

MEDICAL LABORATORY DIRECTOR WITH DOCTORAL DEGREE



American Society for
Clinical Pathology

What do I do?

I have a doctoral degree and direct medical and public health laboratories specializing in microbiology, chemistry, immunology or molecular diagnostics. I am responsible for medical and scientific oversight of testing and often responsible for maintaining the laboratory's accreditation. Working as a team with managers and medical laboratory scientists, I ensure quality of testing and help troubleshoot problems. I am accountable for maintaining an appropriate test menu, and act as a clinical consultant to providers. Laboratory directors, especially in academic settings, may be involved in teaching and research activities.

My typical day includes:

- **Technical oversight:** ensures accuracy of methods and results. Trouble-shoots technical problems. Selects and validates new test methods.
- **Quality:** maintains awareness of regulatory standards and makes certain that appropriate testing practices, quality control and quality assurance measures are in place to meet standards and maintain accreditation.
- **Clinical Consultation:** guides providers in test selection and result interpretation. Communicates suggestions that may impact treatment and prognosis.
- **Education:** teaches medical laboratory professionals, medical students, residents and fellows in the classroom setting or as they rotate within the laboratory department.
- **Knowledge:** is abreast of the current science relevant to the laboratory discipline. Attends conferences, reviews literature, acquires training, and engages in thoughtful discourse with colleagues to maintain awareness of new methodologies, diseases, and circumstances related to public health.

Necessary Skill Sets



LEADERSHIP



PROBLEM-SOLVING



AN INQUISITIVE
NATURE



COMMUNICATOR



SELF-DIRECTED
LEARNING



RESPONSIBILITY

Salary

Average Salary*: \$135 – 160K annually

Certification

American Board of Medical Microbiology (ABMM),
American Board of Clinical Chemistry (AACC)

[Earn certification as a Diplomate in Laboratory Management from the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification \(ASCP BOC\).](#)

Education Requirements

A doctoral degree in a chemical, biological, physical or clinical laboratory science from an accredited institution. Two years of post-doctoral laboratory training which usually occurs through a fellowship program.

* Salaries are based on a national average and will vary by location and years of service and other factors.