

Dear Prospective MLA Student,

Prior to approaching laboratories to provide a practicum experience, it is important to understand the following issues:

1. Laboratories are more likely to want to train students when they come across as professional, interested, polite and appreciative. Remember your first (and subsequent) contact with any lab contribute, not only to training possibilities, but also to future employment opportunities.
2. It is a privilege, not a right, to be accepted for a practicum. It is extra work for laboratories to train students and they are under no obligation whatsoever to train students.
3. Most laboratories volunteer to train students to meet their own potential manpower needs or those of their health region.
4. Laboratories may not be able to train students due to their own staffing situation. They may be short staffed, or have adequate full-time and casual staffing.
5. Many laboratories may have all of their needs met by another training school and therefore train only those students.
6. Laboratories may need to change or cancel training because of emerging circumstances – they have the right to do that.
7. Clinical training takes place only when you have completed all of the theory courses, exceptions only with chairperson permission. The practicum is a full-time commitment and usually takes 4-8 weeks. You must be registered in MLAP 141 at the time you begin your training in order to be covered by liability insurance and WCB (in BC). Registration in MLAP 141 is also required in order for us to recognize clinical training.
8. The entire program including clinical training must be completed within two years. It is the student's responsibility to review all of their theory materials prior to clinical in order to maximize their success.

MEDICAL LABORATORY ASSISTANT

I am planning to enroll in Thompson Rivers University Open Learning Distance Delivered Medical Laboratory Assistant program/courses. In order to enroll in any part of the program, I must secure my own clinical placement to provide me with training experience.

TRU-OL does not provide this service since it is the first step in determining potential employment. TRU-OL further recognizes that many clinical agencies may not provide this training unless they have available space, manpower and need for this student as a potential employee. TRU-OL's program is designed to be beneficial to both students and prospective employers and therefore discourages enrollment in the program if the students are unable to find a suitable clinical placement and thoroughly investigated job potential.

For the Student: *I understand that TRU may release information to the practicum supervisor on my progress and performance in the program, including the phlebotomy workshop.*

For the Supervisor: *I have met with the aforementioned student. I understand I am under no obligation whatsoever to provide training to this student. However our facility is willing to provide clinical placement experience:*

- Circle One: MLAP 141 Evaluation of Competencies
 MLAP 151 General Pre-Analytical Specimen Preparation
 MLAP 161 Pre-Analytical Histopathology

Student Contact Information

Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____
Email: _____
Date: _____
Signature: _____

**Estimated Date
of Practicum:** _____

Laboratory Contact Information

Name: _____
Title: _____
Institution: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____
Email: _____
Date: _____
Signature: _____

Please have the above information signed and returned to us.
Should you require any additional information please contact:

Student Services - Admissions

Thompson Rivers University Open Learning

PO Box 3010

Kamloops, BC V2C 5N3

Telephone: 250.852.7000 Fax: 250.852.6405 Toll-free: 1.800.663.9711

Website: www.truopen.ca