

Cytotechnology

What is cytotechnology? Cytotechnologists examine samples of cells from humans, looking for any change that might indicate health problems, such as cancer and infection.

More details? For more detailed information, including salaries and job prospects, visit the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics: www.bls.gov/Healthcare, and check the entry for Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians.

What do I need to apply for admission to an accredited cytotechnology program? There are two entry paths:

1. 3 + 1 bachelor's degree programs (three years of undergraduate work, followed by one year of clinical training)
2. 4 + 1 post baccalaureate certification (completion of a bachelor's degree (BS or BA), followed by one year of clinical training)

Can UWW help me prepare for an accredited cytotechnology program? Absolutely! We offer all the courses required for entry into a cytotechnology program, which fit well with requirements for majors in biology and the required and elective General Education courses.

1. **Undergraduate degree (BS or BA):** Most cytotechnology schools require students to earn a college or university degree (BS or BA). Some graduate cytotechnology programs may have articulation agreements with undergraduate schools.
2. **Major and minor:** Although schools do not mandate a degree in biology, all programs require students to have completed 20 to 30 credits in biology and 10 or more credits in chemistry. At UWW, these courses correspond to the requirements and electives for an undergraduate degree in biology.
3. **Coursework:** Cytotechnology programs expect applicants to have completed certain classes:

Requirement	Length/Credits (minimum)	UWW courses which meet the requirements
General biology with lab	Min 1 year	BIO 141 AND BIO 142
General chemistry with lab	Min 2 semesters	CHEM 102 AND 104
Organic chem (<i>some schools</i>)	1 to 2 semesters, +/- lab	CHEM 251, 252, 261, 262
Genetics	1 sem	BIO 251
Cell biology	1 sem	BIO 253
Microbiology	1 sem	BIO 311
Statistics	1 course / 3 credits	BIO 303 OR PSYCH 215
Highly recommended electives: Human anatomy (BIO 361), human physiology (BIO 362), biochemistry (BIO/CHEM 456), molecular biology (BIO 363), immunology (BIO 412), development (BIO 341)		

What happens then? After your professional education, you would receive a certificate in cytotechnology.

Professional organizations: Some cytotechnologists belong to the American Society for Cytotechnology (www.asct.com); some belong to the American Society for Cytopathology (www.cytopathology.org). Both of these organizations are excellent sources of information for everyone with questions about cytotechnology. To find accredited cytotechnology programs (undergraduate or post-graduate level), visit the website of the Commission of Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org) for assistance.

UWW Advisor: There is no designated advisor for this area.

Training in this area:

Wisconsin: Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, School of Cytotechnology (Madison, WI)
Certificate program <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/cytology/school/>
UWW is affiliated with this program.

Wisconsin: Marshfield Clinic/St. Joseph Hospital, Cytotechnology Program (Marshfield, WI)
Certificate program <http://www.marshfieldlabs.org/proxy/MCREFCyto-Prgm-Info-090208.1.pdf>

Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, ACL Cytology School (Milwaukee, WI)
B.S. program
http://www4.uwm.edu/chs/academics/biomedical_sciences/bms_undergrad/cytotechnology_undergrad

Minnesota: Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Mayo School of Health Sciences (Rochester, MN)
Certificate program <http://www.mayo.edu/mshs/cyt-career.html>