



GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICAL HOUR CREDITS

NLCMLS GUIDELINES FOR ACCEPTABLE PRACTICE HOURS For MLT Registration

Revised February 2018

The NLCMLS gratefully acknowledges the Saskatchewan Society of Medical Laboratory Technologists (SSMLT) for the use of their Continuing Education Program material.

GUIDELINE FOR ACCEPTABLE PRACTICE HOURS TO MAINTAIN ELIGIBILITY FOR REGISTRATION WITH THE NLCMLS AND THE NLCHP

Eligibility for NLCHP Registration as MLT:

For a Medical Laboratory Technologist (MLT) to be registered, they must have completed one of the following in the four-year period immediately preceding the year for which registration is sought:

- At least 960 hours of practice in medical laboratory technology activities approved by the NLCMLS and the NLCHP; or
- A training program in medical laboratory technology, cytotechnology, or clinical genetics training program approved by the NLCMLS and the NLCHP; or
- A re-entry program in medical laboratory technology, cytotechnology, or clinical genetics approved by the NLCMLS and the NLCHP.

Candidates for NLCHP-MLT registration who have completed training for more than four years but who have not met the minimum standard practice hours requirements may be required to complete pre-approved coursework prior to receiving a General Status (Temporary) registration. These candidates may also be required to work under the direct supervision of a registered MLT for a specified period before they can be approved for full General Status registration with the NLCHP (NLCMLS Policy 2013001: Re-Entry to Practice). These applications are reviewed by the NLCHP on a case-by-case basis.



APPROVED PRACTICE HOURS:

All hours worked by Medical Laboratory Technologists (MLT) in the following areas may be approved by the NLCMLS and the NLCHP:

- Any of the medical laboratory technology disciplines
- Laboratory Management
- Laboratory Education Programs
- Medical Research
- Phlebotomy with 50% analytical testing required
- Accessioning
- Laboratory Information Systems (LIS)
- Electronic Health Record information Consultant

The hours worked in the areas listed above may be worked in any of the following settings:

- Hospital Laboratories — Wellness Centers
- Private Laboratories — Specimen Collection Centers
- Provincial Laboratories — Blood Transfusion Agencies
- Research Laboratories — Training Institutions
- Physicians' Office Laboratories
- The Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information

Hours worked in industrial laboratories:

- Medical Laboratory Technologists who work in industrial laboratories must be registered and required to obtain a minimum of 960 practice hours in an industrial laboratory.

PLEASE NOTE: The regulations for medical laboratory technologists in the Health Professions Act (2010, NL) define registration requirements for practitioners working on human specimens. However, a



number of work environments still require full MLT training, certification and full General Status registration even when the MLT work is not directly related to human specimens. Medical Laboratory Technologists working in the areas listed above who are not directly performing laboratory testing or testing on human specimens in most cases will require full General Status registration and this must be determined by the NLCHP Registration Committee in consultation with the NLCMLS.

Medical Laboratory Technologists not working directly with human specimens, but the work environment is listed as acceptable or approved work hours as above must have full General Status registration with the NLCHP. In the event that an MLT has not been working directly with human specimens for longer than four (4) years that MLT may be required to complete supervised laboratory practical hours before they are permitted to return to performing laboratory tests on human specimens as approved by the NLCHP and the NLCMLS.

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE):

Continuing education (CE) credits may be converted to approved practice hours to a maximum of 60 hours per year. (10 CE credit hours is equivalent to 60 practice hours).

PLEASE NOTE: Courses/programs which are submitted for conversion to approved practice hours must be approved by the NLCMLS and the NLCHP. Proof of successful completion of the course/program in the form of a completion certificate or letter is required.

APPROVED ACTIVITIES FOR CE:

Councils/Committees/Commissions/Boards:

A maximum of two (2) credits per year can be claimed for representing the medical laboratory profession on the following:

- NLCMLS Board or Committees
- CSMLS Boards or Committees
- Workplace Boards or Committees (Safety, OH&S Committee)



- Government Boards or Committees
- Union Boards or Committees

The hours spent on these activities must be documented on the appropriate form available from the NLCMLS.

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION:

Approved practice hours can be recognized in the following situations:

- Full time study toward a degree in Medical Laboratory Science is recognized as being equivalent to full time medical laboratory technology practice hours and would be equivalent to the 240 practice hours.
- Part time study toward a degree in Medical Laboratory Science is recognized as being equivalent to 80 practice hours per credit.
- Full time study toward other related degrees will be assessed on an individual basis for approved practice hours.

Requests for recognition of medical laboratory technology activities not listed above:

- Medical Laboratory Technologists (MLT) working in activities other than those specifically identified in these NLCMLS guidelines e.g. technical sales/service representatives, laboratory aides/assistants, laboratory licensing program, etc. must have their job duties assessed in order to determine approved practice hours.

Written requests to review the acceptability of practice hours will be considered on an individual basis by the NLCHP Registration Committee in consultation with the NLCMLS. The NLCHP will review based on the following but not be limited to information on:

- Job description
 - Job qualifications
 - Advertisement for the position
 - Relevance of activities to the practice of medical laboratory technology
-



**NEWFOUNDLAND AND
LABRADOR COLLEGE**
of Medical Laboratory Science

- Evidence of congruence between the medical laboratory technology
- activities involved in the position and the official job description

The NLCHP by the legislation and the Health Professions Act (2010, NL) is required to establish a quality assurance program. Accordingly, the NLCHP will audit a percentage of the registered MLT each calendar year during its NLCHP QA-Continuing Education (CE) Audit. See NLCHP Policies: Audit Confirmation of Continuing Education and Professional Development, and Renewal Registration.

P.O Box 39057

430 Topsail Road

St. John's, NL A1E 5Y7