

WHAT IS MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY?

A medical technologist is a highly skilled laboratory scientist who performs and evaluates laboratory procedures using a variety of sophisticated instruments to aid in the diagnosis, treatment and monitoring of disease. A medical technologist performs, supervises and provides consultation for laboratory analyses on blood and various body fluids to obtain data on which a diagnosis of health or disease is made and appropriate therapy initiated. The major areas of interest in laboratory science are hematology, immuno-hematology (blood banking), microbiology, clinical chemistry, serology, immunology, urinalysis, mycology, and parasitology. An individual may specialize in one of these disciplines or remain a generalist, depending on the type of laboratory and the needs of the facility in which the medical technologist is employed. A career in medical technology provides opportunities for work that is personally rewarding and challenging.

Medical technologists continue to assume positions of increasing responsibility in clinical laboratories, and within the laboratory or institutional management structure. They may work in a variety of settings including hospitals, research facilities, and independent laboratories. Their functions include managing the laboratory and directing the work of others, performing complex laboratory analyses, and making judgments about the quality of laboratory results before they are reported. Medical technologists must be experts in clinical laboratory science as well as in the administrative and managerial functions necessary to ensure the effective operations of clinical laboratory services.

JOB OUTLOOK

According to the National Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of medical technologists is expected to grow by 11 percent between 2010 and 2020. Students are often actively recruited while still in school. Beginning salaries in Tennessee range from \$40,000 to \$48,000 per year.

THE PRE-MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM (3+2)

The Pre-Medical Technology Program leads to the study of Medical Technology at UT Health Science Center in Memphis. Students in this program must complete 61 credit hours while enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences. The program at Memphis is five semesters (21 months) in length and leads to the degree of Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology. During the clinical portion of the program, students have the opportunity to get clinical experience at major hospitals in Memphis and other areas of West and Middle Tennessee.

The following courses are required for admission to Medical Technology at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis:

FRESHMAN	CREDIT HOURS
English 101-102	6
Chemistry 120-130	8
Biology 130-140	8
Math 119	3

SOPHOMORE	CREDIT HOURS
Chemistry 350-360,369 (see Note 1)	8
Biology 240	4
Microbiology 310-319	5
Social Science	3
	20

JUNIOR	
Microbiology 430 (fall only)	3
Microbiology 420-429 (spring only)	5
Biochemistry and Cellular and Molecular Biology	5
Elective	3

TOTAL: 61 hours minimum

Note 1: One semester of organic chemistry and one semester of biochemistry may be taken in lieu of a two-semester organic chemistry sequence.

ELECTIVES

Additional strongly recommended courses include one semester of communications skills (such as interpersonal communication, public speaking or debate, group communications, etc.) and one semester of computer applications. Other recommended courses are history, literature, art or music appreciation, and foreign language.

A minimum grade of C is required in all courses required for admission. Courses of minimal academic content, e.g., physical education, military science, applied music and art, etc., will not be accepted toward meeting requirements for admission or graduation. Correspondence, proficiency, and extension course credits are limited in both amount and content and should not be scheduled without prior written approval from the College of Allied Health Sciences. For information regarding CLEP and Advanced Placement check the UT Memphis general catalog.

RESIDENCY POLICY FOR MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

The Medical Technology program at UT Health Science Center has been given permission to admit out-of-state residents as well as Tennessee residents: therefore, any student, regardless of his or her residency status, will be given consideration.

PROGRAM PLANNING

The importance of program planning for the pre-medical technology student cannot be overstressed. It is essential for the student to select courses carefully in order to present a well-rounded pre-professional program.

Academic advisors are available in Arts and Sciences Advising Services, 313 Ayres Hall, to help students plan programs with maximum flexibility; however, in the final analysis, it is the student's responsibility to determine the program which will best satisfy his/her needs.

ALPHA EPSILON DELTA (AED)

Alpha Epsilon Delta is a pre-health honor society that seeks to provide information and opportunities for students with an interest in the health professions. The Tennessee Beta Chapter of AED is active at The University of Tennessee. AED activities include information sessions on preparing to apply to professional schools, local speakers from the medical community, trips to Tennessee medical schools and health centers, and service activities. The schedule of meetings is available on the website: <http://web.utk.edu/~aed/>.

Requirements for membership include three terms of college (at least one at UTK), a cumulative GPA of 3.2, a science GPA of 3.2 (including math courses), and attendance to at least one AED function per month. Students interested in joining AED should apply for membership during the fall term. Applications are available in Arts and Sciences Advising Services, 313 Ayres Hall, or on the AED website.

Any pre-health student, regardless of membership, may participate in the programs sponsored by AED. Pre-health students wishing to receive notification of pre-health activities and AED events should send an e-mail to mhoskins@utk.edu to request to be added to the pre-health distribution list.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL EVALUATIONS

One important aspect of application to the Medical Technology program is the letters of evaluation you request from faculty members who have known you as a UT student. Two of the evaluations should come from faculty members teaching in science-based disciplines. Be sure that you have become well acquainted with your professors prior to requesting the evaluations.

APPLICATION TO MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

The program begins each year in September. The early deadline to submit an application is the preceding December 1 and the regular application deadline is April 1. At the time of application, each applicant is required to have an official transcript from every college attended sent directly to the Office of Enrollment Services at UT Health Science Center. UTK transcripts can be requested on-line in the MyUTK portal under Student Academic Links.

The Admissions Committee will consider overall GPA, GPA within prescribed pre-requisite courses, motivation and knowledge about the field of medical technology, interview performance, admission essay, and the student's proposed plan for completion of prerequisite courses. All interviews are arranged by invitation from the Committee on Admissions.

Admissions Information 2012

Number of applicants:	35
Total accepted:	15
Average GPA:	3.0

For further information on admissions statistics and required grade point average, please contact the Medical Technology program chairperson listed below.

NOTE: ONE YEAR OF U.S. HISTORY MUST HAVE BEEN COMPLETED IN HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE PRIOR TO GRADUATION FROM THE MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE FROM:

Ms. Kathy Kenwright
Program in Medical Technology
University of Tennessee Health Science Center
930 Madison Avenue, Suite 664
Memphis, TN 38163
(901) 448-6338
kkenwrig@uthsc.edu
<http://www.utmem.edu/allied/mthome.html>

Arts and Sciences Advising Services
313 Ayres Hall
University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN 37996-1325
(865) 974-4481
<http://artsci.utk.edu/advising/>

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Sciences
<http://www.ascls.org>

American Society of Clinical Pathologists
<http://www.ascp.org/>

Diagnostic Detectives: The Medical Laboratory Professions
<http://medlabcareers.msu.edu/links.html>

The information in this bulletin is subject to revision. Students are strongly encouraged to consult with a health professions advisor on a regular basis.

ADMISSIONS TO THE MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM IS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE OF THE COLLEGE OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES; ADMISSION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE, AND COMPLETION OF THE PRE-MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM IN THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES DOES NOT ASSURE ADMISSION TO UT HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE
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The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services.

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