

Certification Requirements

Certification Requirements, National Certification and State Licensure

1. The MLS Board of Certification (BOC) Examination, is through the American Society of Clinical Pathologists. This exam is computerized and graduates are given date options for signing up at a designated testing site. Students apply to take this examination approximately two months prior to the actual testing date to assure adequate time for application processing. Eligible students receive an admission letter that is valid for three months. Visit <http://www.ascp.org> for current application fees. In order to be eligible for the BOC exam, the student must successfully complete all components of the CCMLS curriculum. Exam status (PASS/FAIL) is available on screen at the end of the computerized exam. Upon passing the BOC exam, the graduate is entitled to use the legal designation for certified medical laboratory scientist in the appropriate category MLS(ASCP)^{CM}.
2. There are states that require licensure for medical laboratory scientists to practice in that state. If a student wishes to work as a certified medical laboratory scientist in one of these states, they are required to meet state licensure requirements. More information regarding state personnel licensure requirements can be found at <http://www.ascls.org/advocacy-issues/licensure>
3. The academic and clinical curriculum at CCMLS meets the requirements set forth by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science (NAACLS). Students who complete the CCMLS curriculum are eligible to sit for national certification through the American Society for Clinical Pathology (<http://www.ascp.org>) for the medical laboratory scientist (MLS). CCMLS does not guarantee that graduation from the MLS curriculum will automatically meet individual state licensure requirements.
3. Successful completion of the program does not constitute any guarantee that a student will be able to pass certifying or licensure examinations, or to perform successfully in practice. Successful completion, and graduation from, the curriculum is NOT contingent upon passing certification exams.