# CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY MAJORS

## SKILLS & ABILITIES OF THE MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY MAJOR

### Knowledge
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Customer and Personal Service
- Medicine
- Mathematics
- Clerical
- Computers and Electronics
- Mechanical
- Education and Training

### Skills
- Active Listening
- Scientific Methods
- Critical Thinking
- Judgment and Decision-Making
- Monitoring
- Quality Control Analysis
- Speaking
- Complex Problem Solving

### Abilities
- Operation Monitoring
- Close Attention to Detail
- Oral / Written Comprehension
- Deductive Reasoning—apply general rules to specific problems to produce logical answers
- Inductive Reasoning—combine specific pieces of information to form general rules / conclusions
- Problem Sensitivity
- Flexibility
- Information Ordering—arrange actions in a specific order according to a specific set of rules
- Selective Attention—focusing on the task at hand without being distracted

*Partially taken from O*NET OnLine*

## POTENTIAL CAREERS

### Medical Technology Occupations
- Medical Technologist (MT)
- Medical Laboratory Technologist (MLT)
- Clinical Laboratory Scientist
- Medical Laboratory Technician
- Clinical Laboratory Manager
- Microbiologist
- Clinical Laboratory Technologist
- Cytology Laboratory Manager
- Medical Technician
- Research Assistant
- Phlebotomist
- Toxicology Laboratory Technician

### Related Occupations
- Coroner
- Biologists
- Biological Technician
- Anesthesiologists
- Dentists
- Pharmacists
- Nuclear Medicine Technologist

*Partially taken from O*NET OnLine*  
*Provided by the Occupational Outlook Handbook*
## Types of Employers

- General Hospitals
- Medical Labs
- Diagnostic Labs
- Pharmaceutical Manufacturers
- Specialty Hospitals (except psych and substance abuse)
- Management Consulting
- Scientific Consulting

## Medical Technology Related Tasks

- Conduct chemical analyses of body fluids, such as blood and urine, using microscope or automatic analyzer to detect abnormalities or diseases, and enter findings into computer.
- Conduct blood tests for transfusion purposes and perform blood counts.
- Examine cells stained with dye to locate abnormalities.
- Set up, maintain, calibrate, clean, and test sterility of medical laboratory equipment.
- Analyze the results of tests and experiments to meet specifications, using special mechanical and electrical devices.
- Analyze and record test data to issue reports that use charts, graphs and narratives.
- Consult with a pathologist to determine a final diagnosis when abnormal cells are found.
- Prepare solutions following standardized formulas or experimental procedures.
- Inoculate fertilized eggs, broths, or other bacteriological media with organisms.
- Collect blood or tissue samples from patients, observing principles of asepsis to obtain blood sample.

*Provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics 2010-2011

## Earnings for Medical Technologists

Median annual wages of medical technologists were $56,130 in May 2010. The middle 50 percent earned between $47,130 and $66,370. The lowest 10 percent earned less than $38,810, and the highest 10 percent earned more than $76,780. Median annual wages in the industries employing the largest numbers of medical technologists in May 2010 were:

- General medical and surgical hospitals- $57,300
- Medical and diagnostic laboratories- $56,810
- Offices of Physicians- $53,030
- Colleges and universities- $54,080

*Provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2010-11)

## Additional Medical Technology Resources

- American Medical Technologists, www.amt1.com
- American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science, www.ascls.org
- American Association for Clinical Chemistry, www.aacc.org

## Related Books in the Career Resource Library (CLC 530)

- *Careers in Focus: Chemistry*
- *Careers in Focus: Biology*
- *Clinic Laboratory Science Careers*
- *Opportunities in Chemistry Careers*