

# UPMC

## Contact Us

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## Mission Statement

The mission of the Histotechnology School of UPMC is to provide an adequate number of qualified histotechnologists to serve western Pennsylvania and other areas of the country. The school seeks to design, develop, and implement an appropriate instructional program. Students will learn to think more critically and become independent learners. They will recognize their position in the total health care structure and understand their legal, ethical, and moral responsibilities to the employers and communities that they serve. This program demands a commitment to excellence from both the faculty and the graduate in professional standards and behaviors. Being located in an academic community, the school is dedicated to excellence in education to produce graduates who will have a comprehensive knowledge of clinical histology and function as competent, informed personnel.

*UPMC is an equal opportunity employer. UPMC policy prohibits discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, disability, or veteran status. Further, UPMC will continue to support and promote equal employment opportunity, human dignity, and racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity. This policy applies to admissions, employment, and access to and treatment in UPMC programs and activities. This commitment is made by UPMC in accordance with federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations.*

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Histotechnology  
School of UPMC

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## Education Program

The Histotechnology School of UPMC is a 12-month certificate program. The education is conducted under the close supervision of experienced laboratory professionals of Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, UPMC Presbyterian, and UPMC Shadyside. The school is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science (NAACLS.) The 12-month program begins in July of each year and combines didactic and practical training. The curriculum includes instruction in the collection and preparation of surgical biopsy material. Students gain practical experience by means of systematic rotation through the up-to-date laboratories of UPMC. Upon completion of this program, the successful graduate will be eligible to take the American Society of Clinical Pathologists Board of Examination for Histotechnicians, HT (ASCP).

## Admission

The Histotechnology School of UPMC will accept two students per 12-month training program. The preferred candidate is one who has already earned at least an associate degree or 60 semester hours (90 quarter hours) of academic credit from a regionally accredited college/university, which should include:

- biology I & II with labs
- chemistry I & II with labs
- algebra/Math for health sciences
- medical terminology
- English composition
- medical ethics/professional conduct

The candidate must submit the following to the education coordinator of the school by April 30:

- completed application
- application fee: \$10 made payable to "Magee-Womens Hospital"
- official college transcripts
- two letters of recommendation

## Expenses

The tuition for the academic year is \$5,000, subject to change, with an additional fee for textbooks and personal background checks. Students are responsible for providing their own financial support, lab coats, meals, living quarters, and health insurance. Sponsorships are sometimes offered. Contact Judith Modery at [jmodery@magee.edu](mailto:jmodery@magee.edu) or 412-641-4664 with any questions.

### A histologic technician:

Laboratory technician who specializes in cutting and staining tissues for use on laboratory slides. Using a variety of high-tech equipment and detailed procedures, histologic technicians prepare slides of tissues for microscopic examination by a pathologist.

The histologic technician is an important part of the team that helps diagnose disease.

## Job Opportunities

According to the National Society for Histotechnology, demand for clinical laboratory workers is expected to grow as the volume of laboratory tests increases with population growth and the development of new types of tests. The average salary varies by area of the country. A histologic technician who completes a bachelor's degree or attends an accredited histologic program can advance to a histotechnologist. These professionals perform more complex procedures and can teach or be a laboratory supervisor. For more information, contact the National Society for Histotechnology at [www.nsh.org](http://www.nsh.org).

## The Staff

Histology is a subdivision of anatomic pathology in which close interaction takes place among members of the department and with professionals in other departments and disciplines. The staff pathologists responsible for the formal program hold academic appointments at the University of Pittsburgh. The students receive much of their didactic and practical training from the appointed education coordinator, but also benefit educationally from the experience of staff histotechnologists at UPMC hospitals. Each laboratory employs supervising histotechnologists and laboratory support staff.

## Affiliation with Outside Institutions of Higher Learning

The Histotechnology School is a joint effort of UPMC Department of Pathology, Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, UPMC Presbyterian, and UPMC Shadyside. There is no formal arrangement between the Histotechnology School of UPMC and colleges or universities concerning students who are interested in attaining a degree in histotechnology.

## The Hospitals

The four histology rotations include Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC, UPMC Presbyterian, UPMC Shadyside, and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC.

UPMC is an integrated global health enterprise with headquarters in Pittsburgh, Pa, and one of the leading nonprofit health systems in the United States. As western Pennsylvania's largest employer with 50,000 employees and \$7 billion in revenue, UPMC is transforming the economy of the region into one based on medicine, research, and technology.

UPMC Presbyterian, located in the heart of Oakland, is an adult medical/surgical referral hospital and a site of ongoing research and graduate programs in conjunction with the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. The hospital is a renowned center for organ transplantation, and a recognized leader in cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery, critical care medicine and trauma services, and neurosurgery. UPMC Presbyterian also is designated as a Level I Regional Resource Trauma Center. Founded in 1893, UPMC Presbyterian continues to provide state-of-the-art medical care to patients in the tristate area and throughout the world.

UPMC Shadyside is a 486-bed tertiary care hospital that has been serving the residents of Pittsburgh and the tristate area since 1866. UPMC Shadyside offers primary medical care; physician and nursing education; and a broad range of specialties that include cardiology, oncology, orthopaedics, geriatrics, vascular medicine, endocrinology, and more.

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of all children through excellence in patient care, teaching, and research. As the only hospital in western Pennsylvania devoted solely to the care of infants, children, and young adults, the hospital has been named consistently to several elite lists of pediatric health care facilities, including ranking eighth among children's hospitals (FY 2003) in funding provided by the National Institutes of Health. The hospital ranked 10th for pediatrics in the 2008 *U.S. News & World Report* Honor Roll of Best Children's Hospitals.

Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC long has been a leader in the care of women and infants and recently has expanded its services to extend to men as well as women, including cardiology, orthopaedics, neurology, and thoracic surgery, to name a few. Magee's Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences is among the top in the nation among departments of its kind in funding from the National Institutes of Health (more than \$200 million). The hospital ranked seventh nationwide in gynecology in the 2008 *U.S. News & World Report* Honor Roll of Best Hospitals.

Magee also has nationally recognized clinical programs in breast and gynecologic cancers, genetics, infectious diseases, reproductive endocrinology, lupus, minimally invasive gynecologic surgery, and bariatric surgery.