Discover the
VA Student Trainee Experience Program (VA-STEP)

VA-STEP serves as a first step to employment with VA after graduation. You’ll be employed as a trainee, earning a salary while you develop understanding, confidence, and competencies in the care of our nation’s Veterans at a local VA facility under the supervision of a mentor. VA-STEP was formerly known as VA Learning Opportunities Residency (VALOR).
VA medical laboratory scientists ensure that Veterans receive the high-quality care they need and deserve.

You’ll perform tests, evaluate the results, and provide ongoing assessment using independent judgment. You’ll help solve complex challenges as integral members of Veteran-centered care teams.

VA-STEP is a program for aspiring medical laboratory scientists seeking fulfilling careers improving the lives of those who’ve served our nation.

Learn More

- **APPLY**

- **EXPLORE**
  Explore the education benefits of VA Careers at [www.VAcareers.va.gov/Benefits/EducationSupport](http://www.VAcareers.va.gov/Benefits/EducationSupport)

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**Eligible Applicants**

- U.S. citizen by birth or naturalization (U.S. Veterans are considered first among all equally qualified candidates)
- Current medical laboratory scientist student who has completed or are within one semester of completing the junior year of a bachelor’s degree program from a nationally accredited school for clinical laboratory sciences or generic equivalent medical laboratory scientist program
- Be willing to undergo a background/suitability investigation
- Be willing to come work for the VA after graduation and not be obligated to work somewhere else after graduation
- Be available to work 400 hours prior to graduation from your education program
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 on 4.00 scale
- Be in good academic standing (as defined by the school you are attending), leading to graduation and ASCP or AMT certification

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While in VA-STEP, also apply for the VA Health Profession Scholarship Program (HPSP) to receive a one-year tuition scholarship, monthly stipend, and one-time book stipend in return for 2 years of service at VA. Apply here: [https://va-ams-info.intelliworxit.com/hpsp/about-hpsp/](https://va-ams-info.intelliworxit.com/hpsp/about-hpsp/)