**Degree(s)**
- Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in cytotechnology
- Post-baccalaureate certificate in cytotechnology

**About the Faculty**
The cytotechnology faculty are certified laboratory scientists that are nationally recognized within their profession and dedicated to developing competent graduates who are responsive to the needs of society.

**Program Overview**
The cytotechnologist is a medical professional whose primary responsibility is the microscopic examination of cell samples for infectious and viral agents and cell changes that are suggestive or diagnostic of malignancy. The expert eyes of the cytotechnologist detect clues to disease in the delicate patterns of the cytoplasm and nucleus of the cells.

Students in the cytotechnology program have numerous opportunities for personal and professional growth through faculty and peer interactions. Also, students are welcomed as student members of the St. Louis Society of Cytology, the American Society of Cytotechnology and the American Society for Cytopathology.

In the area of career development, the program facilitates attendance of CT students at local professional meetings. In addition, clinical affiliates in the St. Louis area frequently request that our students seek part-time employment to garner clinical experience and are often retained as full-time employees upon graduation.

For students interested in getting actively involved in campus and community life, Saint Louis University provides numerous opportunities through its student life network.

**Curriculum**
The cytotechnology program in the department of biomedical laboratory science at Saint Louis University distinguishes itself in the following ways:
- Continuous accreditation and excellence in cytotechnology education
- One of approximately 30 cytotechnology programs nationally and the only cytotechnology program in the bi-state region
- Clinical practicum placement guaranteed for students in good standing
- Excellent and diverse clinical sites
- Student laboratories with low student-to-faculty ratio
- National certification exam pass rates consistently exceed the national average and often 100 percent
- Pre-professional health, pre-medicine, pre-physician assistant (PA) and PA scholars curriculum options for degree candidates
- Active student association sponsoring service projects, social events, fundraisers and trips to professional conferences
- Student opportunities to participate in professional organizations and conferences
- Undergraduate opportunities to conduct research and produce projects/papers acceptable for publication and presentation at professional conferences
- State of the art student laboratory facilities located in the Doisy College of Health Sciences
- Graduate career placement rate typically between 95 and 100 percent

Cytotechnologists are important members of the health care team. They are skilled microscopists with diverse roles that include:
- Analyzing PAP smears, aspirates, and tissue samples to aid in diagnosis and treatment
- Developing and evaluating new diagnostic tests
- Consulting with patients and providers on issues related to cytotechnology services
Admission Requirements
Admission consideration for the cytotechnology program is initially based on a strong overall academic background. The average GPA of admitted students is 3.6 on a 4.0 scale and the average ACT score is a 24.

Admission criteria include:
+ Minimum GPA of 3.0 in high school chemistry, biology, mathematics and English
+ Four years of high school math (with algebra) and English, with some physics recommended
+ Minimum ACT score of 20 in each subsection or an SAT of 500 or above in each area

Transfer applicants must have a 2.5 GPA in math and science coursework and possess a 2.5 cumulative GPA. Interested applicants who do not meet all the admission requirements should still apply for individual consideration.

Internships and Careers
Cytotechnologists are vital members of the health care team who microscopically analyze cell and tissue samples to contribute data that are critical to disease diagnosis and to patient treatment.

As a cytotechnologist, you will be qualified to work in conjunction with the pathologist to detect and diagnose diseases. Throughout the course of a typical workday, you will examine cell samples under the microscope for diagnosis of pre-malignant or malignant cell changes, microorganisms and the cell changes related to them. Cytotechnologists detect clues to disease in the delicate patterns in the cytoplasm and nucleus of cells and assist in the collection of fine needle aspirates and perform various molecular testing.

While most cytotechnology graduates work in diagnostic testing and laboratory management, some choose positions in research, education or industry. Many graduates choose to go directly to graduate, medical or professional schools.

Scholarships and Financial Aid
There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:
+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need. In addition to university scholarships, the Doisy College of Health Sciences Alumni Association offers a scholarship to sophomores, juniors and seniors.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1. For more information, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.