

Medical Laboratory Assistant

INDUSTRY FACTS



What do medical lab assistants do?

Medical laboratory assistants collect and process samples for testing from patients, including blood and tissue samples.

They'll log samples, prep for and complete tests, record data, and clean and sterilize equipment. Their day-to-day job duties include:

- Processing clinical laboratory specimens
- Performing routine and specialized tests
- Preparing and staining slides for analysis
- Performing phlebotomy
- Recording testing information
- Cleaning and restocking the lab facility
- Keeping inventory and ordering lab supplies.

Where do medical lab assistants work?

Most medical lab assistants will work in a laboratory setting within a hospital or healthcare system, private and corporate labs, physicians' offices, clinics, and medical testing facilities.



How much do they earn?

On average, certified medical lab assistants can earn a salary of \$40,593 per year*. Pay rates can vary based on where you live, where you work, and your relevant job experience. According to PayScale, the average hourly pay for a lab assistant was \$17.09 per hour in 2022.*

How's the job outlook?

The following estimates from the Department of Labor provide insights into the growing industry:

- As the fastest growing job sector, the healthcare industry is expected to add over 1.8 million new jobs by 2031.**
- Jobs in the field are expected to grow by around 13%, much faster than average, over the next decade.**

*PayScale. "Average Laboratory Assistant Base Salary" Payscale.com. Accessed March 25, 2024.

**Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. "Healthcare Occupations." Occupational Outlook Handbook. Accessed March 25, 2024.

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PROGRAM DETAILS

Start Training for a Better Tomorrow – Today

With CareerStep, you can train online and prepare for industry certification in an in-demand job – all on your own terms.

Prepare For A Better Job

Train affordably without sacrificing quality. This program's comprehensive training was developed by industry professionals with years of experience – specifically designed to help you prepare for the Certified Medical Laboratory Assistant (CMLA) and the Certified Phlebotomy Technician (CPT) certification exams.

Learn Your Way (From Home)

With online training, you can absorb more knowledge and learn more skills—fast.

- Study on a schedule that fits your life
- Progress at a pace that matches your learning style
- Adjust the time and effort you devote to your coursework each day

Receive Coaching and Guidance

When you train with CareerStep, we back you every step of the way—from signup through course completion.

- Learner support
- Technical support
- Career support (interview coaching and resume reviews)

Get Certified

We'll help you prepare to take nationally recognized exams so you can explore greater opportunities in your area.

- Certified Medical Laboratory Assistant (CMLA) offered by the American Medical Technologists (AMT)
- Certified Phlebotomy Technician (CPT) offered by the National Healthcareer Association (NHA)

Program Courses

Course Name
Program Orientation: Medical Laboratory Assistant
Communication and Customer Service in the Healthcare Office
Anatomy and Physiology Essentials
Infection Control
Fundamentals of HIPAA
Law, Liability, and Ethics for Healthcare
Externship Readiness Skills
Phlebotomy
Venipuncture Labs
Testing and Lab Procedures
Medical Laboratory Assistant
Medical Laboratory Assistant Final Exam
Applying for Your Required Externship
Clinical Externship*
Program Completion: Medical Laboratory Assistant

***CareerStep does not guarantee externships.**

A learner's placement in and completion of an externship is solely the learner's responsibility and may be subject to additional requirements, such as a background check and successful completion of a CareerStep course. This is particularly important for learners seeking to complete their externship in Alabama, District of Columbia, Indiana, Louisiana, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, and Wyoming. Please note that CareerStep will not sign agreements with sites in the above-referenced states or provide evidence of insurance to those sites.