

University Hospital/UT Health
Histotechnology Training Program
Program Goals & Competencies

Program Goal

The training program for Histotechnicians is designed to provide didactic and practical experience to prepare the trainees to enter the profession of Histotechnology. During the year of training, the trainees will demonstrate their ability to perform routine histologic procedures. The overall goal of the program is for the trainee to achieve these entry-level competencies upon graduation from the program.

Upon completion of the technical training the trainee will:

- A. Demonstrate accuracy in receiving and accessioning tissue specimens for microscopic evaluation.
- B. Demonstrate technical skills and abilities in the preparation of gross tissue specimens for microscopic evaluation.
 - Perform embedding techniques according to laboratory procedures by correctly orienting tissue specimens.
 - Perform microtomy techniques to provide thin, artifact free sections of diagnostic quality.
 - Assist in the preparation of frozen section procedures in a timely & accurate manner.
- C. Demonstrate technical skills and abilities in the preparation of special staining procedures for microscopic examination.
 - Prepare solutions and stains according to procedural specifications.
 - Perform quality assurance procedures, checking for proper tissue structures and their staining characteristic on control slides.
- D. Demonstrate technical skills and abilities in the routine maintenance of equipment.
 - Maintains equipment and supplies ensuring proper operation and good condition.
 - Maintains records required for laboratory accreditation inspections.
 - Reports any malfunctions or discrepancies to the supervisor.
- E. Acknowledge errors promptly.
 - Notifies supervisors and
 - Takes corrective action if necessary.
 - Accepts and assumes responsibility for job functions performed and is accountable for results.
- F. Communicate effectively, demonstrating professional conduct with all levels of personnel.
 - Communicates status of workflow and projects.
 - Interfaces with other staff, patients, other healthcare professionals, and with the public.
 - Seeks guidance as needed and uses supervisory guidance to improve work methods.
- G. Recognize the responsibilities of other staff members, faculty, and instructors and treating them with respect for their jobs and patient care.

- Communicates professionally using phone etiquette with staff, faculty, patients, and public.
- Shows respect of instructors, staff, and faculty in daily interactions involving questions and answers.
- Seeks instruction from program director/instructor concerning any questions relating to communication.

H. Maintains knowledge of current technology through active participation in continuing education.

1. Attend TSH meeting in April and present a mini- presentation with other histology trainees in symposium format.

I. Demonstrate knowledge of safety, management, and supervision.

1. Uses laboratory safety guidelines for performing technical applications and tests.
2. Able to locate and use the MSDS Sheets.
3. Use Universal Safety Precautions.
4. Able to identify different fire extinguishers and use.
5. Knowledge of supervisors in clinical & didactic experiences.
6. Ability to follow instructions from supervisors and effectively perform duties requested.