

# Histotechnology

School of Health Professions  
Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC)  
Essex Campus

## Admission Packet

2021 – 2022  
*Revised 12/2021*



# Histotechnology

## Welcome

On behalf of the School of Health Professions, thank you for your interest in CCBC's Histotechnology program. The program is designed to provide theoretical, laboratory and clinical (hands on experience in a work environment) which enables students to function in the health care environment as well as prepares them for the national certification examination. Histotechnology is a very rewarding field which has great employment opportunities.

I wish you the best with submission of your admissions application.

Sincerely,

Candice Grayson, M.S., M.A., MLS (ASCP)<sup>CM</sup> Program  
Director

## Program Description

The A.A.S. degree program in Histotechnology is designed to prepare students to function in the highly complex arena of a histotechnology laboratory. Histotechnicians are integral members of the health care team. It is the job of the histotechnician to prepare sections of human tissues from biopsy or autopsy for microscopic examination by processing and cutting tissues, mounting them on slides, and staining them with special dyes for microscopic examination by a pathologist for the diagnosis of disease. Most histotechnicians work in hospital laboratories, medical research laboratories, veterinary or marine pathology, dermatopathology, pharmaceutical, and forensic laboratories.

The U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the employment growth will increase by 16% by 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations.

The Histotechnology program at CCBC offers the full range of clinical and didactic experiences for students who wish to practice as HTs. Students will complete clinical rotations in local hospitals and reference laboratories.

## Accreditation

Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the Board of Certification examination given by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). The program is seeking accreditation by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) 5600 N. River Road, Suite 720, Rosemont, IL. 60018-5119; (773) 714-8880.

The Student handbook with policies and procedures specific to the program can be mailed to potential students upon request. Contact the Program Director for any questions or concerns.

## Application Deadline

Rolling admission for a Spring start, closes December 15<sup>th</sup> or earlier if seats are filled.

## Prerequisite Coursework

Prerequisites must be completed with a 'C' or better.

- BIOL 109 (or both BIOL 220/221)
- BIOL 110
- CHEM 107/108
- MLTC 101
- ENGL 101

## Additional Coursework

These courses are not required to be completed by the admission deadline, however, they are recommended prior to program admission.

- BIOL 230
- ALHL 115

## Admission Criteria

Admission to this program is competitive and selective, based on grades in prerequisite courses and general education courses. This program is now using a rolling admission process. Rolling admission will occur on the first come, first served basis for verified applications. Seats will be filled in the order verified applications are received. Applicants may be placed on the waitlist once seats are filled. If both the seats and the waitlist are filled, the application may be closed even before the stated deadline of closure.

Applicants must have a minimum overall GPA at CCBC of 2.00. In addition, selected applicants must participate in an interview with the program director and faculty. This program is offered only at the Essex Campus.

## Steps for Application

1. Apply for admission to CCBC at [www.ccbcmd.edu](http://www.ccbcmd.edu).
2. Participate in assessment testing, if necessary.
3. Complete prerequisite courses as necessary.
4. Once you have your CCBC Student ID number, log into <https://shp.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login> and apply to the **CCBC SHP HISTO** program by the application deadline. The **non-refundable** \$50 application fee is due at time of submission.
5. It is the sole responsibility of the student to ensure that all documents have been received or uploaded into the SHP CAS by the December 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.
6. Applicants will receive an **email** inviting them to complete the **CCBC SHP Supplemental application** once their program SHP CAS application has been verified. Instructions will be in the email.
7. Your application status updates are found in you SHP CAS application in the top tab entitled CHECK STATUS. Admission Decisions are emailed to the address used in your application.

## TRANSCRIPTS

Official transcripts from ALL US colleges and universities attended by the applicant are required to be submitted to the SHP CAS and to the CCBC Registrar. Official AP and CLEP scores should be sent directly to the CCBC Registrar/Office of Enrollment Services. The unofficial score report of AP or CLEP, may be sent directly to the School of Health Professions Admissions office. Do not send AP or CLEP scores to the SHP CAS.

Please read these instructions carefully. Transcripts should be sent to the SHP CAS Transcript Processing Center and to CCBC, 4 to 6 weeks prior to the application deadline. If the program that you are applying only requires an unofficial transcript sent to the SHP CAS, you must still submit Official Transcripts to CCBC for transfer of credit.

### How to Send Transcripts to the SHP CAS

1. Enter your colleges or universities in the **Colleges Attended** section of the application before requesting any transcripts.
2. Click **ORDER** under each school you have listed.
3. You may choose to send the transcript electronically (recommended) or as a paper copy through the US Postal System. You only need to submit one transcript from each school regardless of the number of programs you are applying.
  - o To Send an Electronic Transcript
    1. Choose one of the e-transcript services listed. CCBC uses Parchment.

- Search for the school that you attended. Complete the prompts to make an account. You will be asked where you would like the credential/transcript sent, type SHP CAS into the search bar.
2. You will then be asked for the Application ID, this number is found in the ‘Order Your Official Transcript’ screen in the SHP CAS application, in Step 3. Copy and paste the number in the space on the e-transcript service page.
  3. Complete the form request by signing and paying for the transcript. You will receive a receipt that the transcript has been ordered.
- To Send a Paper Copy Using the US Postal Service
    1. You can use the mail system to send paper copies of your Official Transcript. Click on the word ‘Order’, chose Option 2: Order a Mailed Paper Transcript. Click ‘Download Transcript ID Form’ and print the form. Contact the Registrar at each institution you attended and request one official transcript be sent to SHP CAS.
    2. Provide the Registrar with the following items:
      - a. SHP CAS Transcript ID Form. Ask the Registrar to attach it to your official transcripts. This form is not required, but strongly recommended as it helps ensure your official transcripts are properly matched to your application. If you cannot use this form, make sure the registrar prints "SHP CAS" and your full SHP CAS ID number on the transcript before mailing it.
      - b. Give the Registrar this mailing address:  
SHP CAS Transcript Processing Center  
PO Box 9134  
Watertown, MA 02471

#### How to Send Transcripts to the CCBC Registrar

Use this link to send your transcripts from all colleges attended, except CCBC, to CCBC Enrollment Services: <https://www.ccbcmd.edu/Get-Started/Take-classes/Take-a-credit-class/Transfer-to-CCBC-from-another-college.aspx>. Evaluation of your application will be delayed if you do not submit transcripts to the CCBC Registrar’s Office.

#### How to Send CLEP, AP and/or International College Transcript Evaluations

Send Official scores and evaluation directly to the CCBC Registrar office using this link, <https://www.ccbcmd.edu/Get-Started/Take-classes/Take-a-credit-class/Transfer-to-CCBC-from-another-college.aspx>. Unofficial copies can be sent to the SHP Admission Office at, [shpseat@cccmd.edu](mailto:shpseat@cccmd.edu).

#### How to Verify that Transcripts are Received

Applicants are responsible for checking to see that the official transcripts have been received at the required locations (SHP CAS AND CCBC)

1. SHP CAS - log into your CAS applications and select the Check Status tab in the upper right corner. All expected transcripts will be listed and it will be noted if the transcript has been received or not. Contact the SHP CAS directly by clicking on the blue question mark at the top of the application if you have questions about your transcript.
2. CCBC Enrollment Services – Log into your CCBC SIMON account to determine if your transcripts have been received and to review any transfer of credits. You can contact [transfereval@ccbcmd.edu](mailto:transfereval@ccbcmd.edu) if you have a question about courses that may or may not have been transferred into CCBC.

## Admission Response

Admissions decisions are emailed to applicants once interviews have been completed. Emails are usually sent two weeks after the interviews have ended.

## Post Admission

All students in the School of Health Professions are required to conduct themselves according to an honor code, exhibit professional behavior, communicate effectively in English, provide proof of health insurance and immunizations including COVID 19, and participate in a criminal background check. They may also be required to submit to random urine drug testing at clinical sites.

## Service Work

Each clinical laboratory rotation experience will enhance the student's integration of theory and practical skills. Students will perform actual laboratory testing under the supervision of the clinical instructor. Students cannot perform laboratory testing or report laboratory results without the supervision or co-signature of the clinical instructor. Although students are encouraged to help with the work in an assigned laboratory, they are not to take the place of a paid employee.

## Who to Contact

**Academic Advising** – Advising is available at all campuses and extension centers. Please ask to speak with a **Health and Science Pathways Advisor** only. For the Essex campus call 443-840-1973 or visit the Student Services Center room 120A. The hours, addresses and phone numbers for all sites can be found by calling 443-840-2222 or online at

<http://www.ccbcmd.edu/Resources-for-Students/Academic-Advisement/Contact-an-AcademicAdvisor.aspx>.

**Program Director** –Candice Grayson at [cgrayson@ccbcmd.edu](mailto:cgrayson@ccbcmd.edu)

**Education Coordinator** –Karen Bordenet at [kbordenet@ccbcmd.edu](mailto:kbordenet@ccbcmd.edu) **School**

**of Health Professions Office of Admissions** at 443-840-1989 or email

[shpseat@ccbcmd.edu](mailto:shpseat@ccbcmd.edu)

## Essential Functions

The primary goal of the Histotechnology program is to prepare qualified graduates for entry level employment in hospital laboratories.

The duties of the Histotechnician are to prepare sections of human tissue from biopsy or autopsy for microscopic examination by processing and cutting tissues, mounting them on slides and staining them with special dyes for microscopic examination by a pathologist for the diagnosis of disease in a safe and effective manner.

The accrediting agency for the Histotechnology program, National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS), mandates that students be informed of essential functions necessary to perform activities related to the major and the practice of histotechnology.

Following is a listing of the types of skills usually required for job performance:

### I. Physical Requirements:

#### A. Sufficient strength and mobility to:

- i. Lift and transport containers weighing up to 25 pounds
- ii. Reach equipment on shelves higher than eye level
- iii. Work at countertops and bench tops having an average height of 30-46 inches

#### B. Fine motor coordination sufficient to perform manual manipulation of lab equipment such as glass slides and coverslips

- i. Read labels, instrument control panels, computer screens, and print-outs
- ii. Perform microscope work to discriminate among fine structural and color (hue, shading, and intensity) differences of microscopic specimens
- iii. Characterize the color, odor, clarity, and viscosity of biologicals, reagents, or chemical reaction products
- iv. Observe laboratory demonstrations in which biologicals (i.e. body fluids, culture materials, tissue sections, and cellular specimens) are tested for their biochemical, hematological, immunological, microbiological, and histochemical components

#### C. Adequate vision to:

- i. Answer phones, beepers, and alarms

- ii. Respond to questions
- iii. Receive directions

## II. Interpersonal Skills: A. The ability to:

- i. Work in a professional manner with patients of all ages, races, creeds, and physical condition while maintaining and respecting patient confidentiality
- ii. Interact with other members of the health care team in a polite, professional manner
- iii. Communicate and receive written and verbal instructions and accurately carry them out using proper channels of communication
- iv. Use accurate verbal written communications in English to interpret laboratory data, obtain and document relevant clinical information, comprehend and carry out physician requests, and provide patient/public education related to the profession of histotechnology

## III. Intellectual Ability and Emotional Stability to:

- A. Exercise independent judgment and avoid distraction in the technical performance of laboratory procedures
- B. Solve laboratory mathematical problems quickly and accurately
- C. Prioritize requests and work concurrently on at least two different tasks
- D. Work under time constraints
- E. Work calmly and efficiently in stressful situations
- F. Recognize emergency situations and take appropriate actions
- G. Complete program requirements

## IV. Environmental Requirements:

- A. Laboratory work involves risks or discomforts that require special safety precautions, additional safety education, health risk monitoring, working with sharps, chemicals and infectious disease.
  - i. Use protective clothing or gear such as masks, goggles, gloves and lab coats or aprons
  - ii. Work safely with potential chemical, radiologic, and biologic hazards using universal precautions
- B. Histotechnology students are required to:
  - i. Receive a Hepatitis B Vaccine series or sign a waiver
  - ii. Receive the Flu Vaccine (*by October 15<sup>th</sup> of the clinical rotation semester*)
  - iii. Provide proof of recent immunizations against infectious diseases such as measles, mumps, and rubella (*prior to clinical rotations*)
  - iv. Submit to periodic drug screening and annual testing for exposure to tuberculosis(*prior*



- to clinical rotations)*
- v. Submit proof of current enrollment in a health insurance plan (*each semester*)

## Ranking Criteria Point System

Overall CCBC GPA of 2.0 Yes or No

Note: Points are taken off the applicant's score for every science course repeated within the last five years.

### Prerequisite Courses and Sciences (must have C or better in all courses)

Point possibilities: A=10 B=6 C=2 D=0 \*A=5 B=3 C=1 D=0

Course	Grade	Deductions	Points	Comments
BIOL 109				
BIOL 110				
CHEM 107				
CHEM 108*				
MLTC 101				
ENGL 101				
BIO 230				

Total Points \_\_\_\_\_/70 possible points

### Other Program Courses (must have C or better in all courses)

Point possibilities: A=5 B=3 C=1 D=0

Course	Grade	Points	Comments
CMNS 101			
MATH 135			
SOCL 141			
ALHL 115			

Total Points \_\_\_\_\_/25 possible points

### Interview Score

Attach interview score sheet from Program Director. Note: A poor performance on the interview will be sufficient reason for denial of admission into the program.

Total Points \_\_\_\_\_ /50 possible points

Total application score \_\_\_\_\_