What is a Medical Scientist?

A Medical Scientist:

- Works in the diagnosis and research of disease in healthcare or research laboratories.
- Manages the laboratory service, ensuring that the patient receives quality-assured, standardised results which aid in their disease diagnosis, prognosis and therapy.
- Provides infection surveillance to monitor hospital-acquired infections and many novel molecular tests for disease-related genetic aberrations.
- Works in Pathology sectors including Blood Transfusion, Medical Microbiology, Cellular Pathology, Haematology, Clinical Chemistry, Clinical Immunology, Molecular Diagnostics, Clinical Cytology, Transplantation and Virology.

Medical Science Disciplines

- Blood Transfusion Science
- Medical Microbiology
- Haematology
- Cellular Pathology
- Clinical Chemistry
- Molecular Diagnostics
- Clinical Immunology

Why choose a Career as a Medical Scientist?

www.acslm.ie
Career Opportunities

Graduates who have completed an ACSLM-approved honours degree and clinical laboratory placement are eligible to practice as medical scientists in clinical pathology laboratories in Ireland as well as other countries.

Graduates of these degrees also work as scientists in commercial and private pathology laboratories, research laboratories and in biomedical science positions worldwide.

For further information on courses and requirements visit the institutes’ websites:

**DIT:**
www.dit.ie/study/undergraduate/programmes/dt204/

**GMIT:**
www.gmit.ie/medical-science/bachelor-science-honours-medical-science

**CIT:**
www.cit.ie/course/CR320

What are the educational requirements I need to practice as a Medical Scientist?

A level 8 honors degree in an ACSLM-approved course that includes Clinical Placement is required to practice as a Medical Scientist in a hospital laboratory in Ireland.

There are three 3rd level institutions in Ireland which offer these courses.

These are:
- Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT): **Biomedical Science** DT204
- Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT): **Medical Science** GA785
- Cork Institute of Technology/University College Cork (CIT/UCC): **Biomedical Science** CR320

CAO points requirements

Over the last four years, CAO points for entry to the above three courses have ranged from 390 to 520 points. Please check CAO website for most recent points (cao.ie)

Testimonials

Since graduating from Biomedical Science in 2005, I have been employed as a medical scientist in the Blood Transfusion laboratory of The National Maternity Hospital Dublin. In 2012 I obtained my Masters degree in Transfusion and Transplantation Science. The consolidation of my academic skills and applied experience has seen my interest and passion for fetal-maternal immunology grow. I am a keen advocate of Medical Science and have presented my research findings locally, nationally and internationally.

I believe I have my finger on the pulse of the science and will continue to strive for excellence within my role and within the science itself.

- John Quigley

Through my final year research project as an undergraduate in Biomedical Science, I was introduced to the challenging world of research. On graduating, I pursued this as my choice of career and am currently studying for my PhD where I am attempting to uncover key mechanisms in the development of HIV-1 latency. The practical skills I learned as an undergraduate have given me a head start in this exciting profession.

- Ann Marie Mc Cartin