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## SCRIPPS HEALTH CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST TRAINING PROGRAM

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS for 2023-2024

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*Pre-Admission requirements are subject to change.*

*Please be sure to check back on any updated requirements PRIOR TO applying for the 2023 cohort.*

**Applicants to the Scripps Health Clinical Laboratory Scientist Training Program are required to**

1. Meet the licensure requirements for a CLS trainee by possessing the following, in adherence with the California State Department of Public Health, Laboratory Field Services (CDPH-LFS), and
2. Meet the Scripps Health CLS Training Program requirements

#### **California State Academic Requirements (CDPH-LFS)**

Qualification requirements for licensure as a CLS Trainee are provided in the California Business and Professional Code, Clinical Laboratory Technology, Licensing, and the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 17, Section 1033)

- Bachelor's degree (baccalaureate) with specific course requirements
  - 16 semester or equivalent quarter units of chemistry, which must include clinical chemistry **OR** (analytical chemistry **AND** biochemistry)
  - 18 semester or equivalent quarter units of biology, which must include hematology, immunology, and medical microbiology
  - 3 semester or equivalent quarter units of physics, which must include instruction in principles of light and electricity

#### **Scripps Health CLS Training Program Requirements**

- Completion 6 weeks prior to the training program's start date:
  - Baccalaureate degree, with evidence of degree conferred and date of award on an official academic transcript, **and**
  - Completion of all prerequisite and core courses, with a final letter grade posted on an official academic transcript
- By the program start date: Apply for and receive approval for licensure as a generalist Clinical Laboratory Scientist Trainee (TRL) by CDPH-LFS
- Acknowledgment that final admission is contingent upon receipt of the California CLS Trainee License (TRL) prior to the start of training
- Excellent interpersonal and English communication skills
- Ability to meet the non-academic essential functions of the program and the profession – visual, manipulative, cognitive and affective skills

**In addition, the Scripps Health CLS Training Program makes the following strong recommendations:**

- Experience in a clinical hospital laboratory or clinical reference laboratory setting  
- *Scripps preferred*
- Academic achievement with an overall GPA and a core course GPA of at least 3.0 (lower GPAs may be entertained at the discretion of the program coordinators)
- Completion of "Core Courses" with a minimum letter grade of 'B' or higher.  
Core courses are defined as Clinical Chemistry or (Analytical Chemistry AND Biochemistry), Hematology, Immunology, and Medical Microbiology or Clinical Microbiology.

- Completion of core courses that include a broad and rigorous curriculum in theory and technical knowledge
- Completion of all core courses within seven (7) years prior to application. For chemistry and microbiology, this can be achieved by work experience or additional related coursework.
- Additional related coursework in such areas as Molecular Biology, Genetics, Phlebotomy, Mycology, Virology, Parasitology, Human Anatomy/Physiology, Statistics or Biostatistics
- Practical laboratory courses or clinical laboratory experience in Clinical Chemistry OR (Analytical Chemistry AND Biochemistry), Hematology, Immunology and Medical Microbiology
- Completion of a college level or medical mathematics course defined as Calculus and/or Statistics or Biostatistics
- Residence in the greater San Diego region

### **For Applicants with Degrees or Courses Completed Outside of the United States**

- Request and submit an official "course-by-course" transcript evaluation to the program AND to CDPH-LFS (as part of the application for the CLS Trainee License). Acceptable transcript evaluation agencies include NACES and AICE. Per the CDPH Laboratory Field Services website:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OSPHLD/LFS/Pages/CLS-Trainee.aspx>

All non-U.S. transcripts must be evaluated by "Current Members" of the [National Association of Credential Evaluation Services \(NACES\)](#) or "Endorsed Members" of the [Association of International Credential Evaluators, Inc. \(AICE\)](#). This allows LFS to determine if your education is equivalent to a U.S. college or university education. Official transcript from the university is required in addition to the evaluation. The evaluation service will send an evaluation of your educational institution and academic courses directly to LFS.

To obtain an application, instructions, and information, visit them on the web:

- [National Association of Credential Evaluation Services \(NACES\)](#)
- [Association of International Credential Evaluators, Inc. \(AICE\)](#)

If you are an applicant whose education and training/experience is from a non-U.S. school, college, university, or clinical laboratory, please make sure that your name is printed in English on all your transcripts and supporting documents and that it matches your name on the application.

- Official academic transcripts from non-U.S. institutions will also be required to be forwarded to CDPH-LFS, but is not required to be sent to the Scripps Health CLS Training Program.
- Apply for the Clinical Laboratory Scientist Trainee License;  
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OSPHLD/LFS/Pages/CLS-Trainee.aspx>  
and provide evidence of application for (or receipt of) the CDPH-LFS CLS Trainee License (TRL) as part of the program application.

### Documents Required for the Scripps Health CLS Training Program Application

- **Application Form** – completed in full, including the signed Attestation Page (verification of ability to perform essential functions) at the end of the document.
- **Personal Statement** – Single page essay describing interest in clinical laboratory science and specifically the Scripps Health CLS Training Program (*1 page built into the Application Form*)
- **Resume**
- **Academic Transcripts** – Transcripts must be submitted from each institution that provided prerequisite coursework and conferring of a degree.
  - Unofficial transcripts may be sent as part of the initial program application.
  - Official transcripts are to be sent only when requested by the program, and must include a signature and/or institutional seal and be U.S. mailed directly by the registrar to the program, without intervention by the applicant.
  - For degrees or courses completed outside of the United States, refer to the section “For Applicants with Degrees or Courses Completed Outside of the U.S.” on page 2 above. Copies of transcripts obtained for personal use or copies sent via email will not be accepted in cases of foreign education.
- **Three (3) Letters of Recommendation** – Letters of recommendation are to be sent only when requested by the program. An official confidential recommendation form will be provided. Attached letters are acceptable. Persons listed as recommenders should include:
  - At least one from a core course professor/instructor, if possible. Letters of recommendation from instructors of “on-line” courses are discouraged.
  - At least two from an employer or laboratory supervisor. Recommendations from family members or personal friends are not acceptable.
- **Acknowledgment of Possession of Essential Functions**

Essential functions are defined as non-academic skills that require proficiency in order to successfully participate in the CLS training program.

  - Visual skills (differentiating colors and stained vs unstained materials, distinguishing solution clarity, reading charts/graphs/rulers/scales, reading print on paper and computer screens, locating veins for venipuncture)
  - Manipulative skills (Mobility- Sitting/standing/walking/bending/squatting, reaching, lifting and carrying objects up to 20 lbs. Fine Motor- Operating microscopes and pipettes, using lab instruments such as wire loops and centrifuges, manipulating tubes and containers into racks and trays)
  - Cognitive skills (Communicating with others using direct conversation/telephone/email, ability to prioritize high level tasks and recognize and respond to emergency situations, following directions, maintaining personal behavioral control)
  - Affective skills (practicing respect, honesty, compliance with professional standards, accountability, accepting change)
- If applicable: Provide proof of Enrollment for any prerequisite course that is not complete by the date the application is submitted. Please note that all courses must be complete with a letter grade conferred at least 6 weeks prior to the start date of the program
- If applicable: For applicants who complete courses outside of the U.S., provide a copy of the TRL ‘CLS Trainee License’ issued by CDPH-LFS, or proof of application for the TRL
- All Documents must be submitted by specified deadlines AND must be named using the required naming format, as noted on the “Application Instructions and Important Program Dates” document available on the webpage.

- *\*It is the responsibility of the applicant to verify that all required documents are received by the program. When placing inquiries regarding documents received by the program, specify the list of institutions and names of recommenders from which document submissions were requested. Retain personal copies of submitted items, and requests for transcripts and letters of recommendation. A typical program response time is 1-2 weeks.*
- Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

#### **Upon Notification of Admission to the Program - Additional Requirements Include:**

- Approval of a California Clinical Laboratory Scientist Trainee License (TRL) with the California Department of Public Health, Laboratory Field Services section. A TRL Trainee License is required on the first day of training.
- Completion of a health assessment and submission of other health and background documents. Specific instructions will be communicated by a program official in advance of training. Requirements may include:
  - Health screening and/or vaccination or documented immune status for hepatitis, mumps, measles, varicella, rubella, Tdap, Influenza, and Covid-19
  - Tuberculosis testing performed within a specified number of months prior to the start date of the program
  - Drug screen performed prior to the program start date. Admission is contingent on a negative result, or a positive result reviewed and cleared by a program official.
  - A health assessment physical
  - Background Check (conducted by Scripps Student Placements). Admission is contingent upon clearance of the background check
- Evidence of personal health insurance effective through the duration of the program
- Professional Liability Insurance for the full period of training (1 year)
- **NOTE:** The list of items for the health assessment and other requirements is subject to change. It may be the responsibility of the trainees to obtain such items at their **own expense**.

#### *Equal Employment Opportunity*

- A. Scripps is committed to a policy of equal employment opportunity and does not discriminate against applicants or employees on the basis of race, national origin or ancestry (including natural hairstyles and grooming practices associated with individuals of a particular race, national origin or ancestry), color, sex/gender (including pregnancy, childbirth, related medical conditions and breastfeeding), marital status, age, religious creed (including religious dress and grooming practices), disability (mental or physical), medical condition, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, genetic information, military or veteran status or any other basis prohibited by applicable local, state or federal law.*
- B. Scripps also prohibits discrimination based on the perception that an employee or applicant has any of the above protected characteristics or is associated with a person who has or is perceived as having any of those protected characteristics.*
- C. Equal employment opportunity will be extended to all individuals in all aspects of the employment relationship, including recruitment, hiring, training, promotion, compensation, transfer, discipline, demotion, layoff and termination.*

*This policy extends to acceptance of applicants for the CLS program.*

*Reference: Scripps Corporate; Policy Number S-FW-HR-0200; Equal Employment Opportunity (8/11/20)*