

# POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE IN BLOOD BANKING FOR MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE (STEM)

The online post-baccalaureate certificate in blood banking for medical laboratory science is designed to teach students the ins and outs of testing, storing, and transporting blood for transfusions. Students learn how to test blood for viruses, identify blood types and antibodies, and separate blood into its component parts, such as red and white blood cells and plasma. This certificate can be completed in as little as one year and allows students to qualify to sit for the ASCP Technologist in Blood Banking (BB) exam.\*

Upon completion of the certificate program, students are able to:

- Apply principles of traditional and molecular laboratory procedures to perform diagnostic analyses.
- Correlate laboratory data and quality control data to assess patient test results.
- Apply knowledge of laboratory science principles as they relate to human disease diagnosis.
- Maintain a safe work environment.
- Comply with laboratory safety regulations and regulatory policies.
- Apply ethical decision-making to issues related to clinical laboratory practice.

Students complete required courses on either a full- or part-time basis. Courses in the major are designed to broaden the student's foundation in the sciences in preparation for the clinical phase of the program. All courses are taught online, except for the clinical practicum. The clinical practicum is usually taken on a full-time basis upon completion of didactic coursework. Students typically are in a clinical laboratory eight hours per day (daytime hours), five days per week. Students must be able to fulfill the necessary time requirement for the practicum.\*\*

This is a STEM designated program.

Visit the program website (<https://smhs.gwu.edu/bulletin/smhs/certificate/blood-banking-mls/>) for additional information.

\*Completion of the certificate qualifies graduates to take the Technologist in Blood Banking examination offered by national certifying agencies.

\*\*Clinical rotations, each between one to four weeks in duration, are completed at an approved clinical site.

## ADMISSIONS

Term Start:	Fall - July 20
To be accepted to this program, you must have:	2.5 GPA or above on a 4.0 scale
Prerequisites:	All required courses must be completed with a C grade (C- grades and lower do not transfer) 3 credits English Composition, 3 credits College Algebra, Statistics (or higher) Combination of 30 semester hours of Biology and Chemistry coursework.
	* Please be prepared to provide unofficial transcripts to determine program admissibility.
Statement of purpose:	Applicants must include a 250-500 word essay describing your reasons for undertaking study at GW, your academic objectives, career goals and related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities, relevant to your program of interest. Include any substantial accomplishments not already mentioned on the application form.
Recommendation required:	One (1) letter of recommendation
Prior academic records:	Official transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended (including via dual enrollment), whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Official transcripts must be forwarded in their original sealed envelopes or sent electronically directly from the institution.  If academic records are in a language other than English, a certified English language translation must be provided in addition to the original transcripts; translations alone will not be accepted.  Official transcripts from institutions outside the U.S. must be accompanied by an official transcript evaluation from an accredited independent evaluating agency. Please be sure you request a detailed evaluation that includes all course titles, credit hours, grades, U.S. degree equivalency, grade-point averages (GPA), and date of degree conferral. Please see the list of acceptable foreign credential evaluation services ( <a href="https://www.naces.org/members">https://www.naces.org/members</a> ).
Additional requirements:	Students who live outside of the Washington DC Metro Area are required to secure a satisfactory clinical site at the time of admission.

Successful completion of a criminal background check and a drug screen through Certiphi Screening, a third-party vendor, are required of all admitted clinical students in their first semester. Students are responsible for fees associated with these screens.

**International applicants:** International students should check with individual programs regarding eligibility for visa sponsorship. Generally, online and hybrid programs are not eligible for student visa sponsorship from GW. This includes transfer students from any other institution with an existing visa.

Applicants who have not completed a post-secondary degree from an institution where English is the sole language of instruction must submit TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic, or the Duolingo English Test scores to be considered for admission. The following are the minimum scores for admission consideration:

- Academic IELTS: An overall band score of 7.0, with no individual band score below 6.0.

- TOEFL: 600 paper-based or 100 internet-based.

- PTE: Overall score of 68

- DET: Overall score of 120

Undergraduate applicants who meet one of the following conditions can be considered for admission without submitting TOEFL, PTE or IELTS or DET scores:

Scores cannot be more than two years old. To ensure TOEFL scores are sent to GW, use institutional code 5246. An institutional code is not required to send IELTS or PTE scores to GW. DET scores must be submitted via the Duolingo English Test system directly to GW.

Based on their application and the results of the English proficiency examination students can be required to take English for Academic Purposes (EAP) during their first year of study at GW. GW evaluates each application holistically and applicants can be recommended for EAP even if they meet the requirements for exemption. Students placed in EAP courses should anticipate additional tuition expenses as well as possible extension of time needed to complete their degree programs.

**Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:**

George Washington University

ATTN: Transcript Processing Center  
1415 W 22<sup>nd</sup> St.  
Suite 220  
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Documents can be submitted electronically  
to: transcripts@hsprograms.gwu.edu.

**Contact for questions:**

hsphora@gwu.edu

202-994-0384 (phone)

Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

## REQUIREMENTS

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required</b>		
MLS 4141	Immunology and Serology	
MLS 4158	Laboratory Management and Operations	
MLS 4150	Immunohematology	
MLS 4151	Molecular Diagnostics	
MLS 4160	Blood Bank Practicum	