

Lab Science Careers For Veterans



Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLTs) constitute a large portion of the 300,000 medical laboratory professionals working in the US. According to the American Society of Clinical Pathology, "a medical laboratory technician searches for basic clues to the absence, presence, and causes of diseases. This skilled individual is responsible for performing laboratory tests efficiently and accurately for high-quality patient care.

Clinical Laboratory Scientists (CLS) are closely involved in diagnosis, treatment, and preventive medicine. They work in clinical laboratories performing and interpreting tests on blood and body fluids to help physicians in diagnosis. Their follow-up testing helps monitor the patient during the treatment phase. They also may perform screening tests on the general population to detect hidden diseases

Leverage Your Skills & Experience!

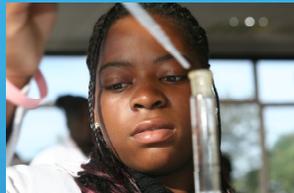


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You May Already Be Qualified!

Your experience in the Military could translate to a high paying civilian job!



Summary of Regulations

For **Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT)**: Is limited to performing moderate complexity tests with CLS supervision. Allows graduates from an advanced military medical laboratory specialist program to apply for the license.

For **Clinical Laboratory Scientist (CLS)**: Can do all activities in a moderate and high complexity clinical laboratory. Both a B.S. level degree and year of practical lab experience is required.

Experience in a branch of the U.S. military may be submitted to fulfill the year of practical lab experience required. The experience is subject to approval by Laboratory Field Services.

Valued Background

In the healthcare job market, where demand continues to outpace supply, the armed forces are viewed as a font of high-quality talent. Military healthcare providers are in demand, says Ted Daywalt, president of VetJobs in Marietta, Georgia. "Their work environment is much more hostile and demanding than at a US civilian hospital," he says, so they're able to hit the ground running after military retirement. Healthcare organizations readily recognize the value of candidates' military backgrounds.



Wide Range of Opportunities

Although many former military healthcare workers make the transition to civilian hospitals, there are other choices. "In optometry, you can go into commercial, private or institutional practice or research," Wood says. "Retiring from the military, you're prepared for any of those areas." Veterans who are medical professionals find employment in settings ranging from stand-alone clinics to doctors' offices, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, and private or public research laboratories.

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