

Medical Laboratory Science at Gwynedd Mercy University – An Overview

Gwynedd Mercy University's program is called a 3 + 1 program. The student spends the freshman, sophomore and junior years here at the University campus taking many science courses along with general education courses such as English, Math, Religion and Philosophy.

At the end of the sophomore year, the student begins to apply to affiliate NAACLS accredited certificate MLS programs. (www.naacls.org) The student does this on his or her own with guidance from the Campus Coordinator. The student **MUST** be accepted into a program in order to continue with the University's MLS Program. The University offers **NO** guarantee of acceptance (Refer to the University Catalogue) however, students in good standing in the MLS program **DO** find seats.

All University courses must be complete prior to attending the affiliate MLS program. The senior year is spent at the MLS program taking the program's courses, both classroom and clinical. The student must also register here at Gwynedd Mercy for courses that correspond to courses being taken at the MLS program. (Campus Coordinator informs the student which University courses to register for.)

While enrolled in the affiliate program, the student can apply for and receive federal financial aid (FASFA) through Gwynedd Mercy University. (This financial piece is best explained by the financial aid office as rules and regulations always change.) University grants, scholarships and the like can no longer be utilized due to the tuition being paid to the affiliate program. That tuition is substantially lower than the University's. Students continue to have access to all university resources (including on campus housing). Grades from the MLS program are forwarded to the Campus Coordinator by the program director at the end of the program and are entered into the corresponding University courses for the official transcript.

Once the MLS program is successfully completed (and all University courses have been successfully completed), the student will be eligible to receive their diploma from Gwynedd Mercy University with the BS degree in Medical Laboratory Science at the next official graduation date. (It is usually June or August) Many students choose to walk in the May commencement program. No awards can be issued if the student's degree has not been confirmed.

Once ALL course requirements have been successfully completed (including both University and MLS program courses), the Campus Coordinator informs the MLS program director that all requirements for the BS degree have been met and the graduate is eligible to sit for the National ASCP Examination for Medical Laboratory Science. (American Society of Clinical Pathologists – www.ascp.org)

Thomas Jefferson University Program

The student can also choose to apply to Jefferson where he or she can pursue the 1- or 2-year option to continue their studies. The competition for acceptance into Jefferson's program is very high. Please visit Jefferson's website for Medical Laboratory Science & Biotechnology at: <http://www.jefferson.edu/university/health-professions.html>

Gwynedd Mercy University knows what courses one needs to take that meet Jefferson's pre-requisite requirements. Jefferson might require additional courses over and above the typical Gwynedd Mercy curriculum. It is important to make the Campus Coordinator aware of possible interest in Jefferson's program as soon as possible. If the student is accepted to Jefferson, the student will transfer out of Gwynedd and into Jefferson. The BS degree will be granted by Jefferson.

Transfer Students

Must complete the same curriculum as first-time freshmen. Official transcripts that are submitted will be evaluated for transfer credits by the University's registrar. The applicant must have an overall GPA of 2.8 minimum and good grades in science and math. The transfer student must complete a minimum of 45 credits at the University prior to attending an affiliate program.

Hopefully, this document answers many questions. Please be sure to review other documents available.

You can apply to Gwynedd Mercy University on-line free of charge - just click on the "apply now" button at www.gmercyu.edu

Please contact admissions at admissions@gmercyu.edu and/or the Campus Coordinator, Joy Fox (fox.j@gmercyu.edu) for additional information.

We have MLS specific scholarships for those who qualify.

Please visit our website and University Undergraduate Catalog for more details about the University and the MLS Program. Be sure to check out the latest MLS success story. We hope to see you here!