

12-7-2018

Diagnostic & Therapeutic Services News

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Recommended Citation

Georgia Southern University, "Diagnostic & Therapeutic Services News" (2018). *Diagnostics & Therapeutic Services, Department of - News*. 4.
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Medical Laboratory Science Program Awarded NAACLS Accreditation

December 7, 2018



The National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) has granted the Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) program at Georgia Southern University Armstrong Campus continuing accreditation for 10 years.

NAACLS is the premier international agency for accreditation and approval of education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences and related health professions. NAACLS accreditation recognizes education programs that meet established education standards in clinical laboratory science disciplines. The University's MLS program is one of four accredited programs in the state.

"The ASCP is the nationally accepted standard and is the one most sought after. Accreditation by NAACLS means that our program has met academic, professional and clinical standards appropriate for the laboratory profession," stated Keith Belcher, Ph.D., MLS (ASCP) SM, professor and program director of the Medical Laboratory Science program.

Students who graduate from a NAACLS accredited program are eligible to sit for the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification Exam (ASCP BOC) and those who do not graduate from a NAACLS accredited program are not eligible to sit for the ASCP BOC and must take an alternate route to be eligible to work. Students must pass ASCP BOC to be eligible to work as a medical laboratory scientist.

Established in 1982, the MLS program is the largest in the state of Georgia in terms of graduating students and is housed in the Waters College of Health Professions. The program provides students with a high quality academic and professional environment that allows for the development of a student's intellectual and manipulative competencies and attainment of professional values and characteristics.

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