

Histotechnician

A histotechnician prepares specimens for research or medical diagnosis by a pathologist. Specialists in histotechnology are detail oriented and use their fine motor skills to integrate theoretical knowledge with the completion of tissue preparation for a specific purpose.

Employment opportunities for histotechnicians in the medical field provide ongoing and diverse challenges. You could also work in other fields including botany, marine biology and pharmaceutical research.

The Histotechnology Program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS), 5600 N. River Rd. Suite 720, Rosemont, IL 60018. The telephone number is (773) 714-8880 or www.naacls.org.

You'll Learn

- How to use a microscope for tissue identification
- The subject matter covered on national certifying examinations
- To interact effectively with medical professionals and hospital personnel
- Detailed preparation of specimens required for the diagnosis of disease
- Laboratory procedures associated with pathology
- To develop additional knowledge, skills and abilities essential to your success on the job

You'll Earn

- An excellent salary usually starting at \$35,000 per year or higher
- The opportunity for a flexible work schedule part- or full-time
- A choice of work environments including private corporations, hospitals, forensic medicine and marine biology labs
- Good chances for advancement on the job
- Important status on the medical care team

You'll Succeed

- More than half of all new jobs created require education beyond high school.
- Employees with degrees have better chances for promotion.
- Associate degree holders generally earn 30 percent more than high school graduates (according to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau).
- College credit or advanced placement may be given for relevant work experience.
- Many credits from an associate degree can be applied toward a bachelor's degree.

Get in, Get smart, Get going. . .

Delaware Tech operates on a semester system with new sessions in late August and mid-January, plus summer sessions beginning at the end of May and in mid-June. Non-technology courses may be taken on a part-time or full-time basis during any semester or the summer session. Some students may need refresher courses at the basic or pre-tech level; others may receive transfer credit for prior educational experiences. Counselors and advisors are available to help you schedule your courses.

Allied Health technology programs have a selective admission process, separate from College admission (below), which includes academic criteria of an algebra, biology and chemistry course at 2.5 or greater (high school or college) within the past five years and a GPA of 2.5 or greater. Technology courses are sequential, offered only one time per year and are only open to students who have been admitted into the technology program.

People interested in entering Histotechnician must attend an Allied Health Information Session prior to initiating the process for admission into the technology. Information regarding these sessions may be obtained by calling (302) 283-3100. Visit the Allied Health Web site at www.dtcc.edu/wilmington/ah.

TECHNICAL COURSES

Introduction to Histotechnology provides an overview of basic information about the study of histotechnology, safety and asepsis procedures, record keeping, and the operation of the histology laboratory.

Histology studies the histologic structural relationships and organization of mammalian tissues and the function they perform.

Histotechnology Procedures I and II study equipment and basic procedures used in the histotechnology laboratory, and the development of methodology in special stains.

Histochemistry I and II study the basic stains used by the histotechnician, and introduce special staining techniques and theory associated with the use of these stains.

Histology Internship provides an opportunity to integrate the histologic procedures into the routine practice of histotechnology to develop competency in the field. Basic and specialized staining methods are included.

SUPPORT COURSES

Composition
Technical Writing & Communication
College Math and Statistics
Medical Terminology
Ethical Issues in Health Care
Anatomy & Physiology I, II
General Chemistry
Introductory Microbiology
Intro to Organic & Biochemistry
Sociology I
Intro to Computers & Applications
General Psychology

TO APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE

1. Obtain an admission application by calling (302) 283-3100. Admission applications are also available online at www.dtcc.edu/prospective. Complete and return the application to the Wilmington campus with a \$10 fee.
2. Request that your high school and/or college transcripts be sent to the Wilmington Admissions Office.
3. Arrange to take the Computerized Placement Test (CPT) *unless you have already completed college-level Math and English courses with a "C" grade or better*. The CPT is administered by the Admissions Office (302) 571-5343 and is used to determine appropriate course placement.
4. Meet with a Delaware Tech Wilmington campus counselor to discuss your CPT results and select your course schedule.
5. Remember to apply and register early for the best selection of courses.