

Certified Medical Laboratory Assistant (CMLA)



Information Session*

* Note, completing this information session is a pre-requisite for entry into this program.
Upon completion, you will be asked to complete a short survey.





Territorial Acknowledgement

Camosun College is located in beautiful Victoria, British Columbia with campuses on the Traditional Territories of the Lekwungen and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Online Info Session Agenda

1. Introduction to Certified Medical Laboratory Assistant (CMLA)
2. CMLA Program Overview
3. Services for Students at Camosun
4. Financial Aid
5. Admission & Application Requirements
6. Estimated Program Costs
7. Questions
8. Next Steps

What is a Certified Medical Laboratory Assistant

Certified Medical Laboratory Assistant (CMLA) Program

- The CMLA program prepares graduates for their role as integral members of the healthcare team by providing a broad foundation in laboratory science theory integrated with authentic simulation environments and workplace clinical practicums.
- Students learn to incorporate exemplary patient and client-centric behaviours while mastering the pre-analytic techniques of blood collection (phlebotomy), analytical sample collection, and sample preparation.
- Students will learn to collect and process other data required for diagnostic investigations.

What are Pre-Analytic Techniques?

- The Pre-Analytical phase of Laboratory Medicine includes: test selection, patient identification, collection of the sample, handling and preparation of the sample
- Phlebotomy is the practice of collecting blood samples for analytical purpose
- Sample collection includes identifying patients, testing requirements, patient instruction and sample integrity
- Sample preparation is the handling and processing of materials to ensure quality results for patient care

Some Roles of the CMLA

- Prepare the phlebotomy room and venipuncture equipment to conduct a variety of sample collections and perform patient based procedures
- Provide patient instruction for the purpose of quality sample collections
- Understand and follow safety guidelines
- Use the ability to solve problems and make decisions
- Work independently or with minimal supervision and as part of a team
- Manage multiple priorities and projects, and display flexibility in a fast-paced work environment
- Maintain the strictest levels of confidentiality
- Pursue professional development for the continual improvement of patient care

• Source: [https://www.csmls.org/Medical-Laboratory-Professionals/About/Medical-Laboratory-Assistants-\(MLA\).aspx](https://www.csmls.org/Medical-Laboratory-Professionals/About/Medical-Laboratory-Assistants-(MLA).aspx)



General Specimen Collection

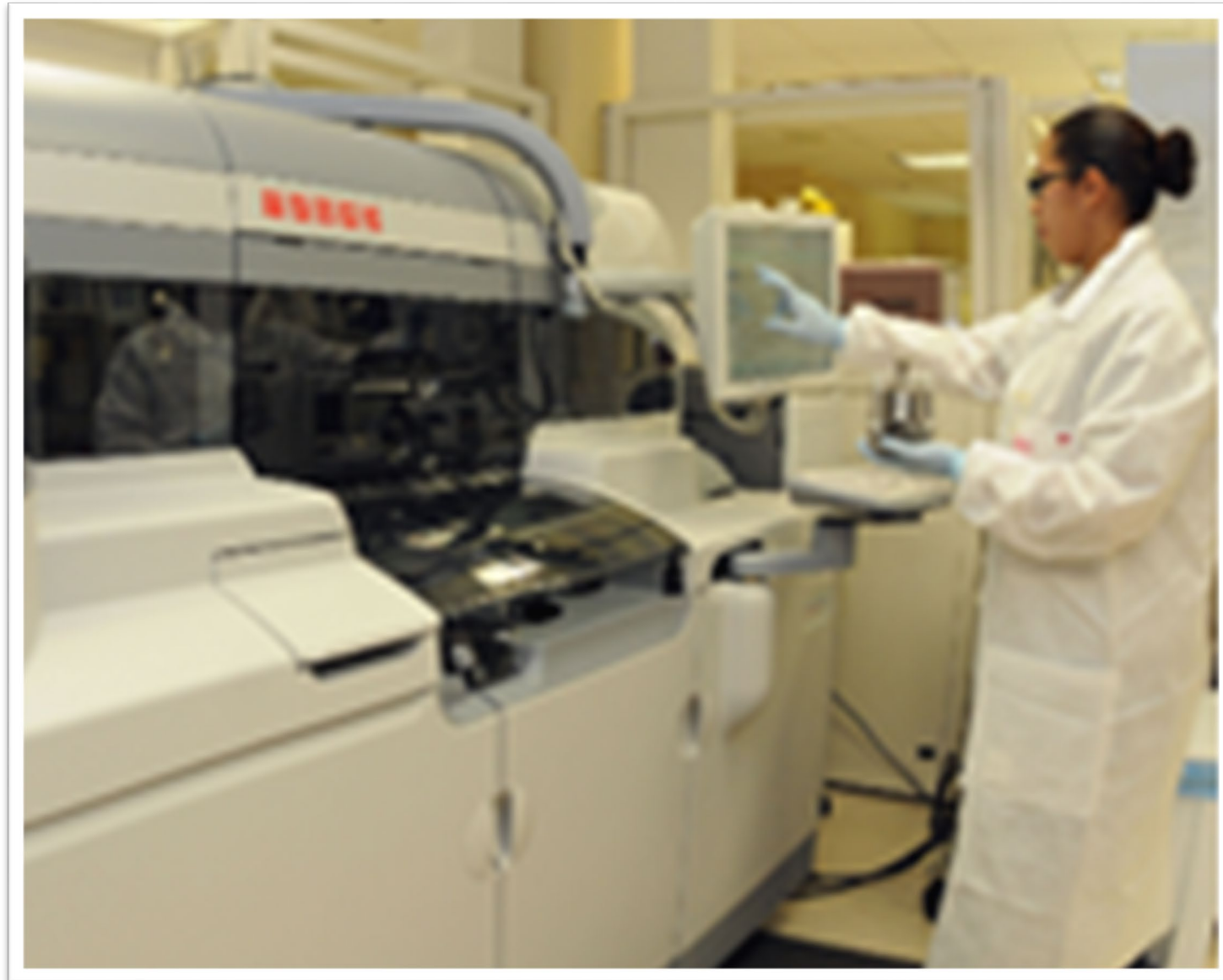


Other Roles of the CMLA

CMLAs also participate in a variety of scenarios beyond specimen collection by being involved in or assisting with:

- Patient data entry
- Sample handling and processing
- Perform Cardiac Monitoring tests, i.e. ECG, Holter Monitors
- Assist Medical Laboratory Technologists in a variety of departments
 - Hematology
 - Chemistry
 - Microbiology
 - Histology
 - Transfusion Services

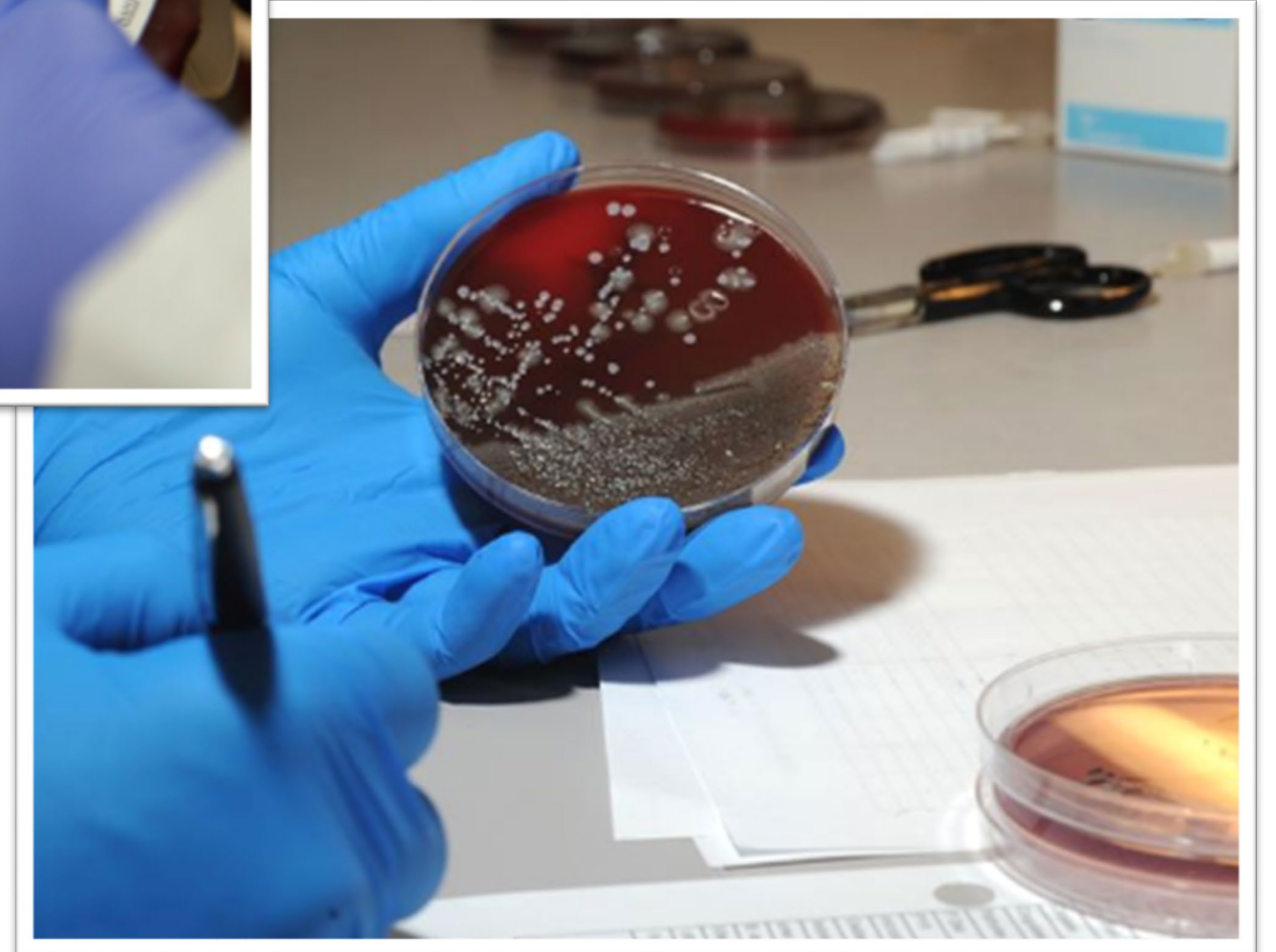
Chemistry



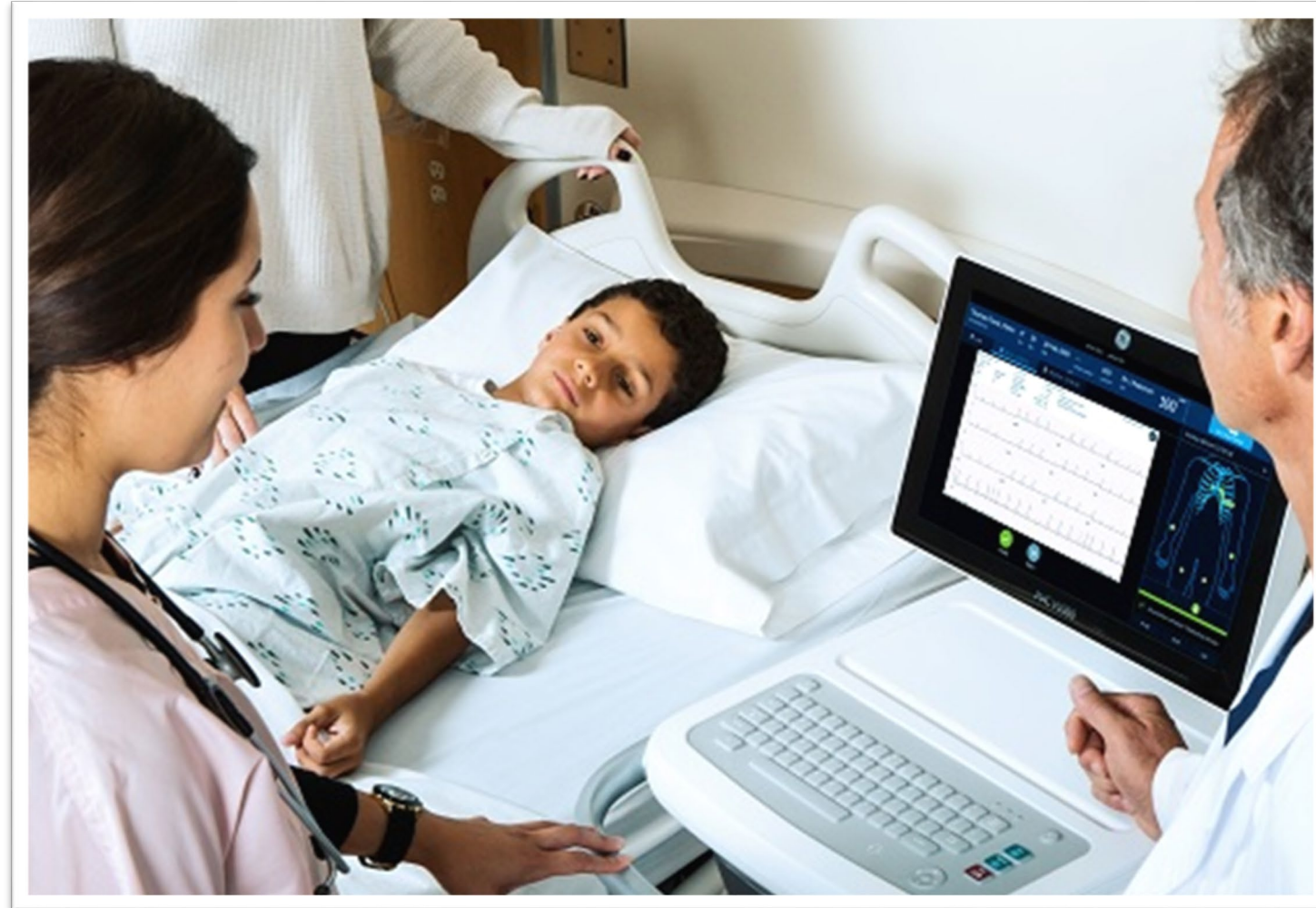
Hematology



Histology/ Transfusion Services/ Microbiology



Our Cardiac Equipment



State-of-the-art GE MAC VU360 ECG Carts 



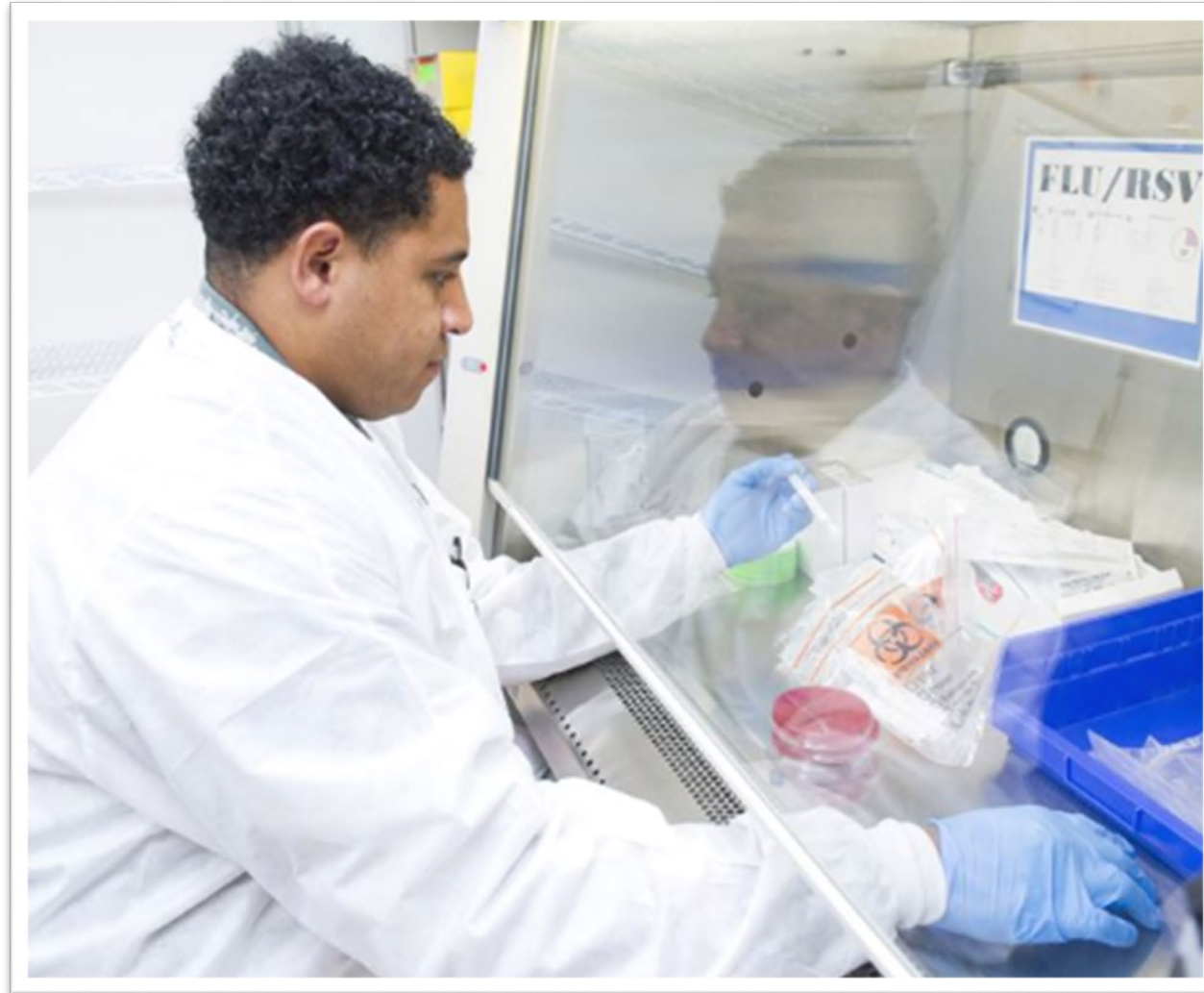
SEER 1000 Holter Monitors 

Patient Care



Part of a Healthcare Team

Medical
Laboratory
Technologies



Physician
and Patient

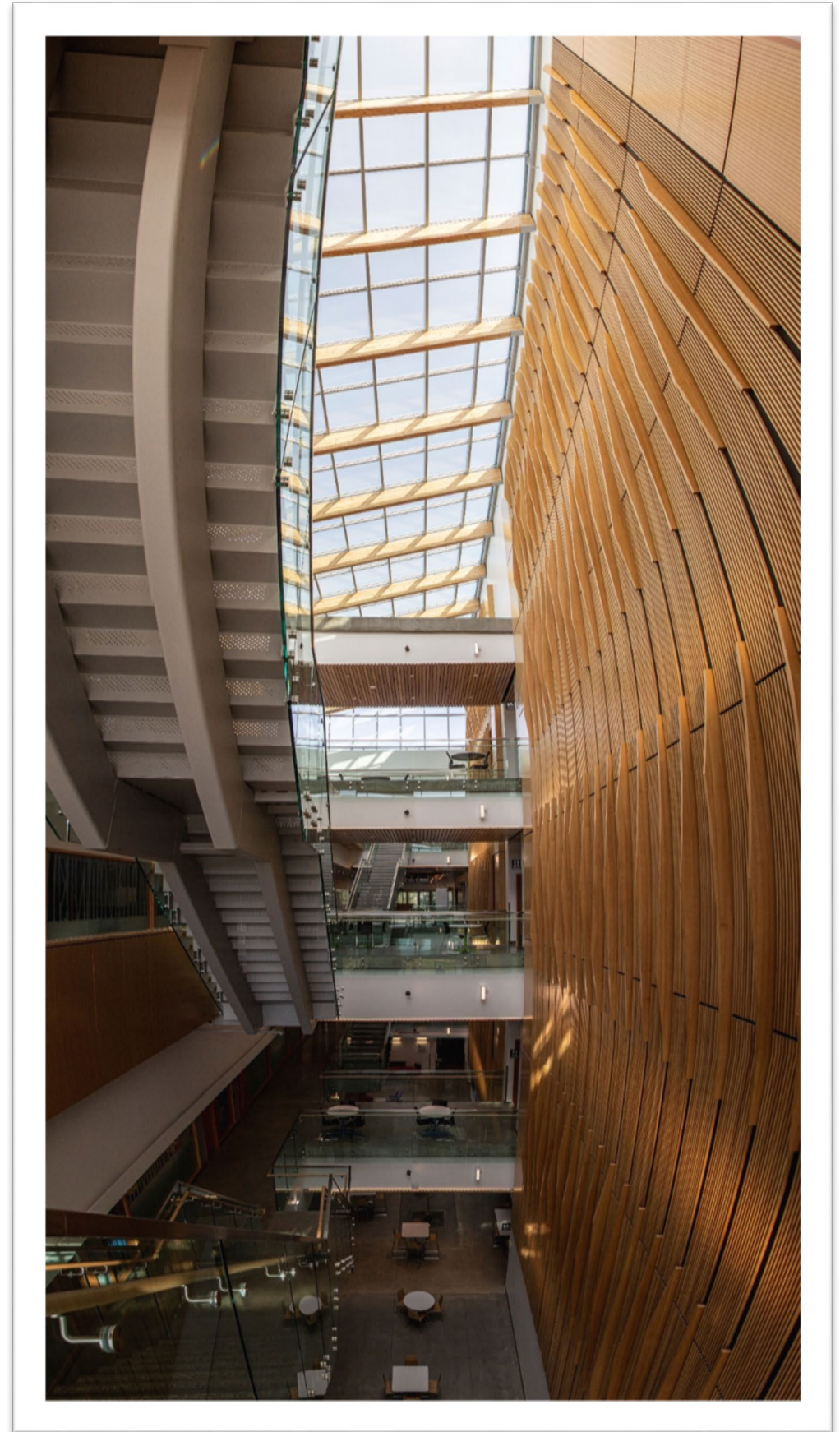


The Certified Medical Laboratory Assistant (CMLA) Program at Camosun College



Camosun College

- Camosun College is B.C.'s largest public college
- 19,000+ students
- 1,200+ faculty and staff
- Programs range from arts and business to tech and trades to university transfer and continuing education
- Credentials include dual credits, certificates, diplomas, degrees, post-degree diplomas



School of Health & Human Services (HHS)

- Camosun College offers more than 15 health and human services programs, including degrees, post-degree diplomas, certificates, diplomas and university transfer courses.
- Our School, the School of Health and Human Services (HHS) is a place of warmth and caring.
- Our goal is to educate and support “**flourishing Individuals, families and communities**”.

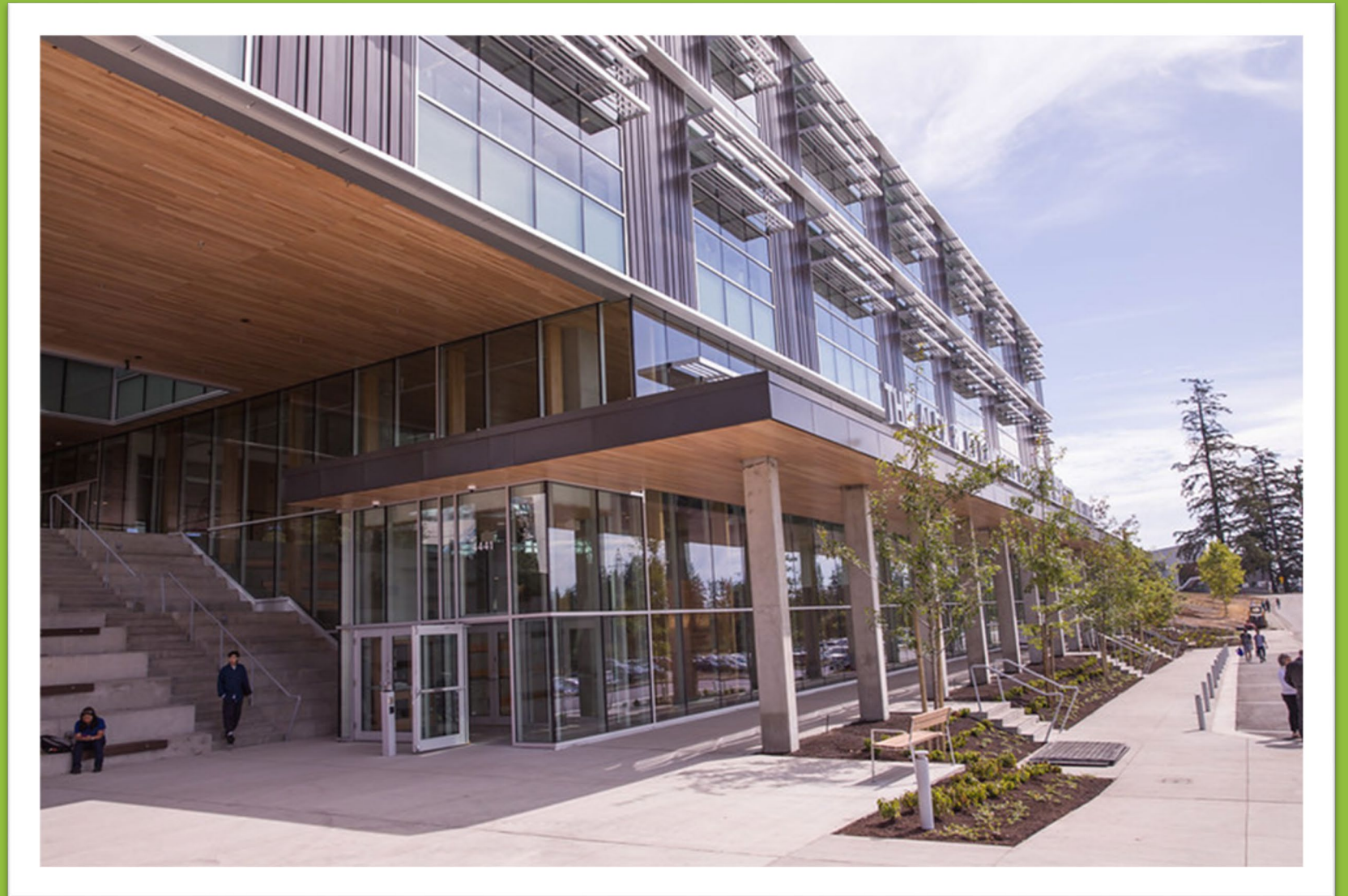
Centre for Health and Wellness (CHW)

- All Health and Human Service (HHS) Programs except Dental are delivered at the Centre for Health and Wellness (CHW) at Interurban Campus
- The CHW brings together HHS Programs and allows a more interdisciplinary approach to teaching and learning
- The CHW provides twenty-first century learning environments including modern classrooms designed to foster active learning, hands-on labs, high technology simulation environments, and lots of collaboration spaces

Alex & Jo Campbell Centre for Health and Wellness

21st century education for outstanding health and wellness professionals

- \$63.8 million investment
- 89,000 sq. ft. facility at Interurban campus
- 800+ students
- Latest in health education teaching
- Interdisciplinary approach is aligned with Island Health



Alex & Jo Campbell Centre for Health and Wellness

21st century education for outstanding health and wellness professionals



CMLA: an Allied Health Department Program

Who are our learners in the Allied Health programs?

- **Ages range from 17 – 55+**
(first & changing career students)
- **70-83% Female**
- **17-30% Male**
- **7-19% Declared Indigenous Students**
(Please meet with an [Indigenous Advisor](#) to coordinate with your [Academic Advisor](#) and your [Applications Advisor](#))
- **7-19% Students Supported by the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#)**
(Please Register Early!)
- **Historically High Graduation & Employment Rates**

Attributes that Contribute to Success in the Program

- Excellent physical fitness and mental acuity
- Competence in written and oral English
- Fluent computer skills + reliable access to a personal computer + internet
- Ability to manage time commitment to school & study
- Financial security – not having to work during the program
- Learn more about the profession; read and talk to people who are Certified Medical Laboratory Assistants
- Enhanced anatomy knowledge, spatial reasoning

CMLA KSAs

Knowledge, Skills, & Abilities

ARTS &

- Human Behaviour
- Ethics
- Communication
- Interprofessional Practice
- Patient Care

SCIENCES

- Laboratory Procedures
- Pre-Analytical Principles
- Pathophysiology
- Cardiography



COMPETENCY PROFILE (SKILLS OF) Certified Medical Laboratory Assistants



Click on the images to explore the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science and the BC Society of Laboratory Science's websites and review the competency profiles.

The CMLA Program @ Camosun College

- Intense 10 months of study over 3 terms
- 2 academic terms and one 7 week practicum
- Combination of classroom and laboratory experiences, including student to student phlebotomy
- In addition to using simulators, students act as surrogate patients to learn positioning techniques as well as interpersonal skills
- Classes offered in Day, Evening and Weekend options

The CMLA Program Map

Term One

Course	Course Name
AHLT 104	Professional Communication for Allied Health
AHLT 112	Patient Management for Allied Health
IST 120*	Introduction to Indigenous Peoples
MLAB 117	Medical Laboratory Procedures 1
MLAB 121	Laboratory & Phlebotomy Skills 1
MLAB 139	Pre-Analytics & Laboratory Principles

Term Two

AHLT 134	Legal & Professional Ethics in Allied Health
HLSC 264	Interprofessional Practices
MIDS 167	Basic Electrocardiography
MLAB 147	Medical Laboratory Procedures 2
MLAB 151	Laboratory & Phlebotomy Skills 2
MLAB 173	Laboratory Pathophysiology

Term Three

PRAC 180	CMLA Clinical Practicum
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Accreditation



ACCREDITATION
CANADA



Students of the Certified Medical Laboratory Assistant program will be eligible to write the Canada certification examinations. Those students in the 2021 cohorts may also expect to be involved in accreditation survey activities.

We are currently listed as *Registered or Approved* on the [BCSLs](#) and [CSMLS](#) websites as we are a new program in the process of attaining full accreditation with [Accreditation Canada](#). Full accreditation status is not awarded until a new program has successful graduates, as we are in the first year after the program we are working towards achieving a *Fully-Accredited* status. In the interim, new programs such as ours are given a *registered* status. In situations where on-site inspection surveys might be delayed or postponed due to emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic, graduates of *registered* programs are permitted to sit for national exams.

Review the CMLA program pages online:

Program Overview



Courses



Costs





View the Dean's Welcome and the School of Health & Human Services (HHS) Student Handbook online




Welcome Programs Community Partnerships Awards & Scholarships News & Events Dental Clinic **Student Info** Contact Us

Student Handbook

The School of Health and Human Services (HHS) is a place of warmth and caring. We are always looking to connect with future and current students so please don't hesitate to email hhsinfo@camosun.ca if you have any questions.

Camosun College campuses are located on the Traditional Territories of the Lekwungen and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

CURRENT STUDENTS
Student Handbook
Practicum Information
HHS Course Outline Archive



Welcome!

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the School of Health & Human Services (HHS) in the new Alex & Jo Campbell Centre for Health and Wellness (CHW) on the Interurban Campus and the Dental Building on the Lansdowne Campus. We are a diverse school educating learners in the family of nursing, dental hygiene and assisting, allied health technologies, mental health and addictions, community and social services, and early learning and care.

We strive to support you in your learning experiences so that you don't just survive but flourish. The information and links to other parts of the college in this handbook will orientate you to the policies, expectations of your program and resources and supports at Camosun College and the School. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the contents and if needed, ask for guidance from your instructors, so that you are set up for success.

I hope to meet you while you are studying in our school. If I don't encounter you in the classroom or on campus, you are welcome to stop by my office on the Second Floor of the CHW to say hello.

All the best in your studies and time at Camosun College!

Cynthia Smith, DrPH
Dean, School of Health and Human Services

Clinical Experience

- Clinical placements will be at a variety of sites on Vancouver Island
- Students participate in one of two different clinical experiences, depending on placement availability
 - Island Health Authority
 - LifeLabs
- There is no guarantee that students will receive their preferred site placements
- Students are responsible for providing their own transportation and accommodations while on their clinical placement; keep these costs in mind

[Visit the HHS Student Info site for details on Practicum Information and Immunizations](#)



Post Graduation

- National Certification; [CSMLS](#)
- Eligible to work in all provinces
- Employment opportunities in BC: [Island Health](#), [LifeLabs](#), CBS and others
- Most CMLAs entering practice find immediate casual work.
Casual may mean close to full time hours. Full time positions are usually filled from the casual workforce

Pay Scales

- High - \$32.00/hr
- Median - \$23.00/hr
- Low - \$20.50/hr

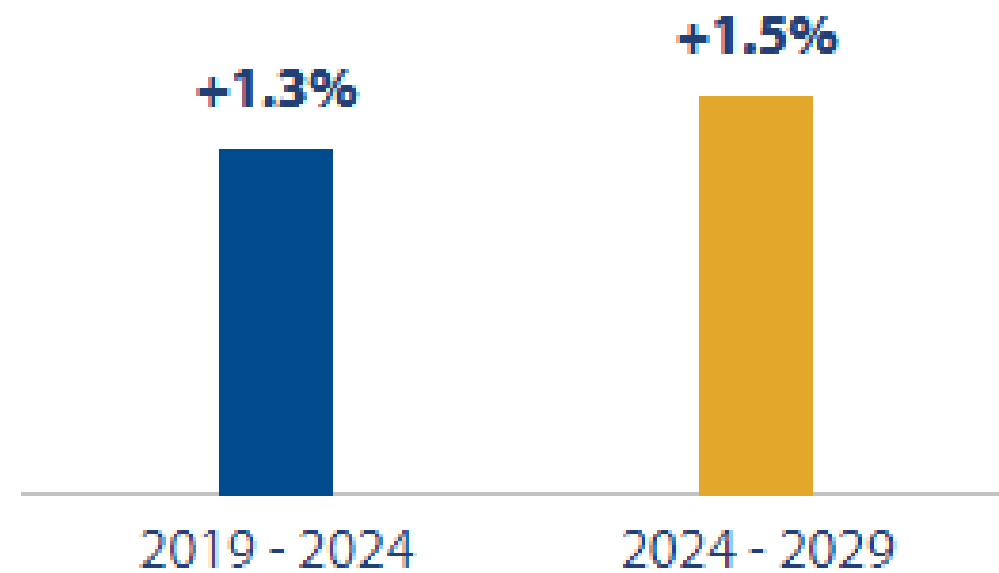
<https://www.workbc.ca/Jobs-Careers/Explore-Careers/Browse-Career-Profile/3212#earnings-and-outlook>



CMLA Jobs Outlook

Provincial outlook

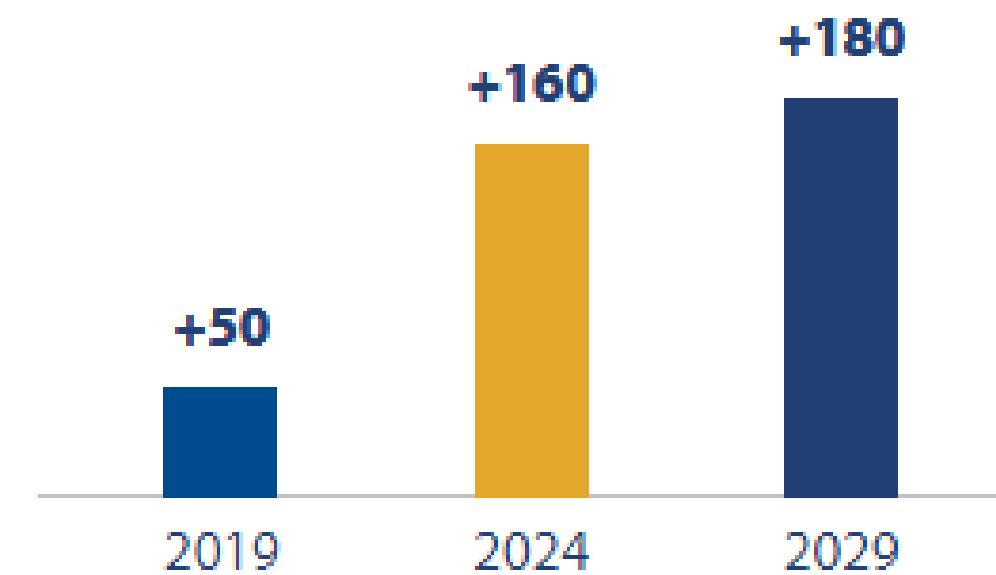
Forecasted average employment growth rate



Source: B.C. Labour Market Outlook

Job openings

10 year expected job openings: 1,650



Source: B.C. Labour Market Outlook



Student Services at Camosun



Admissions & Recruitment
The right start at Camosun



The Writing Centres
How can we help?



Centre for Accessible Learning
Supporting your learning experience



Academic Advising
Guiding you on your educational journey



Academic Upgrading
Whatever your need, we have an option for you



Indigenous Student Support
Find your way and feel like you belong – with our help



Fitness & Recreation
Make time for your well-being



Financial Aid & Awards
Funding your education



Counselling Centre
Supporting you through life's challenges



CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY
STANDING UP FOR STUDENT RIGHTS SINCE 1990

Child Care Services
Programs for Infants, Toddlers & Preschoolers



Financial Aid

Financial Aid

Apply to StudentAid BC for BC and Canadian Student loans & grants

- Each year is broken into 2 terms; Sept-Dec & Jan-August
- You can apply for both terms in June

Camosun Bursary Application Deadlines

- Beginning of October for fall semester
- Beginning of February for winter semester

Bursaries and Scholarships offered through Financial Aid

- <http://camosun.ca/services/financial-aid/>

Student Awards

- \$500 Allied Health & Technologies Student Award
(one per program per year)
- Non-academic criteria, faculty nominations



Part-Time Loan & Grants

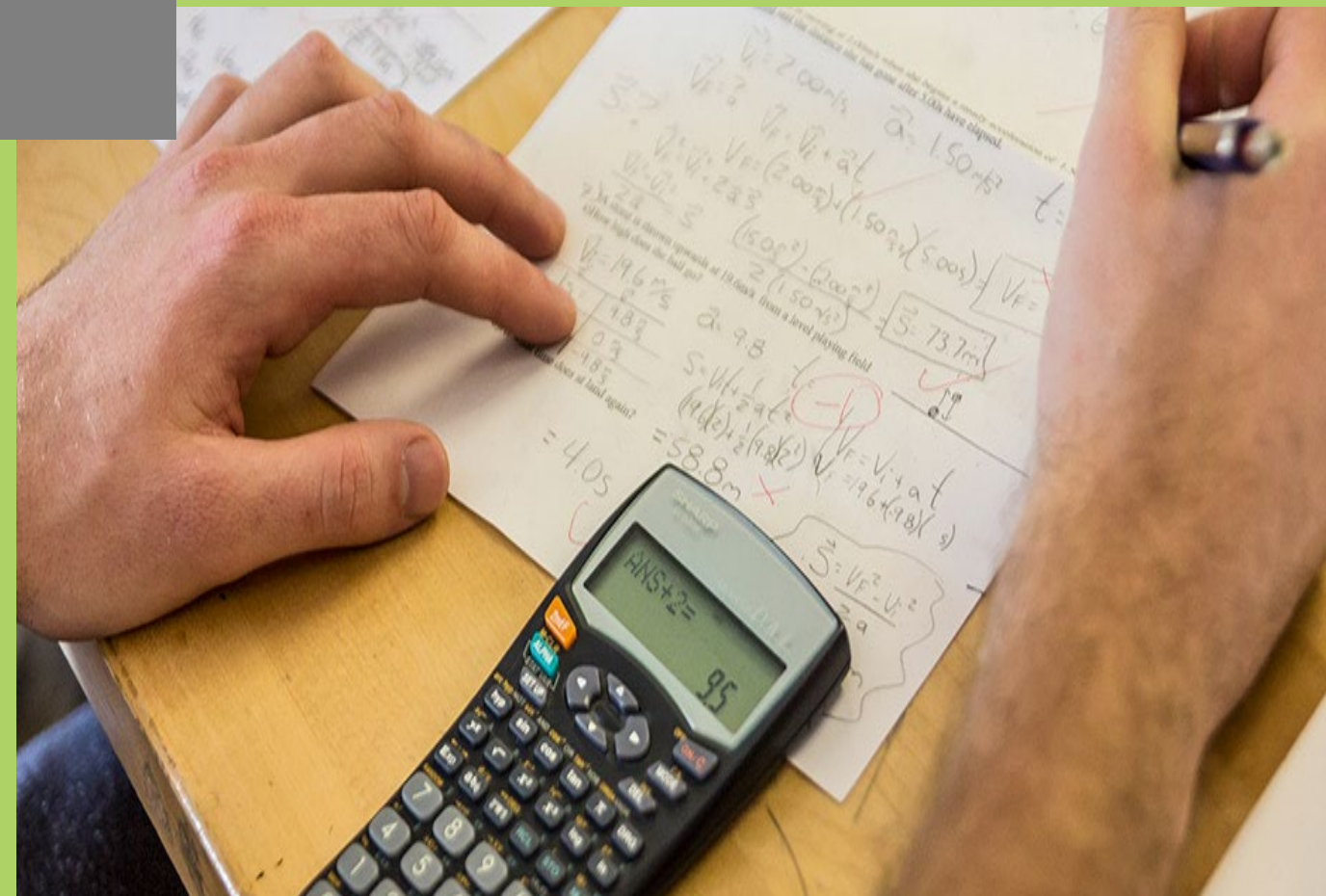
- Print Part-Time Studies Application
- Submit to Financial Aid & Awards
- Notice of Assessment, Certificate of Eligibility
- Note this is a 6 week process





Camosun.ca/bursaries

- Full-Time students only
- Demonstrate financial need
- Additional criteria
- Application period – Sept & Jan
- \$500 to \$1500 bursaries



Other Funding

- Eyē? Sqâ'lewen funding for first nation students
- Tuition Waiver program for former youth in care students
- Ike Barber Transfer Scholarship



Admission Requirements

Educational Admission Requirements

- English 12 (B)*
- Foundations of Math 10 (B)*
- Chemistry 11 (C)*
- Biology 12 (C)*
- Medical Terminology (B)*

* *Equivalent or higher*; for a full list of [acceptable admission requirements](#) please visit our website or contact an [Admissions Advisor](#) at the College. 

** *Students may be able to use or demonstrate alternative ongoing currency in certain requirements.*

The Admissions Process

- Seats still available for the next intake
- Apply as soon as possible for first-qualified, first-served admission
- Submit proof of all admission requirements in order to be added to the program list



Important Dates

September 07, 2021

- Program start date!

Additional Admission Requirements

Required for your Online Application by **August, 2021**

- A completed Physical Requirements Form 
(this can be filled out online)
- 40 wpm Keyboarding
- Attend a CMLA Information Session & complete online questionnaire. Be sure you do the survey! 
- 40 hrs volunteer work in a patient related environment (interactive role) e.g. Long-term care - require letter from supervisor confirming 40 hours and responsibilities performed – *some health care professionals can use prior work experience**


**Due to COVID-19, this requirement has changed. Please see program website for updated requirements

KEYB 600V – Keyboarding Assessment



Program Participation Requirements

DO NOT begin these before being offered a seat!

- Students will be required to do a Criminal Record Check (CRC)  Camosun will provide details prior to clinical work starting. Previous CRCs will not be accepted for this purpose. Please note, your local police station will charge a fee for this service.
Students are responsible for these costs.
- Students must have yearly respirator mask 'fit-testing' done.
Students will be responsible for completing this process prior to the first clinical experience and for any associated costs.
- Students must have completed and be current in Standard First Aid and CPR Level C prior to practicum. Annual recertification of CPR Level C must be maintained throughout the program.
Students will be responsible for the cost of this certification.

Program Participation Requirements

Tuberculosis (TB) Testing

- Students must provide evidence that they do not have **active** TB.
- Acceptable evidence is a negative TB skin test or a negative chest x-ray.
- Evidence must be dated no more than six months before clinical exposure starts.
- An additional TB test is required after each possible exposure to TB and/or travel within an area that there is a known prevalence of TB.
- Previously having had TB or a previous positive skin test **do not automatically** exclude a student from participation.
- Students are responsible for the cost of testing.

Program Participation Requirements | Immunizations

- Students must provide evidence of their immunizations or immunity to preventable, communicable diseases.
- Students are highly recommended to maintain current immunizations as per the Practice Education Guidelines of B.C. Recommended immunizations are found on the Health Sciences Placement Network (HSPNet) of Canada website by searching for immunization guidelines.
- *Failure to comply with immunization guidelines could result in the health care organization or the College barring the individual from the clinical/practicum setting until proof of immunity is provided and/or until a communicable disease outbreak is declared over. This could impact a student's ability to successfully complete the clinical/practicum placement and/or a clinical/community rotation.*

[Visit the HHS Student Info site for details on Practicum Information and Immunizations](#)



Estimated Program Costs

Estimated CMLA Program Costs

□ Tuition	\$13,966
□ Application Fees	\$41.82
□ Text Books	\$500-700
□ Expendable Supplies	\$100-300
Paper, binders, pens, photocopying, discs, printer cartridges etc.	
□ Name Tag, Uniforms & Shoes	\$200-400
(Students must purchase uniforms at Camosun College Bookstore)	
□ Certification/Professional Fees (BCSLS membership)	\$85
□ Certification/Professional Fees (CSMLS National Certification Exam)	\$190-390
□ Program Requirements	\$150-300
(Criminal Record Check, TB test, Mask Fit Testing, Immunizations, etc.)	

This total **does not** include parking, travel costs, relocating, or living accommodations while at school OR practicum.

IMPORTANT: Costs shown above are estimated only and tuition estimates may not reflect up-to-date tuition costing. Students are encouraged to visit the program [website](#) For current tuition costing information



Investing in your future

Cost of Schooling:

- $\$13,966 \div 3 \text{ Terms} = \text{an average of about } \$4655/\text{term}$
- $\$4655 \div 4 \text{ Months (per term)} = \text{about } \mathbf{\$1,163/\text{month}}$
- About $\$290/\text{week}$, $\$58/\text{day}$ or about $\$8/\text{hour}$

Employment Potential working full time:

- Median provincial annual salary - $\$47,840/\text{year}$
- **Averaging $\$23.00/\text{hour}$ – more than *double* your investment in less than one year!**

CMLA education at Camosun College is an inclusive, authentic learning experience with low student to instructor lab ratios, and smaller cohort sizes. We are a student-centered organization transforming learners into competent, compassionate health professionals. See our website for exact tuition.

COVID-19, Questions & Next Steps

COVID-19

The health and wellbeing of students and staff remains the priority of Camosun College.

The college's COVID-19 Response Coordination Team is monitoring the situation and ensuring measures are in place to keep the college community safe.

We're ready for you. The college is planning for a mix in the delivery of courses following guidelines from the Provincial Health Officer, WorkSafe BC and the B.C. Government.

COVID-19 information and frequent updates are available at:

[Camosun.ca/COVID19](https://camosun.ca/COVID19)



Questions?

If you have additional questions about the program, please don't hesitate to contact the CMLA Program Leader, Alex Purdy: purdya@camosun.bc.ca



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

General admissions

Email: admissions@Camosun.bc.ca

Phone: 250-370-3550

CMLA admissions advisor, Mary Hendrixson

Email: HendrixsonM@Camosun.bc.ca

Phone: 250-370-4855

Helpful Websites



- [CMLA program pages](#)
- [Course outlines](#)
- [CMLA Student Handbook](#)



- [Canadian Society for Medical laboratory Science](#)
- National certifying body for MLTs and MLAs



- [BC Society for Laboratory Sciences](#)
- Competency Profiles, Code of Professional Conduct and Provincial information



- [WorkBC, Medical laboratory assistants \(NOC 3212\)](#)
- High opportunity occupation



NEXT STEPS

Completing this Info Session is a prerequisite for entry into the program. Please complete the short survey with your information, to ensure we receive a record of your attendance.



[Click here to complete the survey,](https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/CCcmlaINFO)
<https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/CCcmlaINFO>



Thank you. We look forward to seeing you soon

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

General Admissions

CMLA Admissions Advisor, Mary Hendrixson

CMLA Program Leader, Alex Purdy

admissions@Camosun.bc.ca

HendrixsonM@Camosun.bc.ca

purdya@camosun.bc.ca

Phone: 250-370-3550

Phone: 250-370-4855

