



**MEDICAL
LABORATORY
TECHNOLOGY
PROGRAM**

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO - GALLUP

**BEFORE YOU
APPLY**

IMPORTANT: To help you decide on your career, first, you may want to think about these essential questions:

1. How do you feel about blood and other specimens? You will be working with specimens most of the time, both in the student lab and during your clinical practicum in hospital laboratories.
2. How do you feel about needles? Do you feel comfortable getting your blood drawn and drawing blood? Before you work with real patients in hospital labs, you will learn phlebotomy skills in the student lab where you and your classmates may be required to draw blood from each other under the supervision of certified instructors.

Important things you must know before you enter the MLT Program:

- **Admission:** You must first be admitted to UNM-Gallup before you can apply to the MLT Program. If you are a current UNM student, it would be very helpful if you can run a degree audit for MLT (please log in to my.unm.edu) to check which courses you still need. Please see an advisor to assist you. You may download the application here: <http://www.gallup.unm.edu/pdf/MLT-application-form.pdf> Information on the courses may be found here: <http://www.gallup.unm.edu/pdf/mlt-curriculum.pdf>
- **Prerequisites:** It is best to complete your general education prerequisites before you apply to the Program. You must see an advisor to guide you on your program of study. Prioritize courses that must be taken in sequence i.e. English, Math, Biology and Chemistry courses. When you are close to getting your prerequisites done, you may consult the MLT Program Director if you can start taking MLT courses. Note that all professional coursework must be completed within a five-year time period.
- **Timeline:** A full-time student, who has completed all general education prerequisites, may be able to complete all MLT core courses in three semesters. Two semesters will be spent for courses on campus; final semester (up to 16 weeks, Monday thru Friday, 8 hours per day) will be devoted for clinical practicum courses in hospital laboratories.
- **Needle-stick insurance:** All MLT students, and other health careers, who register for such courses, are automatically enrolled in needle-stick insurance. Students are billed by the UNM Bursar Office.
- **Course fees:** Course fees are required in some courses to help cover basic lab supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE) such as lab coats, gloves, goggles, masks and face shield.
- **Dress code:** MLT students are required to wear plain gray scrub uniforms with MLT patch (patches are available at the bookstore) while attending MLT courses and during clinical training. Students are responsible for obtaining their own scrub uniforms.
- **Computer/internet access:** Most MLT courses are web-enhanced while some are hybrid where lectures are delivered online, and face-to-face lab activities are on-campus. Students must have access to computer and internet (available in multiple sites on campus).

- **Biohazard Safety Training:** All MLT students are required to complete a biohazard safety training upon acceptance to the MLT Program. The MLT Program Director will assign the online module for the training.
- **Clinical practicum:** Graduating students eligible for clinical placement will need to apply to clinical laboratory affiliates as arranged by the MLT Program Director. This process would be similar to applying for a job where you will need a background check, fingerprinting, drug screen, immunizations, etc. Students are responsible for obtaining all required documents for clinical rotation application. Students are also responsible for their own transportation during clinical training.
- **Further education:** You will have the opportunity to further your studies and continue with a Bachelor's degree (offered at UNM Main Campus and other universities nationwide) and graduate studies.

Deadline for submission of application to the MLT Program is June 1st for fall admissions and October 1st for spring admissions. Please make sure all required documents (letter of intent and degree audit or unofficial transcripts) are attached to the completely filled-out application form. Interested students must first be admitted to UNM-Gallup before applying to the MLT Program. You may download, print and fill out the application form on the webpage and mail or hand-carry it to the MLT Office (Health Careers Center, Room 131), UNM-Gallup, 705 Gurley Ave., Gallup, NM 87301. Printed copies are also available at the MLT Office.