

## FAQs For Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT)

**Q:** How can I apply to get MLT license?

**A:** Apply online at <https://healthappportal.cdph.ca.gov/osphld/perl>

**Q:** How much is the application fee?

**A:** The application fee is non-refundable and the amount is posted at the LFS Website <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/lfs/Pages/FeeInformation.aspx>.

**Q:** How long is the licensing process?

**A:** Licensing process is 150 days and is based upon receipt of a completed application and official documents.

**Q:** Can I send my transcripts to LFS?

**A:** No, transcripts must be sent directly from the college/university office of registrar directly to LFS.

**Q:** What are the academic requirements?

**A:** AA degree in chemical, physical, biological or clinical laboratory science, including a minimum of 36 semester units of physical or biological science from an accredited college or university.

**Q:** What are the required courses?

**A:** 36 semester units of physical and biological sciences, including 6 semester units of chemistry and 6 semester units in biology.

**Q:** I am a non-United States (foreign) graduate, what is the process?

**A:** Send a copy of your official transcript to the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) for evaluation at [www.AACRAO.org](http://www.AACRAO.org). A course by course evaluation is highly recommended. Request the AACRAO to send an electronic copy of the AACRAO evaluation of International Educational Credentials to LFS.

**Q:** What are the training/experience requirements?

**A:** Graduation from a NAACLS approved program or LFS approved training program or United States of America military laboratory program.

**Q:** I have more than 3 years on-the-job practical experience in a California Physician Office Laboratory (POL), do I qualify for licensure?

**A:** It depends on the complexity and types of tests performed in the POL. Documentation is required to verify a minimum of 3 years of work experience within the previous five years performing moderate complexity tests in the specialties of chemistry, hematology, microbiology and immunology. Work experience shall include at least 480 hours in each specialty and shall be documented by the physician directing the laboratory.

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**Q:** I have military training and experience, do I qualify for licensure?

**A:** This depends on whether you have completed both the basic and advanced training and if your job duty after training was in the clinical laboratory. Documentation is required to verify the completion of phase I and phase II (basic and advanced) training in the specialties of chemistry, hematology, microbiology, and immunology. If separated from the military, a copy of DD214 is required for experience verification. If you are on current duty in the USA military, LFS will need a verification letter of your duties sent directly to LFS from your commanding officer.

**Q:** I failed the CA-CLS examination, am I qualified for the California approved certifying organization exam?

**A:** Yes, you are qualified for the MLT but need to apply for the MLT license and pass the exam administered by the American Association of Bioanalysts (AAB) or American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP).

**Q:** I am CLS/MLT qualified outside of California. Can I get a California MLT license?

**A:** No. You have to meet the California academic and training/work experience requirements for MLT licensure. You must be certified by AAB after January 1, 2003 or ASCP after June 1, 2003. In addition, you are required to pass an online quiz on California clinical laboratory law.

**Q:** Do I have to be in California to take the California approved certifying organization examination?

**A:** No, contact the AAB or ASCP certifying organizations for information regarding the examination for MLT California licensure. The AAB and ASCP contact information can be located on the internet.

If you have more questions regarding MLT, email [lfspersonnel@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:lfspersonnel@cdph.ca.gov).