

MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC PLAN (2025-2029)



VISION

To be a leading program in educating highly competent, practice-ready medical laboratory professionals through accessible, innovative pathways that meet the workforce needs of Louisiana and beyond.



MISSION

The mission of the Department of Medical Laboratory Science is to prepare quality graduates to fulfill the health care needs of Louisiana, enrich instruction through research and scholarship, and provide clinical and community services to the citizens of the state. The Department is responsive to national trends in meeting the needs of today's healthcare industry.



CORE VALUES

- Excellence
- Integrity
- Accountability
- Collaboration
- Innovation



1. STUDENT SUCCESS AND COMPETENCY

GOAL: Produce competent, workforce-ready graduates.

- High ASCP pass rates and job placement
- Strong clinical decision-making and applied learning
- Readiness for clinical rotations
- Professionalism, communication, and teamwork

KEY METRICS: ≥90% pass rate | ≥90% placement | SLO Achievement



2. MLS WORKFORCE ENTRY PATHWAYS

GOAL: Build a multi-entry workforce pipeline.

- Grow enrollment to 40 students
- Expand MLT to MLS pathway
- Launch and grow MSMLS program as an entry-level pathway
- Maintain and expand certificate program
- Provide flexible pathways

PIPELINES

Certificate – BSMLS – MLT to MLS – MSMLS



3. ENROLLMENT GROWTH & EXPANSION

GOAL: Increase access and enrollment across Louisiana

- Increase recruitment in Baton Rouge region
- Expand hybrid and synchronous delivery
- Strengthen undergraduate partnerships
- Increase awareness of MLS careers statewide

KEY METRICS: Applicant/enrollment trends | BR cohort growth | In-state enrollment



4. CLINICAL PARTNERSHIPS & WORKFORCE ALIGNMENT

GOAL: Align education with workforce needs.

- Maintain and grow clinical affiliate network
- Expand hospital-sponsored student programs
- Align curriculum with workforce needs
- Strengthen graduate employment pipeline

KEY METRICS: Affiliates | Hospital-funded students | Graduate Employment in LA



5. INNOVATION IN TEACHING & SIMULATION

GOAL: Modernize MLS education through innovation.

- Expand simulation-based learning
- Utilize the MLS simulator for clinical decision-making
- Enhance hybrid and digital instruction
- Improve access for non-traditional students

LONG-TERM VISION:

Expand MLS simulation tools for national use.

KEY METRICS: Simulation use across courses | Student performance | External interest/adoption



6. FACULTY, OPERATIONS & PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY

GOAL: Ensure long-term program success.

- Maintain NAACLS accreditation
- Support faculty development
- Optimize operations and efficiency
- Enhance program visibility and recruitment

KEY METRICS: Accreditation outcomes | Faculty retention | Enrollment sustainability



IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (TACTICS + TIMELINE)

STRATEGIC PRIORITY	KEY TACTICS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
Student Success	Expand simulation, strengthen review courses, improve/sustain board pass rates	Ongoing	Faculty, Program Director
MLS Workforce Entry Pathways	Launch MSMLS, expand MLT-to-MLS, maintain certificate pathways	1-3 years	Department Leadership
Enrollment & Baton Rouge	Increase recruitment, expand hybrid delivery	1-2 years	Faculty, Recruitment
Clinical Partnership	Expand affiliates and hospital sponsored students	Ongoing	Clinical Coordinator
Innovation	Develop simulation cases, expand simulator use	1-5 years	Faculty
Operations	Maintain accreditation, improve visibility and efficiency	Ongoing	Department Leadership



KEY OUTCOMES TO TRACK

- ✓ Certification pass rate
- ✓ Clinical partnerships
- ✓ Job placement
- ✓ Simulation integration
- ✓ Enrollment growth (all pathways)
- ✓ Student satisfaction
- ✓ Baton Rouge expansion
- ✓ Accreditation and program sustainability

