

Find Your Dream Job (100 Points)

Let's find your dream job! You will do research to find your dream job in the health field and what type of education and skills you will need to get this job. The purpose of this activity is to help you gain a better understanding of how your intended major, future education goals, and skills need to be applied to the career you want. **You will need to download your completed assignment as a PDF and add it to your ePortfolio under the "Dream Job" section in Assignments.**

1. To get started, complete the following quiz:

<https://advance.appily.com/careers/healthcare/quiz>

- What were your results?
 - After completing the quiz, my results indicated that I align with the "Scientist" career path. The description highlights that I am curious and driven to learn how things work or make new discoveries. It suggests that I may enjoy analyzing lab results to help doctors improve patient health or working to develop treatments for diseases.
- Did they surprise you? Why or why not?
 - The results did not surprise me at all. My intended major is Medical Laboratory Science (MLS), and I'm very interested in this field, so it's exciting that the results align with my career goals.
 - It reflects my passion for research and improving human health through science, which matches the focus of the "Scientist" path. Careers in this area include medical laboratory scientists who analyze patient samples to diagnose and treat conditions, or medical pathologists who study tissues to understand disease progression and genetics. This result confirms that I am on the right path to achieving my aspirations.

2. Find at least 3 job postings that you would be interested in applying to that requires the degree you are currently pursuing or a degree you're interested in pursuing. Examples of where to search: Indeed.com, LinkedIn, USA Jobs, Glassdoor, or just Google the job you want to find! Copy and paste the job postings below. Answer the questions under each link in complete sentences.

- Job 1 Link:
 - https://www.sentaracareers.com/job/21277177/laboratory-technician-medical-laboratory-scientist-microbiology-norfolk-va/?utm_campaign=google_jobs_apply&utm_source=google_jobs_apply&utm_medium=organic

- Identify the salary range:
 - The salary range is not specified in the job posting; however, based on my online research, it is estimated to range from \$67,383 to \$82,563 annually, with a median salary of \$74,829, depending on experience and qualifications.
- How much experience would be required to apply for that job?
 - Specific experience requirements are not listed, but certification eligibility and laboratory experience are necessary for employment.
- What degrees, certifications or training is required?
 - A Bachelor's degree in chemical, physical, or biological sciences, or Medical Laboratory Science. Alternatively, an Associate's degree in medical technology is acceptable. Moreover, certification by ASCP (American Society for Clinical Pathology) or AMT (American Medical Technologists) is required for eligibility with proof prior to employment.
- What skills are and tasks are involved in performing the job you have found?
 - The primary responsibilities of this role include conducting laboratory tests, interpreting and documenting results, and reporting findings accurately. Additionally, maintaining laboratory equipment, instruments, and tools is a critical part of the job to ensure efficient operation. Essential skills for success in this position include strong communication abilities, critical thinking, a service-oriented mindset, and proficiency with relevant technology.
- Job 2 Link:
 - https://careers.uvahealth.org/us/en/job/R0058834/Medical-Laboratory-MLS-MLT-All-Areas?utm_campaign=google_jobs_apply&utm_source=google_jobs_apply&utm_medium=organic
- Identify the salary range:
 - The salary for Clinical Lab Scientist 2 starts at \$32.90 per hour, while the salary for Clinical Lab Scientist 1 begins at \$23.40 per hour.
- How much experience would be required to apply for that job?
 - For MLS/MLT 1 (CLS 1): No prior experience is required. The position only requires an Associate Degree in Medical Laboratory Technology from a

NAACLS-approved MLT program or a Bachelor's degree in Biology/Chemistry or related science.

- For MLS/MLT 2 (CLS 2): The position requires a Bachelor's Degree with completion of a NAACLS-approved MLS/CLS program, or a Master's/PhD in Biology/Chemistry or related science, with no prior experience required. For those with a Bachelor's in Biology/Chemistry or related science, 3 years of experience are required, while those with an Associate Degree in Medical Laboratory Technology require 4 years of experience.
- What degrees, certifications or training is required?
 - A Bachelor's degree (or higher) in MLS, Biology, Chemistry, or a related science, or an Associate degree in Medical Laboratory Technology from a NAACLS-approved program. Additionally, ASCP certification (or equivalent) is required within 24 months of hire.
- What skills are and tasks are involved in performing the job you have found?
 - The role involves performing patient and quality control testing to ensure accurate and reliable results. You would need to maintain competency in routine and assigned laboratory areas, while also managing inventory and ensuring the correct use of supplies and reagents. The position requires troubleshooting and maintaining laboratory equipment to ensure smooth operations. Additionally, you would be responsible for ensuring smooth shift transitions, participating in quality, safety, and compliance programs, and resolving any issues or complaints that arise. The job also involves serving as a trainer and role model for staff and healthcare students, with other duties assigned as necessary to support laboratory operations.
- Job 3 Link:
 - https://www.ziprecruiter.com/c/Chesapeake-Regional-Healthcare/Job/Medical-Technologist/-in-Chesapeake,VA?jid=b193be52967cbb0a&utm_campaign=google_jobs_apply&utm_source=google_jobs_apply&utm_medium=organic
- Identify the salary range:
 - The salary range is not specified, but according to online searches, the typical salary for this position in this region is around \$60,000 to \$75,000 annually.

- How much experience would be required to apply for that job?
 - Regarding experience, prior experience is preferred, but the position is also open to new graduates.
- What degrees, certifications or training is required?
 - To apply, candidates are required to have a B.S. Degree in Medical Technology or a related field. Applicants must also be certified as a Medical Technologist (ASCP) or Medical Laboratory Scientist or hold an equivalent certification within one year of hire. Additionally, a current BLS certification is required or must be obtained within three months of starting the job.
- What skills are and tasks are involved in performing the job you have found?
 - In terms of tasks, the job involves planning, organizing, and prioritizing duties to meet workload demands. It requires following established procedures, using proper techniques and equipment, and assembling supplies while ensuring their cleanliness and proper functioning. The position also involves performing tests as ordered, labeling specimens, recording and reporting results, and performing quality controls. Additionally, the role includes communicating with the manager and others in the department, ensuring patient care quality, and attending required meetings and in-services. Flexibility in work scheduling is expected to meet patient care needs.

Reflection: From the 3 job postings you found, choose one job you want the most. Why does this job appeal to you the most? What skills do you already possess that would help you to get this job? Identify skills you are still building or need more experience performing. Discuss options to sharpen or learn the skills you will need to gain.

The job at UVA Medical Laboratories appeals to me the most. As I'm currently working on my bachelor's degree at Old Dominion University and completing the prerequisites for the MLS program, this position aligns perfectly with my career goals. UVA Medical Laboratories' commitment to innovation, collaboration, and growth is incredibly motivating. The opportunity to work with a team at the forefront of medical research and technology is exciting, especially given their focus on groundbreaking advancements that directly impact patient care. Additionally, the chance to work in an environment with world-renowned experts and a commitment to professional development makes this role especially attractive.

I currently possess skills that would help me in this position, such as my experience as a blood donor ambassador volunteer at the Red Cross. This role has given me an overview of blood banking and patient care, which aligns with some of the tasks at UVA Medical Laboratories. I am also actively seeking shadowing opportunities at a medical lab to gain more hands-on experience.

However, I still need to build more clinical experience. To develop these skills, I plan to continue working through my prerequisites and eventually apply for the MLS program at ODU. Once admitted, I aim to complete the major courses and participate in clinical rotations to gain hands-on experience. Additionally, I will work towards obtaining certifications like the ASCP to further strengthen my qualifications for medical laboratory roles. These steps will ensure I'm well-prepared for a successful career at UVA or other healthcare organizations.