



DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

INFORMATION PACKET

Application Deadline: April 1 or until class is full

In an effort to streamline the application process, we now only accept online applications to the Medical Technology Program

To apply: www.medtech.armstrong.edu

Revised August 2009

General Information

Medical technologists perform and/or supervise the testing of blood, urine, spinal fluid, and other body specimens. Applying knowledge of chemistry, mathematics and biology, the medical technologist uses both manual and automated techniques to provide diagnostic data to physicians.

A goal of the AASU Medical Technology department is to prepare competent clinical laboratory practitioners. Therefore, academic policies and procedures are established to assure that program graduates have minimal competencies to be able to successfully pass professional certification examination(s) and qualify for knowledge and employment.

The Medical Technology curriculum is divided into two parts, the pre-professional phase and the professional phase. Students first complete the pre-professional phase by enrolling in pre-requisite courses, such as humanities, social sciences, chemistry, biology, and mathematics. This phase may be completed at AASU or another accredited academic institution. Near the completion of the pre-professional course work, the student applies to the Medical Technology Department for the professional sequence composed of didactic courses in major laboratory areas and clinical practicum. The professional phase of the Medical Technology curriculum begins in the Fall semester of each year. Before enrollment in the professional phase of the program, students must have completed the necessary prerequisite college courses and be eligible for a degree upon completion of the Medical Technology curriculum or already possess a baccalaureate degree.

Upon completion of the program, graduates are eligible to take the certification examination of the Board of Certification (BOC) for Medical Laboratory Scientists (MLS) of the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP). Issuing of the BS degree or the post BS certificate is not contingent upon the students passing any type of external certification or licensure examination.

Accreditation

The Department of Medical Technology at Armstrong Atlantic State University is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences, 5600 N. River Rd. Suite 720, Rosemont, IL 60018-5119, (847)939-3597, (773)714-8880, FAX: (773)714-8886, email: info@naaccls.org, <http://www.naaccls.org>

College of Health Professions Statement of Professional Standards Related to Applicants

All applicants to and students enrolled in the College of Health Professions (CHP) must meet and continue to meet the approved professional standards of the College and respective programs.

1. In order to meet the intellectual, physical and social competencies necessary to meet professional requirements, all applicants and students must possess the needed physical attributes, and exhibit qualities of good judgment, mental strength and emotional stability.
2. No applicant who may jeopardize the health and/or the well being of a patient, client, coworker, or self may be accepted into the CHP program or continue as a student within a program.
3. The individual programs will inform each applicant in writing of the technical standards which are related to the professional duties of the discipline.
4. The faculty of each program or department shall be responsible for applying the standards for their students and prospective students.
5. In all cases, final appeal may be brought to the attention of the Dean of Health Professions who would appoint an Appeals committee.

Application Deadline:

Applicants must submit applications to the University **and** to the Medical Technology Program. The deadline for submitting all application materials is April 1 of each year for the Medical Technology professional phase that begins in August. Applications may be submitted anytime before April 1 to be considered by the Department. Applications submitted after April 1 will be considered on a first come - first serve **and** space available basis. Complete and accurate information will help expedite the processing of your application.

Degrees Granted

The Medical Technology Department offers the Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology. The B.S. in Medical Technology is awarded to students who complete all degree requirements for Armstrong Atlantic State University. Entering freshmen, transfer students, and associate degree medical laboratory technicians are eligible for the degree. A Second BS degree can be awarded to those who have completed a BS degree in biology, chemistry, microbiology, or related science field.

The Department offers a Career-Ladder program model to enable practicing certified medical laboratory technicians (MLT) to advance their education. It provides students with a high quality academic and professional environment allowing for the development of their intellectual and manipulative competencies and attainment of professional values and characteristics. The program graduate will be able to satisfy eligibility requirements to sit for and pass a professional certification examination at the “technologist” level, to qualify for employment in a variety of settings, and to progress within clinical laboratory science to education, supervision, or management position. Students in this track are required to maintain employment at an approved clinical facility while enrolled in the program. A statement of support (provided by the department upon acceptance) must be read and signed by the employer. Your employer needs to be aware of and agree to the responsibility they will be assuming in your education.

Admission Policies and Procedures

The Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, gender, religion, handicap, age, or citizenship status (except in those special circumstances permitted or mandated by law).

1. Apply to Armstrong Atlantic State University:

- **Currently enrolled Armstrong Atlantic State University students** must also meet the requirements for admission to the medical technology program and apply separately to the department.
- **Transfer students** must be accepted to the university with regular admission status.
- **Certified associate degree medical laboratory technicians** may receive transfer for junior level medical technology courses upon presentation of acceptable certification scores and/or transfer credit, and satisfactory completion of written and/or practical examinations in the professional content areas.
- **If not currently enrolled at Armstrong Atlantic State University**, students must be accepted into the university with regular admission status.

2. Apply to the Department of Medical Technology

In addition, students should complete an application to the medical technology department, and have official transcripts, any certification scores, and two letters of reference sent to the Department Head.

The admission process has two phases. In the first, the applicants are evaluated by the Department Head on the basis of the minimum admission requirements listed below. Qualified applicants are invited to participate in an interview. During the interview process applicant’s skills in verbal and written communication, and problem solving are assessed. The Admissions Committee, using a pre-determined

scoring process, ranks the applicants for offering a seat in the class. All applicants will be notified by letter of their applicant status.

Minimum Admission Requirements

1. SAT of at least 890 with 430 or more in Math and 460 or more in Verbal.
2. Cumulative Grade Point Average of 2.4 or more.
3. Satisfactory completion of the Regent's Testing Program, if applicable.
4. Completion and/or credit for: a minimum of 16 semester hour's biological science to include anatomy and physiology and general microbiology; a minimum of 12 semester hours chemistry to include general and organic and/or biochemistry; and a minimum of two college mathematics courses to include statistics.
5. Science course (chemistry and biology) average of 2.5 or better with no more than one required science course with a grade of "D."

All prerequisite science (chemistry and biological science) courses are restricted to courses applicable to a major in those fields or Medical Technology, according to the curriculum requirements of the academic institution where the course or courses were taken. Remedial courses do not qualify.

Applicants who do not meet all of the requirements stated above, may, under certain circumstances be granted conditional admission as space permits. This decision would be made by the Department Head in consultation with the Admissions Committee.

Technical Standards for Completion of Program

In addition to the academic requirements for admission to the Medical Technology Department, there are technical standards required for completion of the program. Applicants are required to read the "Technical Standards for Completion of Program" and sign a confirmation form. The standards are basic and essential requirements that may also be necessary to be able to obtain employment in the field of medical technology. All applicants to the program are encouraged to visit a clinical laboratory to observe the various tasks performed by medical technologists and the various physical requirements of the position.

Other Requirements

Health Insurance: All students accepted into the program are required to submit complete health history forms, evidence of health insurance, and evidence of liability insurance prior to participation in clinical experiences. Students must maintain health insurance while enrolled in the program.

The University System of Georgia requires that students have in-force health insurance. The University System of Georgia uses Pearce and Pearce, Inc. for its student health policy. Students with existing coverage must obtain an insurance waiver from Pearce and Pearce by going to their website www.studentinsurance.com and giving your current insurance information. Pearce and Pearce will email back that they have received your information. You will receive a second email saying whether your insurance is approved or declined. Print and send this approval email to the department. If it is declined there will be a reason given. If you disagree with the decision, call the Customer Service Line to speak with a representative. (1-888-622-6001). If your insurance was declined because of an error on your part, (such as wrong policy number, etc), just email Pearce and Pearce with the correct information to resolve the problem.

Regents' Test

Before students in health professions programs may enter their last semester, they must have passed the Regents' Test.

Criminal Background Checks: Clinical agencies utilized by the Department may require criminal background checks and/or drug testing prior to acceptance of the student into clinical facilities. Students who do not pass the criminal background check and/or drug test may be unable to attend clinical courses and therefore may be unable to complete their program of study. Any fees or cost associated with background checks and/or drug testing are the responsibility of the student.

International Applicants must meet the requirements for admission to Armstrong Atlantic State University as outlined in the AASU College Catalog and the NAACLS Requirements, if applicable. International applicants to Medical Technology at Armstrong are advised to communicate with the Department Head before arranging for foreign transcript evaluation. For an approved listing contact the MT office.

A student whose native language is not English must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and score a minimum of 523 on the written test (or a minimum of 193 on the computer-based TOEFL) for consideration for admission to the Department.

Travel and Practicum Rotations

Clinical practicums are provided in the laboratories of St. Joseph's/Candler Health System, and Memorial Health University Medical Center all located in Savannah; Southeast Georgia Regional Medical Center in Statesboro; Medical University of South Carolina; and others as necessary. Other sites may be established after consultation with and approval by the MT Department Head contingent upon pertinent policies and procedures. Due to the limited number of clinical sites in Savannah, it will be necessary to assign students to clinical sites outside of Savannah. Every effort is made to place students in sites convenient to their home. However, placement may be made which requires travel to sites outside of Savannah. Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from the clinical sites.

Practicum Rotation Assignments

Full-time enrolled students have top priority assignment to the practicums at the clinical sites. Full-time students who become enrolled in the program on a part-time basis will be assigned to rotations in the current and following year(s) after the full-time students are assigned if additional space is available. Thus, assignment to rotations cannot be guaranteed in a timely manner if one is enrolled on a part-time basis and such action may delay completion of the program and graduation.

Post Acceptance Requirements

After acceptance, but prior to initial enrollment in the department, students will be required to:

1. Submit a medical report that includes a physical examination and verification of immunization.
2. Sign a declaration form relating to Hepatitis B.
3. Complete accident/health insurance coverage/waiver.
4. Submit payment for malpractice liability insurance. The amount will be noted in the letter of acceptance.

Students accepted into the department will be required to submit a \$50.00 non-refundable reservation fee to accept the offer of admission. Students will be provided a copy of the MT Department Student Handbook during the required Orientation session held prior to the first day of class.

Before entry to the clinical practicum courses, students will be required to sign an Authorization for Release of Records and Information form and a Student Applied Learning Experience Agreement (available from the Department). Students should be aware that some clinical affiliates might require a criminal background check and/or drug screen and additional medical/physical exams as part of the practicum and satisfactory completion of a safety education assessment.

Students in the department are required to establish and be proficient with email utilization. This may be done by establishing an email account at AASU and using computers available on campus or by using their respective home computer connection to the Internet.

Estimated Expenses

Tuition for Four Semesters*	\$10,000
Books & Supplies	\$1,000
Lab Coats/Uniforms	\$200
Graduation Fee	\$63
Liability Insurance	\$16
Total	\$11,279

Estimated Total based on Fall 2009 Fees and are subject to change

** For Georgia and South Carolina Residents only*

Financial Aid

In addition to the sources of financial assistance available to all college students, there may be funds specifically designed for students in Medical Technology. The Guaranteed Student Loan Program (Georgia Student Finance Authority) provides a Service Cancelable loan. For information on scholarships for students in medical technology contact Financial Aid Office.

A Final Word

Please follow the above instructions carefully, and type or print clearly, so we can expedite processing of your application. Because of the large number of applications received each year, we find it impossible to assume the responsibility of notifying each applicant if a required letter, transcript, or test score has not been received. Requests for letters of recommendation are sometimes forgotten by the persons asked to write them. It would be advisable for you to follow up on such requests to determine whether the recommendations have been written and mailed.