

18th December 2001

*Director of Human Resources, each Health Board/ERHA
Personnel Manager, each Voluntary Hospital*

letters sent out
to - Director of
HR, each Health
Board & PO each
Voluntary Hospital.

POSTed 18/12/01

(Ef)

Health Service
Employers Agency

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Re: Trainee Medical Laboratory Scientists

As you would be aware, some difficulties are being experienced in the case of certain laboratories in relation to recruitment of Medical Laboratory Technicians. The title Medical Laboratory Technician is due to be changed shortly to Medical Laboratory Scientist.

In order to improve the situation in such cases it has now been agreed with the Medical Laboratory Scientists Association that individuals with an Honours Science Degree may be recruited as trainee Medical Laboratory Scientists as a temporary measure. They will undergo a one-year programme developed and approved by the Academy of Medical Laboratory Science, which, if it was successfully completed, would enable them to be appointed as Medical Laboratory Technicians (Medical Laboratory Scientists). These are individuals who would have obtained an Honours Science Degree rather than having undertaken the 5-year Honours Degree in Bio-Medical Science required for appointment as a Medical Laboratory Technician.

This traineeship is a one-year's duration and the arrangement is a temporary one designed to alleviate staffing shortages in areas where they may exist.

It has been agreed with the MLSA that any such individuals will be paid a salary of 80% of the minimum point of the Medical Laboratory Technician scale during their year as a trainee.

I would be obliged if you bring this arrangement to the attention of Hospital and Laboratory Managers. The Academy of Medical Laboratory Science may be contacted for further information.

Yours sincerely,

P.P. Elaine Fay
Martin McDonald
PROJECT MANAGER

c.c. Ms. B Ryan, Personnel Management & Development Unit,
Department of Health & Children

Ef/MmcD/0064

Letter faxed to Bernie Ryan
DOHC