



Clinical Laboratory Scientists

Discovering Clinical Laboratory Science

Clinical Laboratory Scientists...

- /// Enjoy the sciences
- /// Work with high-tech equipment
- /// Enjoy helping others
- /// Enjoy solving problems
- /// Like challenges
- /// Are accurate and reliable
- /// Work well under pressure
- /// Are great communicators
- /// Have high standards

CLS Disciplines

Chemistry - the study of chemical constituents of the blood and other body fluids

Hematology - the study of blood cells

Hemostasis - the study of the clotting mechanisms of the blood

Immunoematology - the immunology of blood cells. Involves providing compatible blood for transfusion

Immunology - the study of the body's defense mechanisms

Microbiology - the study of microorganisms including bacteria, viruses, parasites, and fungi

CLS Educational Requirements

Baccalaureate Degree - from a regionally accredited college or university with coursework in biological science, chemistry and mathematics

1 Year of professional/clinical education

CLS Schools in Northern California

San Francisco State University
University of California at Davis
San Jose State University

What is Clinical Laboratory Science?

Think about the last time you had a really bad sore throat. If you went to the doctor, you probably had your throat cultured. That culture was then taken down to the lab and the Clinical Laboratory Scientist was the person who identified which "bug" was causing your sore throat.

All samples taken by a doctor, nurse or phlebotomist are analyzed by a Clinical Laboratory Scientist. Without the Clinical Laboratory Scientist, doctors would not be able to diagnose diseases properly or treat patients effectively.

The CLS performs laboratory tests in conjunction with physicians or scientists who specialize in clinical chemistry, microbiology, or other biological sciences.

The job of the CLS may consist of identification of organisms causing infections, counting and classifying blood cells, operating chemistry analyzers, performing immunological tests, or typing and crossmatching blood for transfusion.

Clinical Laboratory Scientists are in DEMAND!

Approximately 80% of all diagnostic decision are based on laboratory results produced by Clinical Laboratory Scientists.

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that 9,000 clinical lab scientists will be needed each year for the next 10 years, but the nation's clinical laboratory science education programs are graduating half that number.

The current average age of a CLS is between 40-55. This aging workforce will soon embrace retirement in record numbers.

Many labs are open 24-hours, seven days a week, giving people the option of working full or part time in a variety of shifts.

The shortage of Clinical Laboratory Scientists is not going to go away, making **job opportunities in this field abundant and secure.**

With a degree in Clinical Laboratory Science you could:

- /// Work for hospital, physician, industrial, and university laboratories
- /// Become a research assistant
- /// Work in a forensic crime lab
- /// Work in the field of infection control
- /// Be a lab supervisor or manager
- /// Work in epidemiology veterinary medicine
- /// Work in diagnostic medicine quality control

