



ASCLS
The American Society for
Clinical Laboratory Science
MAINE

Quarterly Newsletter

April - June 2026



Message from the President

As I reflect on the progress we have made together over the past year, I am filled with an immense sense of pride and gratitude. Our organization is not merely a collection of names on a roster; it is growing into a vibrant, living community defined by the shared passion and dedication of individuals like you.

While your membership alone provides a vital foundation, the true heartbeat of this organization is active participation. I want to personally encourage each of you to dive deeper into our community. You can make an impact by running for a board position, attending our events, or by participating in the board meetings and conversations. We are at our best when we are collaborating, debating, and creating together. Your unique perspective is the missing piece in our next big breakthrough.

Finally, I want to say a simple but heartfelt thank you. Thank you for your trust, your support, and your belief in what we can achieve. You are the reason we do this work, and you are the reason I am so optimistic about our future.

As my time as president comes to an end, I look forward to staying involved and seeing our constituent society continue to grow.



Meet the Current Board Members of ASCLS Maine

From left to right Leigh Belair (Director), Malissa Norfolk (President), Ashlyn Sorel (Developing Professional), Sarah Aguirre-Mutter (Secretary), Shannon Fillebrown (Ascending Professional), Nicole Colby (Director), Lindsay Webber (President-elect), and Adriano Ciccomancini (Treasurer)



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MLS Program Launch

The MLT to MLS Online Program of Maine has officially launched and applications are being accepted for the fall of 2026 cohort. The MLS Program is a fully online bridge program that is offered jointly by the University of Maine at Augusta and the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

For more information, please check out the university websites.



Websites for the MLS Program

UMA: <https://www.uma.edu/academics/programs/medlabsciences/mls/>

UMPI: https://www.umpi.edu/academics/academic_programs/mls/



Brief Message About the Summer Camp Accepting Applications

The UMA Laboratory Sciences Summer Immersion Program is still accepting applications for the summer 2026 session. The immersion program is for high school students to explore laboratory sciences and runs July 13-17. For more information, please reach out to malissa.norfolk@maine.edu



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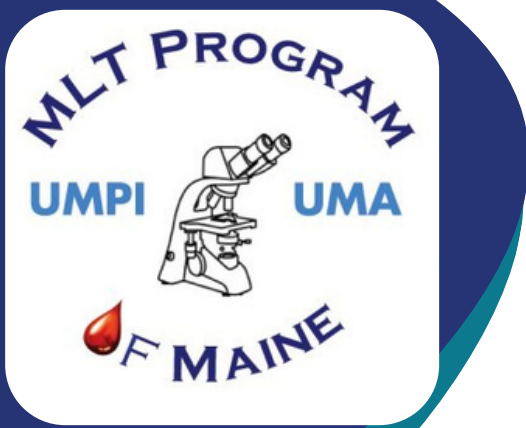
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Middle School Lab Days

MLT faculty at the University of Maine at Presque Isle have hosted two groups of 7th-grade students interested in healthcare for a Middle School Lab Day, with one additional group scheduled for later this month. This hands-on experience is designed to introduce students to careers in the medical laboratory profession and spark early interest in healthcare pathways.

Students spend the morning in the MLT lab, rotating through stations focused on phlebotomy, hematology, microbiology, urinalysis, blood bank, and clinical chemistry. Using a case study approach, students perform simulated laboratory tests and learn how medical laboratory scientists support patient care by helping physicians make accurate diagnoses. Seventh-grade science classes will be invited annually to participate, providing students with early exposure to an essential, behind-the-scenes healthcare profession.





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QUARTERLY WEBINAR

Guest Speakers 2026 MLT Program of Maine Graduates

Ashlyn Sorel, Isabel Aguirre-Mutter, Molly Folsom, Karla Mendoza-Yanes, and Dominic Williams will be presenting patient case study research performed during their hospital practicums.

Important Webinar Details



When
April 27th, 2026 at 12pm EST



Where
Hosted via Zoom, the link will be emailed to you once you register.



Why
One P.A.C.E.® contact-hour will be provided for this session.

Register Now

Session Information

Title: The Lab Report: MLT Student Poster Presentations

Description:
Join us for an engaging virtual showcase featuring the next generation of laboratory professionals. In this session, Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) students will transition from the bench to the podium, presenting comprehensive case study posters that bridge the gap between classroom theory and clinical reality.

- Learning Objectives:**
- Apply theoretical concepts to laboratory testing.
 - Utilize laboratory data to identify disorders.
 - Correlate patient signs and symptoms with pathophysiological processes.

Instruction Level: Basic



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Upcoming Events

- Come run with us Thursday April 27th at 2:30pm at the Augusta rail trail (with a rain date of Thursday April 30 at 2:30) to celebrate Lab Week.
- ASCLS-ME Second Quarterly Webinar: "The Lab Report: MLT Student Poster Presentations" presented by five recent MLT Program of Maine graduates on April 27, 2026 at 12pm EST
- Northeast Laboratory Conference 2026 is on October 6th and 7th save the date!

Next Election Cycle

The upcoming election cycle begins soon, so it's time to start thinking about nominations! If you're interested in running reach out to us!

Want More Lab News?

Follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and check out the [ASCLS-ME website](#) or the [National ASCLS website](#) for more exciting updates, news, and events within the community

National Updates

- The 2026 Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS), Association for Genetic Technologists (AGT), and Society of American Federal Medical Laboratory Scientists (SAFMLS) will be held June 28 through July 2 in St. Louis, MO. Can be attended in-person or virtually.
- April 19-25, 2026 is Medical Laboratory Professionals Week (MLPW). Many fun activities like the [Lab Week Run](#) are held to acknowledge the hard work done by laboratory professionals.

Have An Idea for Our Next Newsletter?

We welcome topic and article suggestions. Send us your thoughts about what you want to see in future newsletters!

Newsletter Editor - Ashlyn Sorel
Contact us at ASCLSMaine@gmail.com