



Indiana University

Thank you for your interest in our Medical Laboratory Science Program. Enclosed please find a flyer which will provide most of the information you need along with an application, an application statement, and two applicant evaluation forms.

Applications will be accepted after September 1, 2025. When your application, application statement, and original/sealed college transcript(s) from any/all universities that you have attended are received, you will be contacted to set up a personal interview. **Applications for the 2026-2027 class must be received by 4:00pm on December 1, 2025.** Interviews are conducted from October 1 through December 15, excluding weekends.

In addition to the documents above, you will submit two letters of recommendation—one each from a professor of biology and chemistry. The Applicant Evaluation Form is included as an attachment. Please fill out your name and select, sign, and date one of the two waiver options before giving to the evaluators of your choice. The completed evaluation forms should be directly mailed or emailed to me by the December 15th deadline. If your school has a different evaluation system in place (for example, Purdue), please follow their evaluation system.

****Please note that if your degree is not from a U.S. university, you will need to have an equivalency report sent to me. Please contact me as soon as possible for further instruction (via the e-mail address below).**

In addition, to be eligible for consideration for entrance into the program, the applicant must document that they meet one of the following:

1. United States citizenship
2. Possess a permanent resident visa in the United States
3. Attend one of our affiliated universities and possess a student visa that does not expire prior to the anticipated completion date of the program.

All Indiana MLS programs participate in the Preference Matching Service sponsored by CIMLE. This will be further explained, and forms given to you, at your interview. Applicants will be notified regarding acceptance by late-January of 2026. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sarah Bruggeman, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, Program Director
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350 W. 11th Street, IU Health Pathology Lab 6002 L
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Indiana University Health

IU Health Methodist Hospital

Medical Laboratory Science Program

Medical Laboratory Scientists perform laboratory tests to assist in the detection, diagnosis, and treatment of many diseases. Using a variety of methods, they acquire data on blood, tissue, and body fluids in the areas of hematology, microbiology, immunohematology, clinical chemistry, and urinalysis. Medical laboratory scientists work in conjunction with pathologists and other physicians and specialists. Employment opportunities exist in hospitals, private laboratories and clinics, pharmaceutical companies, and governmental health agencies.

The Medical Laboratory Science Program at Indiana University Health (IU Health) Methodist Hospital began at Methodist Hospital in 1933. It is the oldest program in the state of Indiana and has had continued accreditation since 1936 for following the Standards of Accredited Educational Programs for the Medical Laboratory Scientist/Medical Technologist/Medical Laboratory Scientist. Current accreditation is through the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science (NAACLS). It is the responsibility of the program to prepare graduates who are professionally, technically, and theoretically competent to practice in the expanding field of medical laboratory science.

The program relocated from Methodist Hospital to the Allied Health wing of the IU Health Pathology Laboratory building in 2006 and team teaches with Indiana University MLS Program. The IU Health Methodist Hospital MLS Program is a unit of the Health Science Education Center within the department of Academic Affairs. Facilities include staff offices, a classroom, and a student laboratory equipped to accommodate 24 students.

The 47-week, two-phase curriculum includes both didactic and clinical instruction. During the first seven months, students receive instruction in the student laboratory covering the principles, practices, theory, and pathophysiology of the various aspects of medical laboratory science. The second, four-month phase involves rotation through the hospital's clinical laboratories in order for the student to gain proficiency, competence, and confidence in the applications of skills and knowledge in analytical practice.

The program is structured in both the Student Laboratory and Clinical Rotation phases. Students are provided with outlines, objectives, and checklists. Both practical and written evaluations of progress are made in each phase. Instruction in the student laboratory extends from August through February. The clinical rotations begin in March and last for 17 weeks. Students rotate through the various laboratories in small groups of one to six. They are assigned from one to four weeks per area, according to the magnitude of duty and complexity of procedures performed. During the clinical year, students are given approximately two weeks of vacation at Christmas/New Year's and an additional week in the Spring. Graduates of the program receive a certificate and are eligible to sit for the Board of Certification (BOC) that is offered by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). ASCP grants the credential of MLS(ASCP)^{CM} and administers a certification maintenance program for graduates.

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AFFILIATIONS:

Agreements have been negotiated with nine major colleges and universities whereby a student, upon successful completion of three years of required study at the academic institution and one year of clinical instruction at this hospital, will be awarded a baccalaureate degree. Affiliated institutions are:

Ball State University, Muncie
Franklin College, Franklin
Indiana State University, Terre Haute
Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion
Manchester College, North Manchester
Miami University, Oxford, OH
Purdue University, West Lafayette
Taylor University, Upland
University of Indianapolis, Indianapolis

ADMISSION:

The program accepts 12 students annually. Applicants are accepted without discrimination as to sex, age, race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, veteran status, or disability.

The applicant must meet the academic prerequisites of this program and must complete pre-clinical baccalaureate degree requirements with an affiliated institution OR must possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution PRIOR to admission.

In addition, to be eligible for consideration for entrance into the program, the applicant must document that they meet one of the following:

- 1) United States citizenship,
- 2) Possess a permanent resident visa in the United States, or
- 3) Attend one of our affiliated universities & possess a student visa that does not expire prior to the anticipated completion date of the program.

Consistent with the mission of the program to provide baccalaureate-prepared Medical Laboratory Scientists to meet the employment needs of IU Health and the healthcare delivery systems in Indiana, preference in admission will be given to applicants who are residents of the State of Indiana.

Program officials evaluate the submitted application materials and overall academic performance to determine interview eligibility. Transcripts are evaluated not only for required GPAs, but also the quality of coursework and numbers of retakes. Applicants who meet the minimum prerequisites seven or more years prior to application must update their coursework (after consultation with the Program Director). Students whose academic work was completed at colleges and universities outside of the United States or Canada must have their transcript(s) evaluated by an agency to verify U.S. degree equivalency. (See www.ascp.org for a list of acceptable agencies.)

The Admissions Committee meets early in January to select students for the class which begins in early to mid-August. In order to assure consideration for admission, applications should be received by the 1st of the preceding December. The program participates in the Preference Matching Service sponsored by the Consortium of Indiana Medical Laboratory Educators, Inc.

The criteria for admission are:

- 1) Minimum cumulative and science grade point average of 2.7 (4.0 scale) or better.
- 2) Complete application form.
- 3) Two letters of recommendation – one from Biology and one from Chemistry.
- 4) Personal interview.

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- 5) Successful* completion of required prerequisites listed below as documented by college transcript(s).
***Must be completed with a minimum grade of C- in each class.**

Academic prerequisites include:

Biological Science: 16 semester hours (24 quarter hours) to include microbiology with lab **AND** immunology. Immunology must be included either as a separate course or as part of another course (as deemed acceptable to the program director).

Chemistry: 16 semester hours (24 quarter hours). Organic chemistry **OR** biochemistry must be included.

Mathematics: At least one college level course is required. Remedial or survey courses are not acceptable.

Academic courses recommended to enhance the applicant's pre-clinical curriculum include: physics, instrumentation, genetics, molecular biology, statistics, and critical thinking.

Technical standards for the program require adequate sight to perform accurate macroscopic and microscopic procedures; adequate hearing to be able to communicate functionally with patients and personnel, discern audible instrument alert signals and timing devices; and sufficient manual dexterity to perform procedures safely with accuracy and precision. Following acceptance into the program, all students are required to have a health assessment to confirm compliance with these standards. Additionally, students must meet current requirements as established by IU Health for immunizations, background checks, and drug screening.

EXPENSES:

Tuition* (*Subject to change without notice.)

- 1) Students from affiliated institutions with whom the hospital has reimbursement agreements pay tuition to the academic institution.
- 2) All other students pay tuition to the hospital. Tuition is due in two installments (Sept 15 and Jan 15) and can be made by money order payable to Indiana University Health. Current tuition is \$5,000.

Fees* (*Subject to change without notice.)

Program fee of \$100 to be paid by money order upon admission to the program.

Miscellaneous

Total cost of required textbooks and service fees is approximately \$750. Students are also required to wear scrubs and appropriate footwear.

Student must provide for their own housing, transportation, and living expenses.

Refunds

The refund deadline is three weeks from the date of admission. In case of official withdrawal from the program prior to the refund deadline, a student will be refunded 100% of the tuition paid. No fees will be refunded. No refund will be issued after the refund deadline.

Financial Aid

The program is approved for VA benefits.

CURRICULUM/COURSE DESCRIPTIONS (and credit hours):

Clinical Chemistry (8)

Covers the basic principles of analytical chemistry in a broad area of investigation including Biochemistry, normal and abnormal physiology, laboratory procedures and instrumental analyses. Includes supervised

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clinical experience which provides practical applications.

Clinical Hematology (7)

A study of the function, maturation and morphology of the formed elements of the blood and the coagulation mechanism, as well as the principles and procedures of analysis. Includes supervised clinical experience in hematology, coagulation, and phlebotomy techniques.

Clinical Immunohematology (4)

Covers the principles and procedures of analyses in Blood Banking. Includes supervised clinical experience in the techniques of the area to provide practical application of theory.

Serology/Virology (2)

Covers the principles and procedures of analyses in Serology and Virology. Includes supervised clinical experience in the techniques required in these areas.

Clinical Microbiology (8)

A study of the principles and procedures for the isolation and identification of medically important bacteria, parasites, and fungi. Includes supervised clinical experience which provides practical application.

Laboratory Topics:

Education/Management/Research (2)

A study of the principles and techniques of clinical instruction, in-service and continuing education, as well as administration and supervision. Includes a study of scientific investigation as applied in methods of evaluation, problem solving, and research.

Urinalysis (1)

Covers the principles and procedures of both chemical and microscopic analysis of urine.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS:

In order to ensure competence at career entry, students are required to maintain a level of 75% or better in both practical and theoretical performance in all courses. Academic dismissal proceedings will be initiated if a student earns a course grades lower than 63%, two final course grades less than 75%, or four module grades less than 75%. University officials will be informed of the status of affiliated students. There is no mechanism for appeal of dismissal for sub-standard academic performance.

Grades are determined as follows:

99-100 = A+	80-82 = C+
94-98 = A	75-79 = C
92-93 = A-	73-74 = C-
90-91 = B+	70-72 = D+
85-89 = B	65-69 = D
83-84 = B-	63-64 = D-
	Below 63 = F

Attendance is an academic requirement.

Students are expected to be in attendance Monday through Friday as scheduled between 7:00 am and 5:00 pm. A maximum of one hour is allotted for lunch. Breaks will be at the discretion of the instructor. Students must remain in session until officially dismissed by the instructor. Excessive tardiness may lead to probation and/or dismissal. Students who are not able to attend class are expected to telephone the program director to state the nature of the problem and to indicate when they expect to return. Failure to call will result in an unexcused absence. Students with more than three unexcused absences will be subject to probation and/or dismissal. Patterns of absenteeism will be handled by corrective action. The program follows the policies of the Health Sciences Education Center regarding corrective action, dismissal, and appeal. All students admitted to the program will receive

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copies of the program's policies. They are available to prospective students upon request.

GRADUATE OUTCOME MEASURES:

NAACLS asks clinical programs to make available outcomes for the past three years. The graduates from 2023-25 have a 100% graduation rate for those students entering the final half of the clinical program, 100% pass rate on the National Board of Certification, and a 100% placement rate (employment position in the MLS field or pursuit of further education) within 2 months, most prior to graduation.

IU Health Methodist Hospital MLS Faculty:

Program Director:

Sarah Bruggeman, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Instructors:

Jordyn M. Litherland, BS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Amanda LoCicero, BS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Rie Somlai, Ph.D., MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Indiana University MLS Program Faculty:

Nicholas Brehl, M.Ed., MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Rachel Hursh, MPH., MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Cynthia Kaufman, MS, MT(ASCP)SM

In addition, pathologists, pathology residents, and members of the clinical laboratories' technical staff participate in the lecture series according to their expertise. Many bench medical laboratory scientists are involved in instruction during the clinical rotations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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IU Health Methodist Hospital MLS Program
IU Health Pathology Laboratory, Room 6002L
350 W. 11th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202
sjaworski@iuhealth.org
317-491-6282

Additional Resources:

NAACLS
5600 N. River Road, Suite 720
Rosemont, IL 60018
www.naacls.org
773-714-8880

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MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE PROGRAM APPLICATION

Mail or Email Application To:

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IU Health Methodist Hospital
350 W. 11th Street,
IU Health Pathology Lab, 6002L
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Email: iuhmlsprogram@iuhealth.org

Last Name:		First Name:		MI:	
Address:			City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:		E-mail Address:			
UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE(S) ATTENDED (LIST MOST RECENT FIRST)		TYPE OF DEGREE		DATE	
Grade Point Average:		On a Scale of:		As of Date:	
Courses to be completed before graduation, if applicable. (Please include course name and course number.)					
Fall Courses:			Spring Courses:		
HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDED: (Please list school, city, and state where you graduated.)					
Previous Position:			Employer:		
Employer's Address:					
Dates Held:			Supervisor:		
Responsibilities:					
Previous Position:			Employer:		
Employer's Address:					
Dates Held:			Supervisor:		
Responsibilities:					
Have you ever been terminated from a healthcare facility for cause? No Yes..... If "yes"; please explain:					
To the best of my knowledge, the above information is accurate and complete.					
Signature:					

**Indiana University Health Methodist Hospital Medical Laboratory Science Program
Applicant Evaluation Form**

To the Applicant: This form is to be given to one biology professor and one chemistry professor. Have each of them return to me by the December 15th deadline.

Name of applicant

Please select, sign, and date one of the two waiver options.

- ☐ I waive any rights of access I might have to this letter of recommendation under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, and grant for it to be held confidential.

Signature _____ Date _____

- ☐ I do not waive my right of access to this form. It shall be made available to me for inspection upon written request.

Signature _____ Date _____

To the Evaluator: The student who has selected you to provide this evaluation believes that you will be able to offer perspectives that a student transcript alone cannot provide. We appreciate your time in providing this valuable information. After completion (both sides), please send to address at bottom of page.

Evaluator's Name	Telephone Number (w/ Area Code)
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Name of School	Position and/or Title
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Evaluator's Signature	Date
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➤ **How long and in what capacity have you known this student?**

➤ **What is one attribute in which you feel this applicant excels?**

➤ **What is one trait in which this applicant could improve?**

(Evaluator: Please complete table on reverse side.)

Please return to: Sarah Bruggeman; IU Health Methodist Hospital MLS Program; 350 W 11th Street; IU Health Pathology Lab 6002 L; Indianapolis, IN 46202 or electronically to iuhmlsprogram@iuhealth.org

**Indiana University Health Methodist Hospital Medical Laboratory Science Program
Applicant Evaluation Form**

Check (✓) the most appropriate box concerning this student's qualities as compared to all students that you have known.

	Outstanding (top 10%)	Above Average	Average	Below Average	No Chance to Observe
Mastery of knowledge in course					
Laboratory techniques					
Judgment & critical thinking skills					
Initiative/motivation to learn					
Perseverance					
Efficient time management skills					
Oral communication					
Written communication					
Interpersonal communication					
Maturity & emotional stability					
Dependability					
Integrity					

You are more than welcome to add comments regarding any of the qualities addressed in the table above (or write a separate letter of recommendation in addition to this form.) Again, many thanks!

Additional comments:

(Applicant and Evaluator: Please see instructions/complete reverse side.)

Please return to: Sarah Bruggeman; IU Health Methodist Hospital MLS Program; 350 W 11th Street; IU Health Pathology Lab 6002 L; Indianapolis, IN 46202 or electronically to ihmlsprogram@iuhealth.org



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Application Statement

I certify that the information contained in this application (and accompanying materials, if any) is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I also agree that any falsified information or significant omissions may disqualify me from further consideration for placement and may be considered justification for dismissal from the program if discovered at a later date.

I do waive my right under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, concerning the confidentiality of my recommendations, evaluations, and grade transcripts, and do release these articles to the Admissions Committee for their inspection and review.

I understand that if placed in the Medical Laboratory Science Program at IU Health Methodist Hospital, it is placement at will, which means that I may terminate the arrangement at any time and for any reason with or without notice, and that IU Health Methodist Hospital has the same rights if I do not meet the obligations established by the Program.

I understand that an offer of placement is contingent upon satisfactory completion of any pre-requisites outlined by the college or university or the program, and failure to successfully complete these requirements prior to the start of the program may result in a withdrawal of the placement offer.

I understand that if placed at IU Health Methodist Hospital, I will conform to the rules and policies of the clinical program, the laboratory, and the hospital. This includes required pre-placement screening or testing. In addition, I agree to meet all the requirements the organization has outlined for employment, even if I choose not to be actively employed. These policies are available upon request and provided upon acceptance into the program. I acknowledge that these rules may be changed, interpreted, withdrawn, or added to at any time at the discretion of the organization. My signature below indicates acceptance of these terms.

Signature of Applicant

Date

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