Welcome to the Medical Technology (MDT) Program, Department of Biology, College of Staten Island (CSI), City University of New York (CUNY)! Please find a list of frequently asked questions about the Medical Technology profession and specific information pertaining to the leadership, organization, didactic education, clinical training, and learning outcomes of the program at CSI.

1. **What is Medical Technology?**

   Medical Technology is a highly respected field of diagnostic medicine. Described as the “unsung hero”, medical technologists are an indispensable member of the patient care team responsible for conducting a wide range of laboratory tests and data analysis. There are five major disciplines in Medical Technology: Blood Bank (also called Immunohematology), Clinical Chemistry, Microbiology (including Parasitology & Mycology), Immunology/Serology, and Urinalysis/Body Fluids.

2. **What are the job perspectives for medical technologists?**

   According to the May 2014 Occupational Employment and Wages by the United States Department of Labor, the following three metropolitan areas remain top three in terms of annual average wage (Table below). In addition, Medical Technology continues to be the profession with the highest projected job growth rate: Fourteen percent from 2012 – 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metropolitan area</th>
<th>Annual mean wage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale, CA Metropolitan Division</td>
<td>$76,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, MA NECTA Division</td>
<td>$71,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York-White Plains-Wayne, NY-NJ Metropolitan Division</td>
<td>$67,830</td>
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3. **What is the significance of an Accredited Medical Technology Program?**

   The National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) is a premier agency for accreditation and approval of educational programs in Medical Technology (also called Clinical Laboratory Sciences) at national and international levels.
Graduates with a BS in Medical Technology from a NAACLS-accredited program are eligible to sit on the ASCP-BOC (American Society of Clinical Pathology – Board of Certificate).

4. **Is the Medical Technology program at the College of Staten Island NAACLS accredited?**

   Yes. Our program received NAACLS accreditation on October 31, 2012.

5. **What is the leadership structure of the CSI-MDT (B.S.) Program?**

   The CSI-MDT B.S. Program was founded in the late 1990s with Dr. Elena McCoy as the founding director. Dr. Abdeslem El Idrissi, Chairperson of the Biology Department at CSI, is the Program Director.

6. **What are the criteria for admission into the CSI-MDT Program?**

   Three criteria must be fulfilled to apply to become a MDT major: (1) Completion of all pre-major courses with a GPA of 3.0 or better (on a 4.0 scale), (2) Two letters of recommendation, (3) Volunteer or research experience.

7. **What is your typical class size? Does the program receive funding support by CSI?**

   For quality control purposes, our program has a thirty-two student cap per class but offering minimal two parallel sessions to also accommodate the high need by students. Over the past academic year, our program has seen twenty three percent and twenty five percent increase in new faculty hire and budget, respectively.

8. **Is clinical training guaranteed by your program? How long is clinical training?**

   From Fall 2014 to October 2015, the number of our affiliated training hospital has more than doubled with a total of nine hospitals located in Staten Island, Brooklyn, Queens, and Manhattan of New York, and Hackensack of New Jersey. So long as a student has successfully reached the academic stage of “Final Half”, defined as completion of all required pre-major and majors courses on campus with a GPA of 3.0 or better, there is in general a good chance to be placed for clinical training. The total training duration is six months, full time (8am – 4pm, five days per week) in seven disciplinary areas of medical technology. Completion of clinical training also requires satisfactorily passing of comprehensive rotation summary papers.

9. **After I have received my BS-MDT degree, what are the chances for me to get a job as a medical technologist?**
Some of our graduates receive invitations from training hospitals to work with a one-year permit issued by the New York State Education Department. However, if one wishes to continue to be eligible to work as a medical technologist after the one-year permit, one must pass ASCP-BOC and (If to wish to work in NYS) NYS Medical Technologist Licensure Exam. Typically students spend three to six months or one year (especially for those who are working with a one-year permit) preparing for the BOC, accordingly the job placement rate would experience a temporary low trend of below fifty percent but the dynamic trend soon shifts to the upward trajectory of substantially above fifty percent as a matter of time. In parallel to the one hundred percent graduation rate and zero percent attrition rate, the BOC pass rate in our program continues to have an increasing trend of up to seven-six percent for the past academic year.

10. How do I prepare for the ASCP-BOC?

To help our graduates pass the BOC, we offer a comprehensive ASCP review class every semester of the academic year. Once registered for this two-credit course and completed for the required duration, a student can take as many times of this class as needed in subsequent semester at zero charge. The course leader invites experts from each MDT discipline to guide students through key concepts followed by a lot of practice questions. Practice makes perfect!