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Accreditation

The Department of Biomedical Laboratory Science at Saint Louis University has been continuously accredited since the graduation of its first class in 1933.

We are one of the oldest programs in the nation founded in 1929 and boast over 80 years of educational service to the medical laboratory science profession.

The Cytotechnology program is accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Allied Health Education in Conjunction with the Cytotechnology Programs Review Committee of the American Society of Cytopathology.

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)
25400 U.S. Highway 19 North, Suite 158
Clearwater, FL 33763
Phone: 727-210-2350
Fax: 727-210-2354

http://www.caahep.org/

American Society for Cytopathology
Cytotechnology Review Committee
400 West 9th Street, Suite 201
Wilmington, DE 19801

http://www.cytopathology.org/
Mission Statement

In the tradition of the broader University and the Edward and Margaret Doisy College of Health Sciences, the Department of Biomedical Laboratory Science has as its' mission, the service of humanity through the education of health care professions in the laboratory sciences. It further strives to promote professional scholarship and support community service programs.

As an academic department, we are committed to the pursuit of truth through research, publication, and other scholarly endeavors. Our faculty members are singularly dedicated to effective and innovative educational methodologies. It is, therefore, our intent to develop these requisite competencies and values in our students and encourage each individual to attain his or her fullest potential.

The department's pursuit of this mission is rooted in Judaeo-Christian doctrine, nourished by the spirit of the Gospels, and guided by the educational philosophies of the Society of Jesus.
Professional Performance Standards

The Cytotechnology student must possess or have the ability to achieve certain competencies to successfully complete the curriculum. These competencies include knowledge, skills and attitudes that are necessary for professional practice. The essential requirements outlined below are presented for applicants and matriculates to review and use to assess their ability to successfully complete degree requirements.

If you have any questions regarding your ability to achieve any of these essential requirements, you can clarify your concerns by contacting the Cytotechnology Program Director. If you perceive you will require special accommodations to meet these requirements, you must notify the Cytotechnology Director or the BLS Department Chair to arrange for University Level Assessment.

The Cytotechnology student must be able to:

1. In course assignments and within the laboratory practice setting, apply theoretical knowledge, ethical practice and sound judgment in following problem situations to their logical conclusions.
2. Assimilate mathematical and scientific data to allow application of basic principles in concrete situations related to laboratory practice and test interpretation.
3. Physically manipulate themselves and small objects (20 pounds or less) within the laboratory and clinical patient care settings in a safe and effective fashion.
4. Display a competent level of functional manual dexterity in the performance of laboratory testing. The ability to safely and reliably handle needles and other sharp medical instruments in patient care settings is required of all students. Examples include providing technical assistance during fine needle aspirations and numerous other laboratory procedures requiring delicate manipulations while using small containers, stains, reagents and other potentially harmful chemicals.
5. Demonstrate functional use of their senses including but not limited to:
   - Visual acuity in distinguishing colors of stained cells, gross images and physical features in fluid samples, colorimetric endpoints and subtle microscopic differences between diagnostic elements in clinical specimen when examined under a microscope and/or displayed on a monitor.
   - Sense of touch to distinguish temperature discrimination for safety purposes.
   - Visual acuity and accurate transcription in the reporting of testing data and quality control information in a written or computer generated format.
6. Utilize effective and respectful written and oral communication skills in professional interactions with patients, physicians, colleagues, and other health care professionals.
7. Accurately perform complex technical procedures under stressful working conditions (e.g. emergency situations, ambiguous orders, heavy workload, and a distracting and noisy environment) and within reasonable time constraints. The ability to effectively multitask and process patient samples in achieving accurate results is required.
8. Comprehend and adhere to policies and regulations as prescribed by appropriate governing agencies. These policies are generally but not exclusively related to competent, ethical and safe practice.
9. Submit to and receive a satisfactory report on criminal background checks and drug testing for substances of abuse.
Certification and Licensure

Professional Certification

Certification in Cytotechnology is a mandatory process in which graduates of Cytotechnology programs sit for a national certification examination. By taking and passing the nationally administered examination the graduate is certified as a CT(ASCP) and may practice Cytotechnology.

The organization that certifies Cytotechnologists is:

The American Society of Clinical Pathologists
ascp.org
Toll Free: (800) 267-2727

Professional Licensure

Professional Licensure has traditionally been a state level process designed to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens. The practice of medicine is considered a "states rights" issue. Each state maintains its own regulations on medical practice, whether for a physician, nurse, pharmacist or allied health professional.

Cytotechnologists must be licensed in some states in the United States in order to practice Cytotechnology. Contact state regulatory agencies for specific state information.
Program Outcomes

Overall Graduates who pass the certification exam with an average of 75% or greater pass rate:

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<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<td>100%</td>
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Graduation rates demonstrating an average of at least 70% of students who have begun the final half of the program go on to successfully graduate.

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Graduate placement rates demonstrating that an average of at least 70% of respondent graduates either find employment in the field or a closely related field (for those who seek employment), pursue military service or continue their education within one year of graduation.

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<th>2012</th>
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