UCF | Medical Laboratory Sciences

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

The MLS student must be able to:

1. Observe laboratory demonstrations in which biologicals (i.e. body fluids, culture materials, tissue sections, and cellular specimens) are tested for their biochemical, hematological, immunological, microbiological and histochemical components.

2. Characterize the color, odor, clarity and viscosity of biologicals, reagents or chemical reaction products.

3. Employ a clinical grade binocular microscope to discriminate among fine structural and color (hue, shading, and intensity) differences of microscopic specimens.

4. Read and comprehend text, numbers and graphs displayed in print and on a video monitor.

5. Move freely and safely about a laboratory.

6. Reach laboratory benchtops and shelves, patients lying in hospital beds or patients seated in specimen collection furniture.

7. Travel to clinical laboratory sites for practical experience.

8. Perform moderately taxing continuous physical work, often requiring prolonged sitting over several hours.

9. Perform phlebotomy, utilizing the correct equipment for venipuncture collection.

10. Utilize culture acquisition equipment to safely collect valid laboratory specimens from patients.

11. Manipulate laboratory equipment (pipettes, inoculating loops, test tubes) and adjust instruments to perform laboratory procedures.

12. Use an electronic keyboard to operate laboratory instruments and to calculate, record, evaluate and transmit laboratory information.

13. Read and comprehend technical and professional materials (textbooks, magazine and journal articles, handbooks and instruction manuals).

14. Follow verbal and written instructions in order to correctly and independently perform laboratory test procedures.

15. Direct oral communication with patients, nurses and other non-laboratory personnel.

16. Communicate orally urgent critical values to nurses and physicians via telephone.

17. Confidentially and sensitively converse with patients, and other non-laboratory personnel regarding laboratory tests.

18. Communicate both written and oral with faculty members, fellow students, staff and other health care professionals.

19. Independently prepare papers, prepare laboratory reports and take paper, computer and laboratory practical exams.

20. Possess the following skills: comprehension, measurement, mathematical calculation, reasoning, integration, analysis, comparison, self-expression and criticism.

21. Be able to exercise sufficient judgment to recognize and correct performance deviations.

22. Be able to manage the use of time and to systemize actions in order to complete professional and technical tasks within realistic constraints.

23. Possess the emotional health necessary to effectively employ intellect and exercise appropriate judgment.

24. Provide professional and technical services while experiencing the stresses of uncertainty (ambiguous test ordering, ambivalent test interpretation), emergent demands (STAT ordered tests) and a distracting environment (high noise levels, crowding, complex visual stimuli)

25. Recognize potentially hazardous materials, equipment, and situations and proceed safely in order to minimize risk of injury to patients, self, and nearby individuals.

26. Adapt to working with unpleasant biologicals.

27. Support and promote the activities of fellow students and of health care professionals. Promotion of peers helps furnish a team approach to learning, task completion, problem-solving and patient care.

28. Be honest, compassionate, ethical, and responsible. The student must be forthright about errors or uncertainty. The student must be able to critically evaluate her or his own performance, accept constructive criticism, and look for ways to improve (participate in enriched educational activities). The student must be able to evaluate the performance of fellow students and tactfully offer constructive comments.