



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

School of Health Studies

College of Health and Human Sciences

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Application for Medical Laboratory Sciences

Dear MLS Program Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in pursuing a degree in Medical Laboratory Sciences (MLS) at Northern Illinois University. Carefully read and follow the procedures stated below for applying to the MLS Program. The application packet includes a Personal Goal Statement, Student Information Form and an Essential Functions form. You will see a separate link for the Request for Letter of Recommendation Form (2 required) that you can forward to your references to complete.

As stated in the UG catalog:

“To be considered for admission to the medical laboratory sciences major, students must be admitted to NIU and have completed or be in the process of completing a minimum of 11 of the prerequisite courses listed below. Admission is competitive and will be based primarily on the GPA in the prerequisite courses and secondarily on the overall GPA, letters of recommendation, and personal goal statement. Transfer students are encouraged to contact a program adviser before enrolling to determine whether prior course work satisfies prerequisites. For applicants with prerequisite courses in progress, admission is provisional with the expectation that students selected for admission must have completed all of the following prerequisite courses with a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.00 scale.”

Applicants to the major in Medical Laboratory Sciences should note the following:

- 1. Must first be admitted to NIU.**
- 2. Must meet the above admission criteria.**
- 3. May be provisionally accepted into the program pending completion of prerequisite courses. Those courses will be identified in the notification letter of your admission status.**

There are two application deadlines. It is important that the materials be completed and **e-mailed** to mlsadmissions@niu.edu **by February 1 or May 1**. Since the program limits the total number of students admitted, applicants are strongly encouraged to submit all materials by the Feb 1 deadline. Admission after the May 1 date will be based upon availability.

NOTE for MLT-MLS All Online Program: We follow the NIU application deadlines of December 1 for a spring start, May 15 for a summer start, and August 1 for a fall start. MLT-MLS students can start any semester, but MLS courses are only offered in the fall and spring. Program coordinator will advise MLT students of which courses to enroll.

Upon admission to the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program, students will be required to submit proof of a Hepatitis B blood titer demonstrating immunity at the **mandatory** MLS orientation meeting, held the Friday before classes begin.

All applicants who are admitted to the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program must complete clinical rotations at a site affiliated with Northern Illinois University. Clinical students are scheduled each semester at both the clinical site and on campus. All clinical sites will require CPR certification, TB test, drug testing, a criminal background check and immunization titers. Each student must be willing to accept placement at any clinical site affiliated with Northern Illinois University and provide transportation to the clinical site and campus.

NOTE for MLT-MLS All Online Program: students will need to attend a mandatory orientation meeting with the program coordinator or designate prior to starting classes, but will not need to submit proof of Hepatitis B, or comply with what is typically required of a student completing a clinical practicum at a clinical site.

We look forward to receiving your application electronically by e-mail. Notification of Medical Laboratory Sciences admission status will be communicated through e-mail by March 1 for the first application deadline and by May 15 for the second deadline, based on availability. Admission decisions are conditional upon receipt of current and accurate information from the applicant. False or misleading information is prohibited, and verification of admission information provided by the student may be sought. If it turns out that the information submitted by the applicant was not accurate or information was withheld in regard to the application material, this may result in disqualification of the applicant or dismissal from the MLS program.

Please send all application materials **by email to: mlsadmissions@niu.edu**

Sincerely,

Ellen Olsen

Ellen Olsen, MEd, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}
Admissions Committee Chair
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