



PREPROFESSIONAL MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

UPDATED FEBRUARY 2012

This Academic Planning Guide highlights major points only regarding admission and transfer. Students are advised to read the university and RDC calendars, and the Alberta Transfer Guide for other necessary information. Some courses listed may have prerequisites; refer to [Course Descriptions](#). Access this guide online: www.rdc.ab.ca/academic_advising.

PLEASE NOTE THAT:

- Some professional programs have a limited number of seats available according to province of origin;
- Some professional programs do not accept international students;
- Neither completing preprofessional program requirements nor the GPA received guarantees admission to a professional program;
- Entrance requirements for professional programs vary as per university. It is a student's responsibility to ensure they are taking correct preprofessional coursework for a university other than specified in the title of an Academic Planning Guide;
- The information in this guide is a summary only and students are strongly advised to consult the calendar for the university they wish to attend.

BSc Medical Laboratory Science (BScMLS) is a professional quota program designed for students to acquire both general certification as a medical laboratory technologist and a professional degree at the Bachelor of Science level. It is a versatile degree that allows access to a multitude of advanced degrees and programs.

The preprofessional program consists of 30 credits (*30) in prerequisite courses. The BSc Medical Laboratory Science program is housed in the Division of Medical Laboratory Science in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. Phases I and III of the program are regular university years. Phase II consists of clinical hospital training under the direct supervision of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. Students rotate through public and private laboratories of clinical biochemistry, haematology, immuno-hematology, histotechnology, and microbiology.

Successful medical laboratory technologists tend to love science and enjoy problem solving, appreciate attention to detail, have analytical minds and are comfortable with technology and computers. The BScMLS is designed to meet the demand for more highly qualified research laboratory personnel; for senior and supervisory technologists in large hospitals, government, and private laboratories; and for teaching in various schools of medical laboratory technology. BScMLS graduates have transferable skills that make them employable not only as medical technologists, but also as research technologists, biotechnologists, environmental technologists and food technologists. If successful in all competency based objectives students may write certification examinations with the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science. Twelve months after their graduation individuals are employed to near 100% in education-related fields.

The preprofessional year of study is compatible with programs required of students in preprofessional Pharmacy, Medicine, and Dental Surgery; and with specialization and honors programs in the Faculty of Science of Biochemistry, Genetics, Microbiology, and Pharmacology. All regulations of the Faculty must be followed.

Students wishing to take the preprofessional program for BSc Medical Laboratory Science at RDC should apply to BSc General (or another BSc program of their choice), follow the academic planning guide for that program, and fit the prerequisite courses for BSc Medical Laboratory Science into the suggested pattern of courses for years one and two.

PREREQUISITE COURSES FOR ADMISSION TO BSC MEDICAL LAB SCIENCE

REQUIRED COURSES	# OF CREDITS	COURSES TAKEN AT RED DEER COLLEGE
Statistics	3	STAT 251
Biology	3	BIOL 217
Biology, Genetics, Microbiology or Zoology	3	One of: BIOL 218, 301, 317; GENE 370; ZOOL 325, 342
General Chemistry	6	CHEM 211/212
Organic Chemistry	6	CHEM 351/352
English	6	ENGL 219/220
Option	$\frac{3}{30}$	Any Arts or Science course transferable to UofA

Use the academic planning guide for Bachelor of Science General (or your degree of choice) and follow the suggested pattern of courses for year one and year two. Take the above prerequisite courses within the BSc program. Ensure you meet the admission requirements for Bachelor of Science Medical Laboratory Science as shown below and for your degree of choice.

ALL STUDENTS IN THIS PROGRAM ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO:

- Consult [Course Descriptions](#) for any course prerequisites,
- Check [Alberta Transfer Guide](#) concerning course credit transfer to UofA, and
- Consult the [University of Alberta Calendar](#) for admission and program information.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. To be eligible to apply to the MLS program, a minimum GPA of 2.00 is required in preprofessional coursework. Because the program is a quota program students are encouraged to have a 2.5 or greater when competing for admission. The preprofessional program may be completed through full- or part-time study however, one year of *30 is strongly encouraged as preference will be given to those who have completed *30 in one Fall/Winter.
The selection process is competitive and applicants will be rank ordered according to the GPA in the required preprofessional courses. Possession of the minimum GPA does not guarantee admission.
2. In deriving the GPA, MLS will use the best eligible marks that candidates obtain. For example, if candidates take a more advanced version of a required course and obtain a better mark, that mark will be used to calculate the GPA. If the grade earned is lower than the introductory course, the grade for the introductory course will be used. Similarly, for the option, the course receiving the best grade will be chosen.
3. Foreign students are accepted in this professional program if they meet admission criteria and the ESL requirements of the department.
4. Approximately 130 applications are received annually. Medical Laboratory Science is a quota program with 29 seats; one position within the quota is provided for Aboriginal applicants. Admission is competitive.
5. **Application deadline:** March 1st.
6. **Letter of Intent:** Applicants must submit a letter with their application for admission setting forth their career goals, knowledge of the profession, related experience, and reasons for seeking admission to Medical Laboratory Science. Prospective students should have toured a clinical laboratory or spoken to staff members of a clinical laboratory. Contact the Division of Medical Laboratory Science for the submission deadline.
7. Transfer credit will be granted for each course transferable to the UofA if the grade achieved is at least a C- and the course is applicable to the specific program to which the student has applied. However, while courses with grades of D and F will not transfer they remain on your transcript and will be used to calculate your GPA.
8. **Academic Standing:** Students who earned a GPA below 2.00 at any post-secondary institution should contact the

Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry concerning admission eligibility to the Medical Laboratory Science program. See contact information below.

9. In January of each year the Division of Medical Laboratory Science in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry hosts a drop-in session for prospective students. You can view their facilities, seek further information about the MLS program, and talk to current students. For more information, contact the Division of Medical Laboratory Science using the information below.

HOW TO FIND MORE INFORMATION

[Science Department](#)

Warren Elgersma, Chairperson
Office: 1607-E Phone: 403-343-4052
warren.elgersma@rdc.ab.ca
http://www.rdc.ab.ca/about_rdc/academic_departments/sciences

[Academic Advising](#)

Academic Advising Centre: Room 1102
advisors@rdc.ab.ca Phone: 403-342-3400
http://www.rdc.ab.ca/academic_advising

[RDC Website](#)

<http://www.rdc.ab.ca>

[RDC Timetable](#)

<http://www.rdc.ab.ca/timetable>

[Alberta Transfer Guide](#)

<http://www.acat.gov.ab.ca>

[MLS Department](#)

780-492-6601
medlabsc@ualberta.ca
<http://www.med.ualberta.ca/Home/Education/MLS/>

[University of Alberta](#)

<http://www.ualberta.ca>

PLEASE NOTE:

Be aware that you are responsible for ensuring that your registration is complete and appropriate and that your course choices comply with the program to which you have been admitted at Red Deer College and/or to the university to which you wish to transfer.

You are cautioned that any changes to your courses, your major or your transfer destination may adversely affect your transferable credit or admission requirements for future programs. Consult with an academic advisor if you have any questions.

The function of academic advisors is to provide students with information and resources that enable them to make informed decisions relevant to their education. These resources include the Red Deer College Calendar, the Academic Planning Guide for your chosen program and destination university, the Alberta Transfer Guide and the calendar and contact information for your destination university. Academic advisors will assist you in interpreting information from these resources or refer you to your destination university if appropriate. Students in university transfer programs are strongly advised to refer to the calendar of the university to which they wish to transfer and should contact appropriate university departments as required.