Specialist in Blood Bank Technology Certificate Program

Program Overview

The online Specialist in Blood Bank (SBB) Technology Certificate Program is intended to meet the needs of experienced medical laboratory scientists seeking advanced knowledge of immunohematology and its related disciplines. The SBB certificate program is designed to prepare students for the SBB certification examination offered by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) Board of Certification (BOC).

Minimum Admissions Requirements

- A baccalaureate degree from a regionally-accredited U.S. college or university in medical laboratory, biological or related science or a BS or BA degree from a foreign institution when the foreign transcript has been evaluated by ECE resulting in a determination that the student has earned a degree that is equivalent to a U.S. BS or BA.
- A minimum grade point average of 3.0 (on a scale of 4.0)
- Documentation of MLS (ASCP), MT (ASCP) or CLS (NCA) certification
- Two years working experience in an accredited blood bank laboratory
- For non-native English speakers, Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores to satisfy the College of Health Sciences' policy on the TOEFL
- Official transcripts from each college or university attended
- Three reference letters
- A phone interview

Curriculum

The SBB curriculum is a one-year program consisting of eight courses. Students may complete the program in four quarters, including a summer quarter. A part-time option is available.

The SBB curriculum consists of both online lecture and discussion and clinical experience components. Clinical experiences may be arranged at blood centers and hospitals near the student's home. In some cases, the student's place of employment may qualify. Students with prior clinical experience may be eligible to earn credit by proficiency based on standardized departmental evaluation.

Accreditation

The Rush University SBB Certificate Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) (25400 U.S. Highway 19 North, Suite 158, Clearwater, FL 33763; (727) 210-2350) upon the recommendation of the AABB Committee on Accreditation of Specialist in Blood Bank Technology Schools (AABB/CoA).

Course		Credit Hours
SBB-580	Human Blood Group Systems	4
SBB-581	Principles and Methods of Antibody Identification	2
SBB-582	Blood Procurement and Blood Product Manufacturing	3
SBB-583	Blood Bank and Transfusion Service Operation	3
SBB-584	Clinical Immunohematology and Transfusion	4
SBB-585	SBB Comprehensive Review	3
SBB-586	SBB Clinical Practicum*	2
SBB-587	SBB Selected Topics and Project	3
Total SBB Course Credit Hours Earned		**24**

**Students with prior clinical experience may qualify to complete the SBB 586 clinical practicum course through credit by proficiency based upon standardized departmental evaluation. Qualified students who successfully pass the departmental evaluation will be exempt from taking this course and for tuition associated with this course. Students interested in exemption from SBB 586 should speak with the program director and must complete a Clinical Experience Verification Form. A processing fee will be charged to the student. Credit awarded will equal the credit value of the course as listed in the current Rush University catalog. Information posted on the transcript will include the course prefix and number, title, credit value and a K grade. A transcript guide that accompanies all transcripts issued by the Office of the Registrar explains that the K grade indicates that credit was earned through successful completion of a proficiency examination.*

Clinical Laboratory Management Curriculum with SBB Certificate Completion Option

Students who are interested in completing the SBB certificate program along with the Master of Science in clinical laboratory management will start the MS in CLM program by taking courses in the SBB certificate program followed by CLM courses. Graduates of a CAAHEP-accredited SBB program other than the Rush program must have their transcript evaluated to determine the transferability of the SBB courses and assignment of credit. Such students may need to take additional credits to be awarded the MS in CLM.

Year 1		Credit Hours
Fall Quarter		
SBB-580	Human Blood Group Systems	4
SBB-581	Principles and Methods of Antibody Identification	2
Winter Quarter		
SBB-582	Blood Procurement and Product Manufacturing	3
SBB-583	Blood Bank and Transfusion Service Operation	3
Spring Quarter		
SBB-584	Clinical Immunohematology and Transfusion	4
SBB-586	SBB Clinical Practicum*	2
Summer Quarter		
SBB-585	SBB Comprehensive Review	3
SBB-587	SBB Selected Topics and Project	3
Year 2		**Credit Hours**
Fall Quarter		
CLM-590	Principles of Lab Management	4
CLM-591	Evidence-Based Research and Applied Statistics	4
CLM-592	Ethics	3
Winter Quarter		
CLM-584	Health Care Finance	4
CLM-595	Method Comparison and Process Validation	4
CLM-599A	Master's Project I (Management)	2
Spring Quarter		
CLM-593	Scientific and Technical Writing	4
CLM-596	Quality Systems and Regulatory Issues	4
CLM-599B	Master's Project II (Management)	2
Summer Quarter		
CLM-597	Issues and Practices in Human Resource Management	4
CLM-598	Health Care Informatics	4
CLM-599C	Master's Project III (Management)	2
Total hours required for the MS degree		**65**

** Students with prior clinical experience may qualify to earn academic credit based on standardized departmental evaluation, or students with extensive clinical experience may complete the SBB-586 clinical practicum course through credit by proficiency based upon a standardized departmental evaluation.*

Curriculum is subject to change.

Minimum hours taken at Rush for the MS degree must equal at least 45 quarter hours.