

# Medical Laboratory Science Graduate Certificates



To address the greater need for certified laboratory specialists in our regional medical community, the Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) Program at the University of Illinois Springfield now offers four new graduate certificates in the following specialties:

- **Graduate Certificate in Clinical Chemistry**
- **Graduate Certificate in Immunohematology**
- **Graduate Certificate in Hematology**
- **Graduate Certificate in Medical Microbiology**

Each graduate certificate will provide a path to certification in one MLS disciplinary area by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) via route 3.

These new certificates will have an immense impact on our local community, health care district and individual career trajectories. By completing a certificate, students will be equipped with the expertise to perform a full range of lab testing procedures within their chosen disciplines, leading to enhanced patient care and professional advancement.



## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Candidates must hold a baccalaureate degree in biological science or chemistry or a baccalaureate degree with a combination of 30 semester hours (45 quarter hours) in biology and chemistry—the required credit hours in biology and chemistry may be earned within or in addition to the baccalaureate degree. Candidates must also complete one semester of statistics – statistics may be completed prior to entering the graduate certificate program or during the first semester of the program.

After admission to UIS, prospective graduate certificate students must submit a secondary application to the MLS Program to be considered for admission to a graduate certificate program. The MLS Program admits new students to graduate certificate student cohorts in fall semesters.

### Graduate Certificate in Clinical Chemistry 12 credit hours

After admission to the Graduate Certificate in Clinical Chemistry program via the secondary admissions process, students complete a blend of classroom, online, laboratory and clinical learning experiences in the following required courses:

- MLS 425: Laboratory Operations (2 hours) – Fall
- MLS 434: Clinical Chemistry I (4 hours) – Spring
- MLS 444: Clinical Chemistry II (3 hours) – Summer
- MLS 516: Categorical Graduate Practicum (3 hours) – Fall (first half)

### Graduate Certificate in Immunohematology 13 credit hours

After admission to the Graduate Certificate in Immunohematology program via the secondary admissions process, students complete a blend of classroom, online, laboratory and clinical learning experiences in the following required courses:

- MLS 425: Laboratory Operations (2 hours) – Fall
- MLS 448: Introduction to Immunology (3 hours) – Fall
- MLS 449: Introductory Immunology Laboratory (1 hour) – Fall
- MLS 468: Immunohematology (4 hours) – Spring
- MLS 516: Categorical Graduate Practicum (3 hours) – Summer

### Graduate Certificate in Hematology 12 credit hours

After admission to the Graduate Certificate in Hematology program via the secondary admissions process, students complete a blend of classroom, online, laboratory and clinical learning experiences in the following required courses:

- MLS 425: Laboratory Operations (2 hours) – Fall
- MLS 432: Hematology I (3 hours) – Fall
- MLS 442: Hematology II (4 hours) – Spring
- MLS 516: Categorical Graduate Practicum (3 hours) – Summer

### Graduate Certificate in Medical Microbiology 12 credit hours

After admission to the Graduate Certificate in Medical Microbiology program via the secondary admissions process, students complete a blend of classroom, online, laboratory and clinical learning experiences in the following required courses:

- MLS 425: Laboratory Operations (2 hours) – Fall
- MLS 433: Medical Microbiology I (4 hours) – Fall
- MLS 443: Medical Microbiology II (3 hours) – Spring
- MLS 516: Categorical Graduate Practicum (3 hours) – Summer

**Graduate certificate students complete 150 clinical contact hours in a medical laboratory in MLS 516.** Graduate certificate students who currently work in a medical laboratory may be able to be exempted from a portion of the required clinical contact hours. Students must have at least one year of experience working in a medical laboratory to be eligible to request an exemption from a portion of the clinical contact hour requirement. Requests for exempted clinical contact hours will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and will require official verification of employment and clinical competence by a direct supervisor. The maximum allowable clinical contact hour exemption will be 70 hours.

To learn more about MLS graduate certificates and how to apply, please contact Dr. Andrea Jensen, MLS Program Director.

*Information effective Fall 2024. Subject to change without notice.  
See [uis.edu/uiscatalog](http://uis.edu/uiscatalog) for up-to-date requirements.*

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