

MY CREDENTIAL STORY



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I have been a part of the medical community for more than seven years, and a certified Medical Laboratory Technician, MLT(ASCP) for almost three years. When I was a newly-minted college graduate, with a bachelor's degree in general biology, I didn't know what path life would take me on. The laboratory setting was my passion. I fell into the medical field when the local hospital took a chance and hired me to join its anatomic pathology team.

I learned the in's and out's of surgical pathology, cytology and histology, and discovered how much I wanted to expand my knowledge far beyond that of a pathology technician. I loved being a part of this team, but yearned to learn more in the laboratory. This led me to research career opportunities in the field of medical laboratory technology. After months of research and talking with my director about my goals, I found an online degree program that allowed me to work full time, stay with the team of colleagues I have come to know and rely on, and open up new possibilities right where I worked. I spent the next 18 months taking online courses and clinical rotations right where I worked.

If it weren't for the open hearts of my colleagues, my director, friends and family, I wouldn't be where I am today. Working full time while enrolled in school full time was not easy. I managed to make it work and enjoyed the journey. Soon after graduating from my program, I sat for the ASCP Board of Certification MLT exam. To my relief and excitement, I passed!

While I had what it took to make the change and expand my career, there were many people along the way who supported me. I was promoted to an MLT right after passing my certification, and continued to work there until I moved to Missouri to be with my (now) fiancé in Lebanon, MO, alongside some very bright colleagues. I look forward to what working in the field of medical laboratory technology continues to teach me every day, and I encourage those who are interested in laboratory medicine to remember how important our work is to patient care.