop independent-thinking and critical-judgment skills, and become more flexible and competitive in today's healthcare environment.

Admission to the Program
Admission Requirements
Applicants to the Degree Advancement Option (DAO) must:

- Complete the MLT professional requirement in one of the following ways:
  - Graduate from a NAACLS accredited MLT/CLT program, MLT certification highly recommended, or
  - Complete a U.S. military sponsored medical laboratory procedures educational program, MLT certification highly recommended, or
  - Graduate from a non-NAACLS accredited MLT/CLT program with MLT certification
  - Complete a minimum of 85 hours of specific college prerequisite courses (including the MLT coursework) prior to enrollment in the program;
  - Present a C- or better for all 85 hours of prerequisite coursework;
  - Present a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale;
  - Present a science GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale and/or the most recently completed 20 biology/chemistry semester hours 2.5.
  - Identify the preceptor and submit the Preceptor Agreement (https://www.unmc.edu/alliedhealth/education/online/bsmls/bsmls-preceptor.doc);

University / College DAO Prerequisites

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<th>Code</th>
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<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Must include microbiology (with lab preferred) and immunology (this</td>
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<td>requirement can be satisfied with MLT program coursework)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chemistry (with labs)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Must include minimum of 2 upper level (200 or above) chemistry courses</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>(may include Biochemistry, Organic Chemistry I and II or Analytical</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Chemistry - Biochemistry with a lab is strongly recommended). This</td>
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<td>requirement can also be satisfied with MLT clinical chemistry</td>
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<td>coursework.</td>
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<td>English Composition</td>
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<td>Select 3 hours</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Select 3 hours (Statistics preferred)</td>
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Request a transcript evaluation (clsdco@unmc.edu)

Suggested Electives
Students should select electives to achieve 85 semester hours (this includes the MLT professional coursework credit hour award), including a broad general educational background. Physiology, biochemistry, genetics, and molecular biology are strongly recommended. Additional recommended subjects include cell biology, pathogenic microbiology, and parasitology.

Admission to the BSMLS Degree Advancement Option requires the applicant to successfully complete at least 85 semester hours (127 quarter hours) at an accredited college or university. Only 66 semester credit hours can be accepted from a community college (the MLT professional coursework credit does not count towards these 66 hours).

NOTE: A maximum of six College Level Examination Program (CLEP), Advanced Placement (AP) and/or Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Support (DANTES) semester hours will be accepted for transfer. Any CLEP AP or DANTES semester hours will not be accepted towards prerequisite science courses.

All applications and transcripts are reviewed by CAHP Academic and Student Affairs on a case-by-case basis. Grades lower than “C-” will not
transfer for credit. Additional coursework may transfer for credit; course description and syllabus may be requested for evaluation of equivalency with UNMC. All foreign transcripts must be evaluated by an ASCP Board of Certification-approved agency. Applicants will be considered without regard to age, sex, race, color, national origin, religion, political beliefs, or disability. Motivational factors, life experience, patient care experience, maturity, and references are important factors in the admission process.

How to Apply
For information on how to apply to the BSMLS Program, visit the "How to Apply (https://www.unmc.edu/alliedhealth/education/online/bsmls/apply.html)" website. For information on application deadlines and interview dates, visit the "Application Deadline (http://www.unmc.edu/alliedhealth/education/deadlines.html)" website.

Academic Progress
Students enrolled in the BSMLS Degree Advancement Option are expected to make satisfactory academic progress toward the completion of their Individual Plan of Study and degree requirements. All courses must be passed with a grade of “C-” or better and a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) must be maintained throughout enrollment in the program. Courses may be repeated only once, and a cumulative GPA below 2.0 at the completion of any semester will result in dismissal from the program.

Degree Completion
Upon successful completion of BSMLS curriculum, students will receive diploma and graduation information from UNMC Student Services. Students must be awarded a minimum of 120 total semester hours of college credit (UNMC courses + transfer credit) by the UNMC Office of Academic Records in order to be eligible to graduate from UNMC.

To obtain your transcripts, please visit the UNMC Student Services website (http://www.unmc.edu/studentservices/).

Diplomas are issued in May, August or December. Upon successful completion of all requirements by the deadline dates set by the Program, graduates of the BSMLS DAO are welcome to participate in May graduation ceremonies in Omaha, Nebraska.

Accreditation
The University of Nebraska Medical Center Medical Laboratory Science Program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) (http://www.naacls.org/), 5600 N River Road, Suite 720, Rosemont, IL 60018.

Curriculum
The plan of study includes 35 hours of theory and practical application experiences gained through recorded lectures, assignments/exercises, virtual laboratory simulations, and case studies. Coursework is completed independently or in small groups with faculty guidance. The faculty advisor will work with the student to select an appropriate schedule to complete their specific plan of study.

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MLS 407 CLINICAL LABORATORY OPERATIONS</td>
<td>2</td>
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Curriculum is coordinated by the UNMC faculty and delivered from the Omaha campus and delivered online or coordinated via various distance learning technologies to students at distant clinical sites.

Course offerings are subject to change based on instructor availability, enrollment, and technology.