

MEDIA RELEASE

Polytechnics jointly offer new Part-time Diploma in Applied Science (Medical Laboratory Science)

New CET programme aligns with the Healthcare Industry Transformation Map to train professionals in medical laboratory science

Singapore, 24 July 2018 - The five polytechnics today launched a new 30-month part-time Diploma in Applied Science (Medical Laboratory Science) to enhance capabilities in the healthcare industry. Classes for the new 30-month CET programme will commence in October 2018.

The programme is initiated by the Biomedical Science Sector Coordination Team (BMS SCT) chaired by Republic Polytechnic and comprising all five polytechnics and the Institute of Technical Education (ITE). The Part-Time Diploma will be awarded by Republic Polytechnic (RP) in collaboration with Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP), Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP), Singapore Polytechnic (SP) and Temasek Polytechnic (TP).

The first-of-its-kind programme is in line with the national SkillsFuture lifelong learning thrust, and aims to help applicants advance their careers in clinical diagnostics or other related fields in biomedical research and technology (please refer to the attached factsheet for entry requirements). The programme is designed with input from industry partners, and participants can look forward to a learning experience that is in line with the latest scientific medical laboratory standards.

A multi-campus learning experience

The Diploma in Applied Science (Medical Laboratory Science) is also closely aligned with the Healthcare Industry Transformation Map. It comprises five Modular Certificates (MCs), with each focusing on a specific area of expertise.

The five polytechnics will each lead an MC, which comprises three to four modules. Participants can expect to receive the following certifications - Haematology and Immuno-haematology, Diagnostic Clinical Chemistry, Medical Microbiology, Molecular Diagnostics, Histotechnology and Cytotechnology. The first of the five MCs, in Haematology and Immuno-haematology, will be conducted by Singapore Polytechnic when classes commence in October.

Dr Lim Boon Whatt, Director of the School of Applied Science at Republic Polytechnic said, **“This joint programme combines the unique strengths of each polytechnic’s curricula. Participants can look forward to a vibrant multi-campus learning experience as well as the industry-benchmarked learning facilities across the institutions. Through this collaborative effort, we hope to equip students with capabilities and skills in medical laboratory science that will support the healthcare sector.”**

Graduate Outcomes

Graduates of this programme will be equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to pursue a career in medical laboratory science or other related fields in biomedical science, in roles such as:

- Medical Laboratory Technologists
- Microbiology Technicians
- Biomedical Research Assistants
- Quality Assurance/Quality Control Officers
- Medical and Laboratory Product Specialists

Please refer to attached factsheet. For more course information, please visit

[https://www.rp.edu.sg/ace/course-summary/Detail/diploma-in-applied-science-\(medical-laboratory-science\)](https://www.rp.edu.sg/ace/course-summary/Detail/diploma-in-applied-science-(medical-laboratory-science))

Media release issued by:

Republic Polytechnic Office of Corporate Communications

Patrick Seng / Julian Soh
+65 9767 6701 / +65 9018 0719
patrick_seng@rp.edu.sg /
julian_soh@rp.edu.sg

For more information on the various polytechnics, please visit:

Nanyang Polytechnic
www.nyp.edu.sg

Ngee Ann Polytechnic
www.np.edu.sg

Republic Polytechnic
www.rp.edu.sg

Singapore Polytechnic
www.sp.edu.sg

Temasek Polytechnic
www.tp.edu.sg

Factsheet on Part-Time Diploma in Applied Science (Medical Laboratory Science)

Objectives	<p>The programme aims to equip participants with the knowledge and technical skills to support the needs of the biomedical science industry, particularly in medical laboratory science.</p> <p>Graduates of this programme will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Demonstrate an understanding in the concepts and fundamentals of human anatomy and physiology, cell and molecular biology, and the disorders and diseases affecting the human body ii. Apply practical knowledge for working proficiently in diagnostic laboratories, including preparation of chemical reagents, collection, safe handling, processing, and analysis of biological specimens iii. Apply the test principles and methodologies used in laboratory investigations to detect diseases and disorders iv. Evaluate and verify the outcome of laboratory investigations using appropriate tools v. Assess and troubleshoot common errors in laboratory investigations vi. Conduct quality assessments to ensure quality assurance and compliance in the pre-analytical, analytical and post-analytical phases of laboratory services vii. Apply and practice laboratory safety in the handling, storage and disposal of chemicals and biological specimens, and operation and maintenance of laboratory equipment viii. Demonstrate ethical behaviour and maintain confidentiality of patient information ix. Apply critical thinking, analytical reasoning, lifelong learning, numeracy, information literacy, team work, leadership, and communication skills to solve problems as well as work effectively in teams.
Intake Size	<p>Around 25 – 40 participants, commencing October 2018</p> <p>Application is now open and will close on 12 August 2018</p>
Entry Requirements	<p>Applicants should possess one of the following combinations of qualification and work experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 GCE 'O' Levels passes including English (Grade 1 to 7), Science (Grade 1 to 6) and 1 relevant subject (Grade 1 to 6)* with at least 3 years of relevant work experience

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NITEC (GPA 3.5 and above) with at least 2 years of relevant work experience • Higher NITEC with at least 1 year of relevant work experience • Relevant WSQ Diploma with at least 3 years of relevant work experience <p>* Workplace Literacy and Numeracy (WPLN) (Level \geq 6) may be accepted as equivalent GCE 'O' Level English Language and Mathematics requirements.</p> <p>Applicants who do not meet the entry requirements may be considered for admission to the course based on evidence of at least 5 years of relevant working experience or supporting evidence of competency readiness. Suitable applicants who are shortlisted will have to go through an interview and/or entrance test. The Polytechnic reserves the right to shortlist and admit applicants.</p>
Duration of Study	<p>900 hours, 2.5 years (including the award of a Diploma)</p> <p>Students enrolled in the course will need to complete a total of five Modular Certificates. Each Modular Certificate is offered by a different polytechnic and comprises three to four modules. Students would be required to take a total of 18 modules, totalling an equivalent of 900 learning hours. Students who successfully complete all the Modular Certificates will be awarded the Diploma in Applied Science (Medical Laboratory Science).</p>
The Faculty	<p>Republic Polytechnic's School of Applied Science Nanyang Polytechnic's School of Chemical & Life Sciences Ngee Ann Polytechnic's School of Life Sciences & Chemical Technology Singapore Polytechnic's School of Chemical & Life Sciences Temasek Polytechnic's School of Applied Science</p>
Career prospects and opportunities	<p>Graduates of this programme will be equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to pursue a career in medical laboratory science or other related fields in biomedical research and technology, in roles such as the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Laboratory Technologists • Microbiology Technicians • Biomedical Research Assistants • Quality Assurance/Quality Control Officers • Medical and Laboratory Product Specialists
Industry Endorsement	<p>The programme is approved by SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG), with endorsements from organisations including industry partners, government agencies, associations and private clinical diagnostic laboratories.</p>
Other course info and financial matters	<p>Please visit https://www.rp.edu.sg/ace/course-summary/Detail/diploma-in-applied-science-(medical-laboratory-science)</p>