



Hello,

Are you interested in becoming a Medical Laboratory Technologist? I have been a MLT for nearly over 30 years. It has truly been a great career for me. One of the reasons that it has worked so well for me is that it has been a really good career fit for my personal style and skill set.

Every year we get students that drop out of our Program as they feel it is not the right fit for them.

Go through this self-evaluation to help determine if the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program is the right fit for you. Please note if you answer “No” to any of these it doesn’t mean you should not enter the program. It is for your reflection. If you have concerns let me know (email-hmauthe@rrc.ca)

CONSIDERATION	YES	NO
Have you visited the MLS website found on the RRC site? www.rrc.ca/mls This site has a lot of information about what a Medical Laboratory Technologist (MLT) does.		
Have you checked out the lab links found on the bottom of the overview page on our website?		
Are you aware that the regulatory body CMLTM has a language policy that must be met as a MLS student? www.cmltm.ca policy BOA-17		
Do you feel you really know what a MLT does on a daily basis?		
Are you aware of the 5 main disciplines of Medical Laboratories?		
Have you looked at the course descriptions on the MLS web site?		
Are you aware of the costs of the program?		
As a student, are you prepared to attend lectures (may be virtually) and labs Monday to Friday 8:00 to 5:00, plus many hours of homework in the evenings and on weekends? (Do you have “supports in place” to accomplish this?)		
Did you do well in Sciences and Math in school?		
Are you able to remain calm and focused when faced with the sight of blood, other body fluids, or body tissue?		
Did you know that you will have to draw blood as part of your training from fellow students (and them from you) in first year and from patients in second year?		
Are you aware you must pass a National exam after you graduate from the Red River MLS program in order to practice as an MLT in Canada? This exam is an additional cost of nearly \$1000.00 for CSMLS members (more for non-members).		
Do you know where MLT’s can work after they graduate?		
Are you aware most labs have evening and night shifts and some have on-call shifts?		
Are you aware that MLT’s are governed by a Regulatory Body that you must belong to? (Student cost \$20/year, MLT cost \$450/year – tax deductible)		
Do you consider yourself an organized person?		

Are you able to follow both verbal and written instructions?		
Are you a detail person?		
Are able to handle stressful situations?		
Are you able to cope with major changes in the workplace?		
Are you able to cope with a fast pace, demanding workload?		
Do you consider yourself a healthy individual? Please realize you will be working with potentially contagious samples and patients.		
Will you be able to stand on your feet for long hours?		
Will you be able to pick up heavy objects or bend over beds during training?		
Do you have fine motor control of both hands?		
Are you able to differentiate colours?		
Are you prepared to interact with people from diverse backgrounds (socially and culturally)?		
Are you comfortable having face-to-face conversations (co-workers, patients)?		
Are you comfortable having conversations over the phone?		
Are you aware this is a competency based program? What that means is you will have to perform certain procedures while being watched to be considered competent.		
Are you comfortable accepting constructive criticism from others?		

Our program is a very heavy one with lots of content. It does become overwhelming at times.

Read through all of the pages on our website. Feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns. It is probably best to email me as I am not always in my office. The intent of this letter is not to frighten you away but to help you make an educated choice to join what I consider one of the most rewarding professions out there.

Thank you,

Heather Mauthe
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