Clinical laboratory sciences is the study and practice of diagnostic laboratory medicine. Laboratory test results provide many pieces of the puzzle that help physicians make a diagnosis. Clinical laboratory scientists analyze body tissue and fluids to provide critical data for diagnosis, treatment planning and preventive health care.
CAREERS

Opportunities for employment in CLS include hospital laboratories, medical examiners, forensic labs, research labs, veterinary clinics, as well as medical industrial and biotechnology labs. The CLS degree can be used as a preprofessional degree for medical, dental and physician assistant schools.

The CLS program is a joint program with the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA).

REQUIREMENTS

Certain specific physical skills and abilities are required to successfully participate in the Clinical Laboratory Sciences program. Students may wish to inquire regarding these physical requirements before seeking admission to the program or registering for specific courses in the program.

In the joint degree program, clinical laboratory sciences courses are offered throughout the course of study. A clinical practicum experience and advanced professional courses are included in the senior year at UTHSCSA. Students may take clinical laboratory sciences courses during their sophomore and junior years and enroll in classes on both the UTSA and UTHSCSA campuses. All CLSC courses are taught at UTHSCSA and are listed separately.

For consideration for admission into the joint degree professional program at UTHSCSA, students must complete a separate application form. This form may be obtained from the UTHSCSA Web site (http://www.uthscsa.edu), or the Registrar’s Office at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, 7703 Floyd Curl Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78229. This application should be submitted by May 1 for fall admission and October 1 for spring admission. Students must be admitted to UTHSCSA and advised by a UTHSCSA faculty member before they enroll in CLSC courses.

The minimum number of semester credit hours required for this degree, including the 42 hours of core curriculum requirements, is 139. All candidates for this degree must fulfill the core curriculum requirements and the degree requirements, which are listed below.

A. 46 semester credit hours in support work

1. 25 semester credit hours in the biological sciences
   - AHS 1883 Introduction to Clinical Laboratory Sciences
   - B10 1113 Biology I
   - B10 1122 Laboratory Investigations in Biology
   - B10 1123 Biology II
   - B10 2313 Genetics
   - B10 3413 General Physiology
   - or
   - AHS 3463 Human Physiology
   - B10 3513 Biochemistry
   - B10 3713, 3722 Microbiology and Laboratory

2. 16 semester credit hours in chemistry
   - CHE 1103 General Chemistry I
   - CHE 1122 General Chemistry I Laboratory
   - CHE 1111 General Chemistry II
   - CHE 1132 General Chemistry II Laboratory
   - CHE 2604, 2612 Organic Chemistry I and Laboratory

3. 6 semester credit hours in mathematics and statistics
   - MAT 1093 Precalculus
   - STA 1053 Basic Statistics

B. 60 semester credit hours in clinical laboratory sciences, all of which must be completed at UTHSCSA.

1. These courses are taken prior to clinical training and are integrated with support work taken at UTSA
   - CLSC 3001 Phlebotomy Practicum, 0.5 hours
   - CLSC 3004, 3003 Parasitology & Mycology/Laboratory, 3 hours
   - CLSC 3010 Body Fluids, 2 hours
   - CLSC 3011 Quality Assurance, 1 hour
   - CLSC 3033, 3034 Medical Microbiology/Laboratory, 5 hours
   - CLSC 3051, 3052 Hematology/Laboratory, 5 hours
   - CLSC 3060, 3064 Immunohematology/Laboratory, 3.5 hours
   - CLSC 3072, 3073 Molecular/Immunological Diagnostics, 5 hours
   - CLSC 3081, 3082 Clinical Chemistry/Laboratory, 4 hours

These courses are the senior lecture and clinical experience courses

   - CLSC 4033 Advanced Medical Microbiology, 2 hours
   - CLSC 4037 Microbiology Practicum, 4 hours
   - CLSC 4053 Advanced Hematology, 2 hours
   - CLSC 4055 Advanced Immunohematology, 2 hours
   - CLSC 4057 Hematology Practicum, 4 hours
   - CLSC 4067 Immunohematology Practicum, 4 hours
   - CLSC 4070 Immunology Practicum, 2 hours
   - CLSC 4083 Advanced Clinical Chemistry, 3 hours
   - CLSC 4087 Chemistry Practicum, 4 hours
   - CLSC 4092 Management I, 1 hour
   - CLSC 4093 Management II, 2 hours
   - INTD 4006 Professional Issues, 1 hour

Postbaccalaureate Clinical Laboratory Sciences Certificate Option

The postbaccalaureate certificate option in clinical laboratory sciences is designed for students who hold a bachelor’s degree in science from an accredited institution. The curriculum includes 63 semester credit hours of professional coursework. Prerequisite science requirements not completed as a part of a bachelor’s degree may be taken as a part of the certificate curriculum. The certificate option course of study is 18–24 months long.

Interested persons should contact the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences at UTHSCSA for further details.