

Clinical Microbiologist Scientist Training Program

I. INTRODUCTION

The objective of the Sutter Health Shared Laboratory (SHSL) Clinical Microbiologist Scientist (CMS) program is to offer structured and comprehensive education in Microbiology and Molecular Diagnostics. Our goal is for us and our students to invest in a rewarding career in the clinical laboratory. We have partnered with University of California Davis to provide the didactic portion of the training.

The SHSL CMS program strives to provide a solid foundation in didactic and laboratory techniques in order to best prepare students for licensure examination. The one-year post baccalaureate program emphasizes bench work and practical applications of laboratory medicine. The limited intern position is full-time, exempt, and offers a stipend, medical insurance and liability. The training program starts in July following Sutter new employee orientation and ends the following year in June. The 52 week training program at SHSL includes both didactic and practical education for clinical microbiology and molecular diagnostics. Students will observe licensed CLSs (Clinical Lab Scientists) in each area of discipline and are required to perform the procedures under direct supervision in accordance with California Business and Professions codes and HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) policies.

The time spent in each laboratory section will be as follows:

Orientation/Safety/Computer	1 week
Specimen Processing	3 weeks
Bacteriology I	8 weeks
Virology/Molecular	4 weeks
Immunology/Serology	4 weeks
Bacteriology II	7 weeks
Parasitology and Mycology	7 weeks
Mycobacteria	3 weeks
Bacteriology III	12 weeks
Infection Control/Epidemiology	1 week
Lab Management	1 week
Review	1 week

II. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- The student must hold a baccalaureate or higher degree in microbiology or an equivalent major from an accredited college or university accredited by the Western Association of schools and colleges.
- Coursework must include at least 25 semester or 38 quarter units in microbiology, including courses in medical or pathogenic or clinical microbiology or bacteriology. The following courses are not required but highly recommended: mycology,

- parasitology, virology, immunology, molecular biology, genetics, human anatomy and physiology, mathematics (college algebra or higher), and statistics.
- Course work must be completed within five years prior to admission to the training program.
 - All coursework must be verified by an official, sealed university transcript showing the courses, grades and degree posted by an accredited college or university and mailed from the registrar's office.
 - Applicants with foreign baccalaureate degrees must have an acceptable foreign transcript evaluation to determine if the completed coursework meets stated requirements. American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers (AACRAO) is the only evaluation center recognized by the State of California. Phone (202) 293-9161 or contact <http://www.aacrao.org/credential/index.htm>
 - Foreign degree must be equivalent to a baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university in the United States.
 - G.P.A of 3.0 (preferred)
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- A completed application packet, including a letter of intent and a current resume
 - Three letters of recommendation sent directly from science instructors or employers
 - A valid Clinical Laboratory Microbiologist Specialist Trainee License issued by California Department of Public Health/Laboratory Field Services
 - Demonstration of the ability to communicate effectively in English
 - Previous clinical laboratory experience (either paid or voluntary) is highly desired but is not required.
 - Proof of U.S residency
 - A legal working permit
 - Pre-employment and health screening clearance

III. APPLICATION PROCESS

Only completed applications with all supporting documents will be considered for entrance into the CMS program. Selection for admission into the training program is a competitive process and will be based on merit, without discrimination for reasons such as race, color, gender, religion, politics, age, handicap etc. The number of available trainee positions will be decided each year prior to the application process. Each applicant is ranked according to the score obtained during the selection process, with the highest ranking applicant(s) being offered training position(s) Accepted students must respond to their notification through the Sutter Health recruiter.

IV. STUDENTS RESPONSIBILITIES

Due to the challenging structure of the CMS program, it is necessary for students to develop an erudite nature, self-discipline, and determination. They must actively seek knowledge and inquire about practices or principles whenever clarification is necessary. It is against Sutter policy to maintain employment within the Sutter system utilizing a separate job code while enrolled in the program. In addition, students are responsible for the following:

- Attend Sutter Health new employee orientation prior to starting the program

- Arrive to lectures and practical rotations punctually
- Observe all Laboratory Policies, HIPAA regulations, and safety protocols.
- Complete all assignments satisfactorily and on time.
- Make arrangements for any time lost due to sickness or tardiness with the education coordinator.
- Report any accident or safety violation to your training supervisor or the education coordinator as soon as possible.
- Report within 30 day any change of name, address, and telephone number to the education coordinator and California Department of Public Health/Laboratory Field Services
- Inform the education coordinator and lab manager of any jury duty summons in order for them to draft a letter to postpone the summon