

# MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST (LAB TECH)



## WHAT THEY DO

Medical Laboratory Technologists (also called Lab Techs) obtain, process, test, and report the results of a variety of specimens including blood, body fluids, tissues and other environmental samples. Lab Techs do procedures to analyze samples that are then used in diagnosis, treatment, monitoring, epidemiology and research. They use a variety of sophisticated instruments and equipment including microscopes, computers and various analyzers, and test kits to get medical results. They are responsible for ensuring equipment is working properly and troubleshooting as necessary. Lab Techs ensure the accuracy of test results.

## HOW THEY WORK

Lab Techs work in a clinical laboratory. Laboratory Techs work in a variety of facilities, including hospitals, cancer care centres, research facilities, and community and public health labs. They collaborate with a variety of other health care disciplines, such as other technologists and therapists, physicians and nurses.

## TRAINING

Training in Medical Laboratory Technology can be done through diploma programs at the Northern and Southern Alberta Institutes of Technology or through the University of Alberta Bachelor of Science specializing in medical laboratory technology. Lab Techs are regulated by the College of Medical Laboratory Technologists of Alberta.

| Medical Laboratory Technologists in Alberta 2019 (CIHI 2019 data) |              |
|---|--------------|
| <b>SUPPLY</b>   | <b>2578</b>  |
| <b>% CHANGE SINCE 2018</b>  | <b>+0.4%</b> |
| <b>RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION</b>                                | <b>59.9</b>  |
| <b>PROPORTION OF:</b>   |              |
| FEMALES   | <b>86.7%</b> |
| MALES   | <b>13.3%</b> |

## VIDEO:

[AHS Career profile has a video](#)

## RESOURCES

### REGULATORY BODY:

College of Medical Laboratory Technologists of Alberta <https://cmlta.org/>

### ALBERTA ALIS PROFILE:

<https://alis.alberta.ca/occinfo/occupations-in-alberta/occupation-profiles/medical-laboratory-technologist/>

### AHS CAREER PROFILE:

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/careers/Page11698.aspx> Profile: <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/careers/Page11730.aspx>