

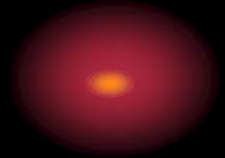


So you want to a CLS...

Jonathan Saenz

# Outline

- What is a CLS?
- What does a CLS do?
- How do you become a CLS?
- What do I do?
- And the most important... how much does a CLS get paid?



# Questions

- Please ask at any point.



# CLS



- Clinical Laboratory Scientist
  - A person who performs a variety of laboratory associated tasks for the purpose of treating patients.
  - Can be specialized – microbiologist, toxicologist, blood transfusion-ist....
  - Can be a generalists- stat testing at medical center.

# Becoming a CLS



- Three routes-
  1. Get a BS/BA in clinical laboratory science and pass ASCP exam.
  2. Train in a clinical laboratory and get a limited license applicable to place of training.
  3. Take ASCP exam if you were a CLS in a different country.

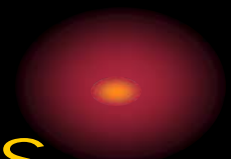
# Me

- Place of employment:
  - Kaiser Permanente Regional Lab
    - North Hollywood, CA
  - Microbiology Department



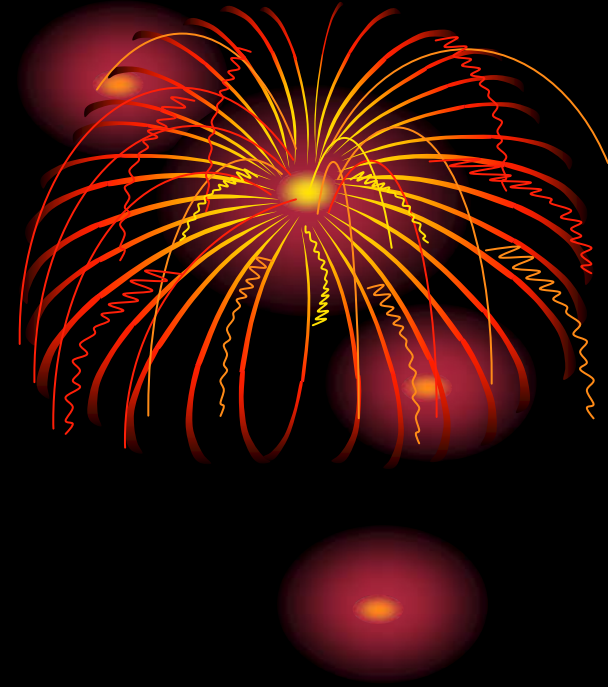
# Daily Tasks

- Identify bacteria, yeast, and fungus
- Provide susceptibility profiles for identified organisms
- QC
- Instrument maintenance and repair
- Address clinician concerns



# Benches

- Urine
- Miscellaneous
  - Wounds / abscesses
- Blood
  - Initial gram stain / culture work-up
- Throat
- Stool
- Genital





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- Average national salary for a CLS is \$68,000
- Average salary in California is \$74,000
- Average salary in Los Angeles is \$71,000

# Salary



- Depends on where you work.
- Small labs/hospitals = low pay
  - Private hospitals: Northridge, Memorial network
- Big labs = higher pay
  - Quest, Kaiser, UCLA,

# Proof

- Anyone here can do this:

18 STATE WAGES, TIPS, ETC.
<b>106102.48</b>

