

# Cytotechnology Program

## Admission Requirements

Admission to the Cytotechnology Program requires a Bachelor's degree with the following course requirements:

### **Biology - 20 semester hours**

(For example: microbiology, genetics, histology, general biology, cell biology, physiology, anatomy, zoology, embryology, immunology, etc.)

### **Chemistry (with lab) - 8 semester hours**

### **Mathematics (Algebra) - 3 semester hours**

### **Criteria for Selection:**

- Cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 \*
- Science & Math GPA of at least 2.5 \*
- Letters from academic and personal references
- Personal interview with program faculty

*\* based on 4.0 scale*

**The Cytotechnology Program  
is a 12-month, 32 semester hour program,  
and runs from August to August.**

### **For program information or applications, contact:**

Carle Foundation Hospital  
School of Cytotechnology  
Cytology Laboratory  
Urbana, Illinois 61801

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## Career Opportunities for Life Science Majors in Cytotechnology

### What is a Cytotechnologist?

You can help save lives by discovering diseases early when treatment is most effective if you decide to become a cytotechnologist. Cytotechnologists perform microscopic evaluation of patient samples for the purposes of diagnosing cancer, pre-cancerous lesions, benign tumors, infectious agents and inflammatory processes.

A cytotechnologist evaluates cells from all sites in the body, including the lungs, bladder, liver, pancreas, thyroid, breast, lymph nodes and the female genital tract. You may be familiar with the Pap smear, more than 50 million Pap smears are performed annually in the United States. The cytotechnologist performs this laboratory screening of the Pap smear that detects pre-cancerous cellular changes before it develops into cervical cancer.

There is currently a shortage of cytotechnologists. Starting salaries range from \$45,000 to \$61,000 annually according to the 2007 Wage and Vacancy Survey of Medical Laboratories.

### Cytotechnology at Carle Foundation Hospital

The study of Cytotechnology is a post-baccalaureate program that leads to a certificate in Cytology from Carle Foundation Hospital's School of Cytotechnology (an affiliation with the University of Nebraska Medical Center's School of Cytotechnology) and eligibility for national certification from the American Society of Clinical Pathologists.

The didactic course work includes the anatomy, physiology, histology, cytology and diseases of all the major body systems. A clinical practicum of 22 weeks provides supervised experience in performing the actual duties of a Cytotechnologist.

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### Rewarding Opportunities to be Found!

Look at all the positions in which you will find a Cytotechnologist:

- Lab work in hospitals or private laboratories
- Education
- Management
- Marketing & sales, consultant work
- Health care computing
- Performance improvement
- Research & development of new technology

