MS in Biomedical Laboratory Sciences

Admission to the Master of Biomedical Laboratory Sciences Program is competitive. All applications are reviewed to ensure the potential for academic success. Notification of admissions decisions is made within four to six weeks of the application deadline.

We strive to be equitable in the admissions process. Our program thrives with the inclusion of students from different backgrounds and cultural experiences. Our Admissions Committee reviews applications holistically, including all components of the application. We do not require Graduate Record Exam (GRE). If you have questions about the admission requirements or would like advice on how to put together application materials, please contact us at cahpinfo@umn.edu or 877-334-2659.

In exceptional circumstances, promising applicants with lower GPA or less work experiences may be considered for the program. An explanation for the GPA, and evidence that academic success at the graduate level is achievable, must be addressed in the application section for "extenuating circumstances." Applicants who do not have the MT or MLS certification from ASCP should also provide a statement related to their eligibility for the program.

Admission Requirements

- A BS or BA degree in MLS or a related field (e.g. Biology)
- MT or current MLS^{CM} certification from ASCP
  - Categorical certification by ASCP or alternate certifications will be considered on a case-by-case basis
  - International students may have alternate options for ASCP certification
  - ASCP Categorical and alternate certifications have additional course requirements
- Minimum of two year's full-time work experience in a clinical or reference laboratory
- Minimum GPA for consideration is 3.0; preferred GPA is 3.2 or higher
  - Must maintain a minimum program GPA of 2.8 to meet UMN graduation requirements
- International applicants must submit score(s) from one of the following tests:
  - TOEFL – Test of English as Foreign Language (preferred)
    - Internet Based - Total Score: 95
    - Paper Based - Total Score: 586
  - MELAB – Michigan English Language Assessment Battery
    - Final score: 85
  - International applicant information
    - https://grad.umn.edu/admissions/international-student-resources
    - Please also contact cahpinfo@umn.edu for more information.

Preparing to Apply to the MS in Biomedical Laboratory Science
Please submit ALL application materials as individual pdf files. Add your Last/Family name to the application file name to help the Admissions committee sort materials for review.

Examples:
- Lastname.personalstatement.pdf
- Lastname.extenuatingcircumstances.pdf
- Lastname.resume.pdf

Personal Statement – Required
Develop a Personal Statement for your application. In your personal statement please describe why you are interested in pursuing the MS in Biomedical Laboratory Science degree; your personal or professional career goals; and the area of interest for your focus track in the degree.

Diversity Statement – Optional
A maximum one-page document explaining your experiences and commitments to diversity.

Extenuating Circumstances Statement – Optional
Submit an Extenuating Circumstances Statement if there are any special circumstances related to your application, personal situation, or professional career goals that should be considered by the Admissions committee.

Resume/CV – Required
Please submit a complete resume that includes a list of previous college degrees and work experience.

Graduate Program Specific Additional Requirements – Required
1. Applicants with MT(ASCP) or MLS(ASCP)^{CM} Certification:
   o Please submit a pdf copy of your ASCP Certificate or ASCP Transcript

OR

2. Applicants that do not have ASCP MT or MLS Certification, please submit one of the following:*
   o Copy of ASCP categorical; AMT, other certification
   o Copy of license
   o International Students – brief statement about eligibility to work as MLS in country of origin

* Applicants who do not have MT(ASCP) or MLS(ASCP) certification will be required to also complete MLSP 6610 Integrated Concepts.

Application Process

1. **Review the requirements**
   - Visit the MS in Biomedical Laboratory Sciences page at:
     https://www.alliedhealth.umn.edu/mls/how-to-apply/ms-bls-requirements

2. **Go to the UMN Graduate School Application website**
   - Review the general application information on this website page:
     https://grad.umn.edu/admissions

3. **Select "Apply Now"**
   https://choose.umn.edu/apply/
   - If you are a first time user Create an Account
   - Or Login if you are a returning user

   ✔ You can stop and return to your application at any time – just login to continue
   ✔ Make note of your email and password for the future
   ✔ Complete the online application form

4. **Program Selection Page**
   - Select the UM Twin Cities campus
   - College/School – do not select – leave open
   - Select *Biomedical Laboratory Sciences **MS*** within the Twin Cities Program Listing
   - How did you hear about this program? – optional
   - Click Continue at the bottom of the screen

5. **Term Selection Page**
   - Select the term you would like to begin your program of study.
   - Click Continue at the bottom of the screen

6. **Biographical Information Page**
   - Enter your biographical information
   - Click Continue at the bottom of the screen

7. **Personal Background Page**
   - Enter the information for your personal background
   - Click Continue at the bottom of the screen

8. **Academic History Page**
   - Please add information for ALL colleges and universities you have attended, even if you did not receive a degree.
   - Click Add Institution to add more colleges
   - You can upload unofficial transcripts at this point
   - Once you are notified, you will need to separately request Official Transcripts from each college sent directly to the UMN Graduate School.
   - Click Continue at the bottom of the screen

Please go to this website for current instructions to submit Official transcripts
https://grad.umn.edu/admissions/application-instructions/official-transcripts-credentials

9. **Test Scores Page**
   - Enter relevant test scores.
   - The MS in BLS does not require the GRE
   - International Students must submit their TOEFL or equivalent scores here.
     - Official reports must be submitted directly to the University of Minnesota
   - Click Continue at the bottom of the screen

10. **Employment Page**
   - Please enter relevant employment history (3 most recent)
   - Please include the name of the employer as well as your job title/position and dates of employment.
   - Click Continue at the bottom of the screen

11. **Materials Page**
   - Please upload the required materials as pdf files -see the preparation instructions above
     o Personal Statement – Required
     o Diversity Statement – Optional
     o Extenuating Circumstances Statement – Optional
     o Resume/CV – Required
     o Graduate Program Additional Material – upload ASCP certification or other
     o Select proposed Track Choice from the list – can be changed later
   - Click Continue at the bottom of the screen

12. **Recommendations Page**
   - Please provide the following information for 2 individuals who can provide a professional letter of recommendation. Individuals should be current or past employers and/or faculty from previous colleges or universities.

   - Your recommendation providers will receive an email from **gradappinfo@umn.edu** Please ask your providers to add this email address to their contact list and to double check spam/junk folders if they do not receive the message.
     o Recommendation provider name
     o Organization
     o Position/Title
     o Relationship
     o Phone
     o Email
     o Personal Message to Recommender
   - Applicant's Right to View Recommendations – select your choice
     o I waive my right to access this report
     o I do not waive my right to access this report
   - Click Continue at the bottom of the screen

13. Confirmation and Signature Page
- On this page you will indicate confirmation of your application information and make an electronic signature

14. Review
- The review page will indicate whether your materials are complete.
- If there are any materials missing, the review page will indicate which portions of your application are incomplete.
- You can return to the application and submit missing documentation