

Essential Functions for Training Program

UT Health San Antonio Department of Pathology
Histotechnology Training Program
NAACLS Accredited
Medical Director: Kenneth Holder, M.D.
Program Director: Thanh Le, BS, HTL(ASCP)^{CM}

Histotechnology involves the preparation of tissue specimens for microscopic diagnosis. This one-year course is designed to educate technicians for careers in Histotechnology with a basic knowledge and its technique. Applicants to the program must be able to perform the following essential functions:

1. Work with their hands with attention to minute detail.
2. Distinguish color differentiation using the microscope.
3. Transfer identification numbers without transformation of digits.
4. Work in a stressful rushed task (performing frozen sections).
5. Work in an environment containing biohazard materials.
6. Work in an environment containing hazardous chemicals.
7. Move from one workstation to another; performing multiple tasks.
8. Sit for long periods of time at one task (embedding, cutting)

Maximum requirements are an associate degree or at least 60 semester hours (90 quarter hours) of academic credit from a regionally accredited college/university including 6 semester hours (9 quarter hours) in chemistry and 6 semester hours (9 quarter hours) in biology. Minimum requirements are a High School Diploma with courses in Algebra, Chemistry, and Biology. Subjects offered are:

1. Basic Chemistry
2. Gross Anatomy
3. Fixation, Embedding Techniques
4. Paraffin and Frozen Sectioning
5. Staining and Special Stains
6. Light Microscopy
7. Electron Microscopy and Microscopic Anatomy
8. Laboratory Safety
9. Instrumentation
10. Laboratory Mathematics and Solution Preparation
11. Processing
12. Nuclear and Cytoplasmic Staining
13. Carbohydrate and Amyloid Staining
14. Connective and Muscle Tissue Staining
15. Microorganisms
16. Pigments, Minerals, and Cytoplasmic Granules
17. Nervous Tissue
18. Immunohistochemistry
19. Enzyme Histochemistry
20. Diagnostic Molecular Techniques
21. Laboratory Management
22. Cytopreparatory Techniques

The course includes lectures, exams, and practical application of methods at UT Health San Antonio and our active affiliate University Health System facilities in the medical center. The courses are taught during an 8:00 am to 5:00 pm training day, four days a week, Tuesday through Friday. The academic calendar is August through June. The training program is administered by the Department of Pathology of UT Health San Antonio through the University Health Systems. The University Health Systems provide care in the Emergency Department in the case of on-the-training injury, provides bench space in the anatomic laboratories for practicum, and provides clinical supervision of at least one qualified supervisor for each student during the practicum. The Department of Pathology of UT Health San Antonio determines the qualifications necessary for acceptance into the program, develops the curriculum of the program, determines the clinical rotation sites and schedules, provides qualified instructors, grades, and evaluates the students' progress, provides counseling and advisement of students, issues certificate and keeps appropriate records on each individual student. The cost is approximately \$1,000.00 out of pocket for the year, which would cover costs for textbooks, parking permits, I.D. badges, general expenses, and the application fee for the HT Registry if the trainee decides to sit for it.