

**University of Tennessee Medical Center Medical Laboratory Science Program**  
**Admission Requirements**  
**4+1 students who have a baccalaureate or higher degree**

Before beginning the clinical year, students must successfully meet the following requirements:

1. Students must have completed at least a baccalaureate degree in a biological science, chemistry, or physical science.
2. Applicants who have not attended a university for seven or more years may be asked to update their academic preparation in the prerequisite courses. Contact the program director for details.
3. Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or above.
4. Students must also have a cumulative Science GPA of at least 2.75. In addition, students must have earned a "C" (not C-) or better in each of the required chemistry, biology, and math courses. A review of the entire student record will be utilized in assessing the student's academic ability.
5. **Biology Requirements:** 16 semester hours, which must include:
  - Sixteen (16) semester hours or twenty-four (24) quarter hours of biological sciences, including:
    - One (1) Microbiology class (must include laboratory)
    - One (1) Immunology class
    - Anatomy and/or physiology
    - Genetics and medical microbiology are recommended but are not required.
6. **Chemistry Requirements:** 16 semester hours, which must include:
  - Sixteen (16) semester hours or twenty-four (24) quarter hours of chemistry which shall include
    - One (1) full academic year of general chemistry courses (including lecture and laboratory)
    - One (1) course in organic chemistry or biochemistry (including lecture and laboratory).
    - The other courses may be selected from qualitative or quantitative chemistry. Analytical chemistry is recommended but is not required.
7. **Mathematics Requirements:**
  - Three (3) semester hours or four and one half (4.5) quarter hours of pre-science mathematics at a level of college algebra or higher.
  - Statistics is recommended but is not required.

**Details about the Clinical Year:  
Students with a Bachelor's degree in a Science field (4+1 option)**

1. Cost of the program for 2023 for 4 + 1 students is \$17,100 per year, payable in three increments. The cost is paid directly to UT Medical Center and includes all tuitions and laboratory fees. The fee is subject to change based upon program costs and UT tuition and fees.
2. Each student accepted into the program must submit a \$250.00 nonrefundable admittance fee with the acceptance letter to secure his/her position in the class.
3. Cost of books is not included in the tuition. Book cost averages between \$500 and \$700. Students will be provided a list of required texts in the Fall before the program starts in January so they can obtain the required books for the program.
4. **Financial aid for the program cannot be obtained through University of Tennessee Knoxville campus. Most students who need financial aid obtain a loan through a credit union or bank. If the student will need financial aid, he/she should begin looking soon after receipt of notification of acceptance into the program to ensure that funds will be obtained. Delaying the process until November or December can lead to difficulties in obtain loan approval timely due to closings during the weeks of Thanksgiving and Christmas. The MLS program at UTMCK is a participant with Sallie Mae student loans. See the program director for information about Sallie Mae.**
5. The State of Tennessee requires that all students have health insurance. Students must show proof of health insurance on the first day of the program. The program director can provide a short list of sources for short-term insurance coverage if needed.
6. If you are accepted into the program, you will be required to obtain a background check and have the results sent to the program office. This will cost is approximately \$50.00.
7. All students must obtain a health physical within 60 days of the start of the program. If you are accepted, you will be required to obtain a physical between November and December and send results to the program director at least one week before the first class session.
8. Students must submit to the program director a list of immunizations and must obtain the hepatitis B immunization series before beginning the program.
9. The program runs from the first week of January through mid-December. Student holidays are Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, and two days at Thanksgiving. One week vacation is also scheduled, usually the first week of June. Any other days missed for any reason must be made up. Make up days are usually scheduled on weekends.
10. During lectures, student hours are 8 am to 4 pm. During the clinical year, students are at the medical center from 6:30 am until 3 pm, every day, Monday through Friday. While in the microbiology rotation, students spend three weeks on second shift, 2 pm to 10:30 pm, two weeks on mid-shift, 10 am to 6:30p, and two weeks on dayshift, 6 am to 2:30 pm. Students may be required to stay later some days for meetings or special lectures. Students must be at their assigned laboratory sections at the assigned time. There is no grace period for tardiness.
11. The program is very fast-paced and requires an extensive amount of the students' time in order to learn and apply the concepts presented. Be prepared to study every night! Some students have part-time jobs, but find working difficult for more than 20 hours / week while attending school.
12. A graduation ceremony is held the last day of the program in which students will receive a certificate of completion. After completion of the program, students are eligible to sit for the national board examination and after passing the examination, are eligible to apply for state licensure. Receiving the certificate of completion is not contingent upon passing the examination.