



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

## College of Health and Human Sciences

### Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences

#### Transfer Guide for Illinois Community College Students<sup>1</sup>

---

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](http://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.

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

---

<sup>1</sup> Based on requirements in the 2018-2019 *Undergraduate Catalog*

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 two years 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 Recommended 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)
CHEM 230	Introductory Organic Chemistry (3) – <i>Spring only course at NIU!</i>
CHEM 231	Introductory Organic Chemistry Laboratory (1) – <i>Spring only course at NIU!</i>
STAT 208	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	Immunoematology (2)
AHLS 308	Body Fluids (1)
AHLS 311	Medical Immunology Laboratory (1)
AHLS 312	Hematology/Hemostasis Laboratory (2)
AHLS 313	Immunoematology Laboratory (1)
AHLS 336	Medical Diagnostic Microbiology/Mycology/Parasitology (3)
AHLS 337	Medical Diagnostic Microbiology/Mycology/Parasitology Laboratory (2)
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 446 Principles of Laboratory Management and Practice (1)  
OR HSCI 450, Administration for Professionals in Health & Human Sciences (3)  
AHLS 471 Molecular Diagnostics and Advanced Lecture Series (3)  
(Students must take 6 semester hours in this course)  
AHLS 475 Medical Laboratory Sciences Competency (1)  
AHLS 486 Medical Laboratory Science Practicum I (10)  
AND AHLS 487, Medical Laboratory Science Practicum II (10)  
[OR AHLS 488 Medical Laboratory Science Degree Completion Practicum (10-15) -- This option is for degree completion students only]  
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](mailto: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
- ❖ Office of Admissions (815) 753-0446

Visit our website: <http://www.chhs.niu.edu/>