



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

College of Health and Human Sciences

Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences

Transfer Guide for Illinois Community College Students¹

This transfer guide is designed as an advising tool to facilitate a smooth transition between institutions by identifying relevant course work recommended to be completed prior to transfer.

Community college students are encouraged to

- Complete an A.A. or A.S. degree prior to transfer
- Utilize the *NIU Articulation Handbook* for information regarding the transferability of courses: <http://www.niu.edu/admissions/transfer/plan/credits/index.shtml>
- Consult with the College of Health and Human Sciences and/or review the websites for their intended majors for detailed information about special requirements, program admission requirements, and course requirements. www.chhs.niu.edu

Medical Laboratory Sciences (MLS) is a dynamic, exciting profession that continually changes as new technological and medical advances occur. The profession provides valuable information through the performance and interpretation of hundreds of scientific analyses of blood, other body fluids, and tissues. Medical laboratory scientists use the most current biomedical equipment, interfaced with computers, to generate highly accurate, reliable test results. The results of laboratory tests determine the presence of disease, guide treatment strategies, and monitor therapies. The MLS interacts with physicians, nurses, other health care professionals, patients and their families.

Career opportunities include working in hospital, clinic, and physician office laboratories; forensic, research, and public health laboratories; health administration; infection control; marketing and sales of biomedical products, and more. Program graduates successfully obtain graduate and medical degrees. Nationwide, an acute and long-term shortage of MLS professionals virtually ensures that program graduates are in high demand for employment positions. Typically, all program graduates who wish to be employed secure positions within three months or less following completion of the program.

Medical Laboratory Sciences is a limited admissions program, which requires students to submit a program application directly to the Medical Laboratory Sciences office. Students interested in the MLS major may access application materials on the website: <http://www.chhs.niu.edu/health-studies/programs/mls/admissions.shtml>. Students may enter the program in the fall only and applicants must submit the required materials by February 1. Notification of medical laboratory sciences program admission status will be made by March 1. Additional applications may be considered before May 1 based upon space availability. Students who are admitted to the MLS program and choose to attend NIU are required to have a Hepatitis B titer by blood test prior to beginning the program.

¹ Based on requirements in the 2020/21 *Undergraduate Catalog*



Program highlights include a professional curriculum structured around a strong background in biology and chemistry; small classes taught by faculty members who take a personal interest in students; a modern and attractive on-campus laboratory equipped with a full range of biomedical and safety equipment; a state-of-the-art campus classroom with Internet and other audio-visual capabilities; a nine-month clinical experience at an affiliated clinical site; and affiliations with 32 clinical sites in the northern Illinois region. The program faculty has a national and international reputation for leadership and innovation within the field.

Special Notes:

- Prospective students should make formal application to the medical laboratory sciences program by February 1 of their sophomore year. Additional applications received by May 1 are considered based on space availability.
- Students are encouraged to consult with an NIU advisor as soon as possible to discuss possible options with regard to math and biology courses as listed.
- Students entering the medical laboratory sciences program with the courses listed and who have completed an A.A. or A.S. degree can usually expect to complete the program in two years.
- **Students not selected for admission to MLS will be admitted to NIU as Health Science majors.** Prospective students with an A.S., A.A., or A.A.S degree who are certified as Clinical Laboratory Technicians (CLT) or Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLT) and have at least one year of experience working in a clinical laboratory are encouraged to contact the MLS department directly with questions about completion of the MLS baccalaureate degree.

Major in Medical Laboratory Sciences**Courses Required Prior to Transfer (MLS prerequisite courses)**

BIOS 208 Fundamentals of Cellular Biology (3)
and BIOS 210, Fundamentals of Cellular Biology Laboratory (1)
BIOS 209 Fundamentals of Organismal Biology (4)
and BIOS 211, Fundamentals of Organismal Biology Laboratory (1)
BIOS 213 Introductory Bacteriology (3),
or BIOS 313 Microbiology (4)
BIOS 357 Human Anatomy and Physiology (5)
CHEM 210 General Chemistry I (3)
and CHEM 212, General Chemistry Laboratory I (1)
CHEM 211 General Chemistry II (3)
and CHEM 213, General Chemistry Laboratory II (1)
Organic Chemistry with lab or a combination of Organic and Biological Chemistry with lab
STAT 100 Basic Statistics (3)

Course Recommended Prior to Transfer (or take at NIU)

HSCI 318 Medical Terminology (3)

Courses to be Completed at NIU

AHLS 211 Introduction to Medical Laboratory Sciences (3)
AHLS 300 Urinalysis (2)



AHLS 301	Immunology (2)
AHLS 302	Hematology/Hemostasis (3)
AHLS 303	Immunohematology (2)
AHLS 308	Body Fluids (1)
AHLS 311	Medical Immunology Laboratory (1)
AHLS 312	Hematology/Hemostasis Laboratory (2)
AHLS 313	Immunohematology Laboratory (1)
AHLS 335	Medical Diagnostic Mycology/Parasitology (2)
AHLS 336	Medical Diagnostic Microbiology (3)
AHLS 337	Medical Diagnostic Microbiology Laboratory (1)
AHLS 344	Medical Diagnostic Biochemistry (4)
AHLS 345	Medical Diagnostic Biochemistry Laboratory (2)
AHLS 440	Introduction to Teaching in the Allied Health Profession (1)
AHLS 450	Laboratory Management Principles and Processes (3)
	OR HSCI 450, Administration for Professionals in Health & Human Sciences (3)
AHLS 471	Molecular testing/Mycology/Parasitology/Special Topics (3)
AHLS 475	Medical Laboratory Sciences Competency (1) (<i>ADC Students only</i>)
AHLS 476	Special Topics and Comprehensive Exams (3)
AHLS 486	Medical Laboratory Science Practicum I (10)
AHLS 487	Medical Laboratory Science Practicum II (10)
AHLS 488	Medical Laboratory Science Degree Completion Practicum (10-15) (<i>ADC Students only</i>)
HSCI 460	Research in Health & Human Sciences (3)

*Note: ADC students have adjusted practicum credits

Specific information about admission requirements to Northern Illinois University and to programs in the College of Health and Human Sciences can be found in the current [NIU Undergraduate Catalog](#). Contact the Office of Admissions to obtain an application for admission. For additional information on programs in the college, visit our website: <http://www.chhs.niu.edu/> or contact HHSAdvisingHelp@niu.edu

Important Contacts for Transfer Students:

- ❖ College of Health and Human Sciences (815) 753-1891
- ❖ Department of Military Science (815) 753-6239
- ❖ School of Allied Health and Communicative Disorders
 - Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Rehabilitation Counseling (815) 753-1484
- ❖ School of Family and Consumer Sciences (815) 753-1543
- ❖ School of Health Studies
 - Medical Laboratory Sciences (815) 753-1382
 - Nutrition, Dietetics & Wellness (815) 753-1384
 - Public Health: (815) 753-1384
- ❖ School of Interdisciplinary Health Professions
 - Health Sciences and Rehabilitation & Disability Services (815) 753-1891
- ❖ School of Nursing
 - Nursing: (815) 753-1231
- ❖ Gerontology Program (815) 753-1891



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❖ Office of Admissions (815) 753-0446

Visit our website: chhs.niu.edu/