



**AUGUST 2023**

# ASCP International Procedures for Examination and Credentialing

## CERTIFICATION

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### GENERALIST

International Medical Laboratory Scientist, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Medical Laboratory Technician, MLT(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
Científico de Laboratorio Médico Internacional, CLM(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

### CATEGORICAL

International Technologist in Blood Banking, BB(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Technologist in Chemistry, C(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Gynecologic Cytologist, CTgyn(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Technologist in Cytogenetics, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Cytologist, CT(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Technologist in Hematology, H(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Histotechnician, HT(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Histotechnologist, HTL(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Technologist in Microbiology, M(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Technologist in Molecular Biology, MB(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Phlebotomy Technician, PBT(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

### SPECIALIST

International Specialist in Blood Banking, SBB(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Specialist in Chemistry, SC(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Specialist in Cytology, SCT(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Specialist in Cytometry, SCYM(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Specialist in Hematology, SH(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Specialist in Microbiology, SM(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
International Specialist in Molecular Biology, SMB(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>



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The ASCP Board of Certification is an administratively independent credentialing agency that prepares relevant standards and develops procedures that will assure the competence of medical laboratory professionals.

The ASCP Board of Certification credentials those individuals who meet the academic and clinical prerequisites and who achieve acceptable performance levels on examinations.

*The ASCP Board of Certification does not discriminate as to age, gender, race, religion, national origin, disability, marital status or sexual orientation.*

*All requirements, processes and fees as stated in this booklet are subject to change without notice.*

*\* ASCP BOC Scholarship Funding available for Resource-Limited Countries*

## CREDENTIAL CATEGORIES AND APPLICATION FEES

**Application fees are non-refundable.** Be sure you meet the eligibility requirements for the category and route as stated and are able to provide the required documentation when submitting your online application and fee.

| Category of Certification Examination                           | Application Fee* |
|---|------------------|
| <b>TECHNICIAN</b>   |                  |
| International Histotechnician, HT(ASCP).....                    | \$185            |
| International Medical Laboratory Technician, MLT(ASCP) .....    | \$185            |
| International Phlebotomy Technician, PBT(ASCP) .....            | \$135            |
| <b>TECHNOLOGIST</b>   |                  |
| International Cytologist, CT(ASCP).....                         | \$210            |
| International Gynecologic Cytologist, CTgyn(ASCP).....          | \$135            |
| International Histotechnologist, HTL(ASCP) .....                | \$210            |
| International Medical Laboratory Scientist, MLS(ASCP).....      | \$210            |
| Científico de Laboratorio Médico Internacional, CLM(ASCP) ..... | \$210            |
| International Technologist in Blood Banking, BB(ASCP) .....     | \$210            |
| International Technologist in Chemistry, C(ASCP).....           | \$210            |
| International Technologist in Cytogenetics, CG(ASCP) .....      | \$210            |
| International Technologist in Hematology, H(ASCP) .....         | \$210            |
| International Technologist in Microbiology, M(ASCP) .....       | \$210            |
| International Technologist in Molecular Biology, MB(ASCP) ..... | \$210            |
| <b>SPECIALIST</b>   |                  |
| International Specialist in Blood Banking, SBB(ASCP) .....      | \$260            |
| International Specialist in Chemistry, SC(ASCP) .....           | \$260            |
| International Specialist in Cytology, SCT(ASCP) .....           | \$260            |
| International Specialist in Cytometry, SCYM(ASCP) .....         | \$260            |
| International Specialist in Hematology, SH(ASCP) .....          | \$260            |
| International Specialist in Microbiology, SM(ASCP) .....        | \$260            |
| International Specialist in Molecular Biology, SMB(ASCP) .....  | \$260            |





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## ASCP BOARD OF CERTIFICATION

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### About the ASCP Board of Certification

Founded in 1928 by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP), the Board of Certification is widely accepted as the most influential leader in the field of credentialing of medical laboratory professionals. To date over 610,000 individuals have been credentialed. The ASCP Board of Certification understands the importance of impartiality in conducting certification and qualification activities. The ASCP BOC manages conflict of interest and ensures objectivity by representative membership on its Board of Governors from other associations and societies.

- Five pathologists (nominated by the ASCP) including one with dual membership in the American Society of Hematology (ASH)
- Five laboratory professionals (nominated by the ASCP) including one with dual membership in the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC)
- Four representatives from the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS)
- Two representatives from the Association of Genetic Technologists (AGT)
- One representative from each of the following participating societies:
  - » Association for the Advancement of Blood & Biotherapies (AABB)
  - » American Association of Pathologists' Assistants (AAPA)
  - » American Society for Microbiology (ASM)
  - » American Society of Cytopathology (ASC)
  - » National Society for Histotechnology (NSH)
- One public member

### The Gold Standard

The ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) represents the gold standard for certification of medical laboratory professionals. Through their professional contributions to various scientific and examination committees, over 100 volunteer laboratory scientists, technologists and technicians, specialists, physicians, researchers, educators, and experts in psychometrics ensure that ASCP BOC examination processes, as well as certification and qualification credentials, continue to maintain the highest standards of the laboratory medicine and pathology professions. ASCP BOC examination committees and qualification work groups are responsible for examination development and review, determining accuracy and relevancy of the examinations, and establishing the competence level for each laboratory medicine and pathology specialty.

### Credentialing and Credential Maintenance

Credentialing is the process by which a non-governmental agency or association grants recognition of competence to an individual who has met certain predetermined requirements, as specified by the agency or association.

The ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) credentials individuals in the field of medical laboratory science. ASCP BOC credentials are time-limited for three years. To remain valid, certification or qualification must be maintained by completing the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) as described on our website: [www.ascp.org/cmp](http://www.ascp.org/cmp).

Our mission is to provide  
**excellence in certification**  
of laboratory professionals on  
behalf of patients worldwide.

Our vision is to be  
the **gold standard in**  
**global certification** for all  
laboratory professionals.

## CREDENTIALING PROCESS - CERTIFICATION

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**STEP 1:** Determine your examination category and route and gather required documentation to meet the eligibility requirements.

The ASCP BOC does not consult with an applicant, review documentation, or determine an applicant's eligibility prior to application. Eligibility is determined only after an applicant's application, fee, and all required documentation has been received and all items have been reviewed by an evaluator. Application fees cover the administrative costs of processing applications, including the review of all documentation; **application fees are not refundable.**

**STEP 2:** Complete the online application ([see page 7](#)) and submit:

- Application fee (credit card or check) **Application fees are non-refundable.**
- Required documentation to verify your eligibility.  
See [www.ascp.org/boc/intl-documentation](http://www.ascp.org/boc/intl-documentation) for complete information.

**STEP 3:** Monitor the status of your submitted application online. ([www.ascp.org/login](http://www.ascp.org/login))

**STEP 4:** Receive email notification to login and view your Admission Notification to schedule your examination at a Pearson VUE Professional Center.

**STEP 5:** Schedule an appointment to take the computer-based examination **within the eligibility period** indicated in your Admission Notification. See [www.ascp.org/boc/schedule-date](http://www.ascp.org/boc/schedule-date) for complete information.

**STEP 6:** Take the examination at a Pearson VUE Professional Center.  
See [www.ascp.org/boc/test-center](http://www.ascp.org/boc/test-center) for complete information.

**STEP 7:** Receive email notification to login and view your examination score report.

**STEP 8:** Receive your wall certificate in approximately 4 to 8 weeks after receiving your passing score report.

Your certification is valid for a three-year period. To maintain valid certification, completion of the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) is required every three years. Please visit [www.ascp.org/cmp](http://www.ascp.org/cmp) for program details.

Congratulations on your decision to apply for certification by the ASCP Board of Certification.  
**We wish you success on your examination.**

### Fraudulent Use of Any ASCP Credential

#### Revocation of Credentials

Credentials, if granted, may be revoked at any time due to inappropriate or unethical behavior. For complete information, click [here](#).

### Credential Maintenance Program (CMP)

To maintain your credential, you are required to complete the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) every three years. For complete information, see [www.ascp.org/cmp](http://www.ascp.org/cmp).



## ASCP<sup>i</sup> CERTIFICATION

For more information, including eligibility requirements, documentation forms, content outline and reading lists visit the links provided for each certification.

### Technician Certification

#### International Histotechnician, HT(ASCP)<sup>i</sup>

Prepares and processes tissue samples for routine histologic techniques to be examined under a microscope by a pathologist. The histologic techniques include the following: fixation, processing, embedding, microtomy, and staining of human and animal tissue for evaluation.

[www.ascp.org/boc/iht](http://www.ascp.org/boc/iht)

#### International Medical Laboratory Technician, MLT(ASCP)<sup>i</sup>

Collects, processes, and performs routine laboratory tests in blood banking, chemistry, hematology, immunology, microbiology, molecular biology, and/or urinalysis on biologic specimens to provide information necessary for the diagnosis and treatment of disease.

[www.ascp.org/boc/imlt](http://www.ascp.org/boc/imlt)

#### International Phlebotomy Technician, PBT(ASCP)<sup>i</sup>

Works face-to-face with patients to draw blood samples. Collects, transports, and processes blood and other specimens to be analyzed in the laboratory.

[www.ascp.org/boc/ipbt](http://www.ascp.org/boc/ipbt)

*For more information, including eligibility requirements, documentation forms, content outline and reading lists visit the links provided for each certification.*

### Technologist Certification

#### International Cytologist, CT(ASCP)<sup>i</sup>

Prepares and evaluates human cellular samples from all body sites, under the direction of a pathologist, to detect pre-cancerous changes, cancer, benign tumors, infectious agents, and inflammatory processes. May also prepare specimens, attend fine needle aspirations, and assist in quality assurance activities.

[www.ascp.org/boc/ict](http://www.ascp.org/boc/ict)

#### International Gynecologic Cytologist, CTgyn(ASCP)<sup>i</sup>

Prepares and evaluates human cellular samples from the female genital tract. Detects pre-cancerous changes, cancer, benign tumors, infectious agents, and inflammatory processes. May also assist in quality assurance activities.

[www.ascp.org/boc/ictgyn](http://www.ascp.org/boc/ictgyn)

#### International Histotechnologist, HTL(ASCP)<sup>i</sup>

Performs both routine and complex histologic techniques such as enzyme histochemistry, immunohistochemistry, in-situ hybridization, and immunofluorescence on tissue samples for microscopic examination by a pathologist to diagnose disease. Knowledgeable in the areas of pathology, management, education, and regulations that impact the field of histotechnology.

[www.ascp.org/boc/ihtl](http://www.ascp.org/boc/ihtl)

#### International Medical Laboratory Scientist, MLS(ASCP)<sup>i</sup>

Conducts a full range of laboratory tests, from routine to complex, in blood banking, chemistry, hematology, immunology, microbiology, molecular biology, and/or urinalysis on biologic specimens to provide information necessary for the diagnosis and treatment of disease. Problem solves issues with specimens, testing, and instrumentation. Evaluates, develops, and validates diagnostic testing and instrumentation.

[www.ascp.org/boc/imls](http://www.ascp.org/boc/imls)

#### Científico de Laboratorio Médico Internacional, CLM(ASCP)<sup>i</sup>

Realiza una amplia gama de pruebas de laboratorio, desde rutinarias hasta complejas, en bancos de sangre, química, hematología, inmunología, microbiología, biología molecular y/o uroanálisis en espécimen biológico para proporcionar la información necesaria para el diagnóstico y tratamiento de enfermedades. Resuelve problemas relacionados con muestras, pruebas e instrumentación. Evalúa, desarrolla y valida las pruebas de diagnóstico y la instrumentación.

[www.ascp.org/boc/iclm](http://www.ascp.org/boc/iclm)

#### International Technologist in Blood Banking, BB(ASCP)<sup>i</sup>

Performs routine and specialized tests in blood banking and transfusion services to determine blood types, identify antibodies, and select blood components to support providers in blood transfusion therapy.

[www.ascp.org/boc/ibb](http://www.ascp.org/boc/ibb)

#### International Technologist in Chemistry, C(ASCP)<sup>i</sup>

Performs analysis on blood and body fluids to determine the quantity of chemical and/or hormonal content in the specimen to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases.

[www.ascp.org/boc/ic](http://www.ascp.org/boc/ic)

#### International Technologist in Cytogenetics, CG(ASCP)<sup>i</sup>

Performs various techniques for the diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of inherited and acquired genetic diseases. Responsibilities include culturing, harvesting, slide preparations, and analysis of biologic samples including peripheral blood, amniotic fluid, tissue, bone marrow, and tumors. Performs chromosome analysis, fluorescence in situ hybridization, and other molecular assays.

[www.ascp.org/boc/icg](http://www.ascp.org/boc/icg)

### **International Technologist in Hematology, H(ASCP)<sup>®</sup>**

Performs analyses of blood and body fluids to identify hematologic and coagulation disorders aiding in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases.

[www.ascp.org/boc/ih](http://www.ascp.org/boc/ih)

### **International Technologist in Microbiology, M(ASCP)<sup>®</sup>**

Identifies bacteria and microorganisms in tissue samples and body fluids to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases.

[www.ascp.org/boc/im](http://www.ascp.org/boc/im)

### **International Technologist in Molecular Biology, MB(ASCP)<sup>®</sup>**

Uses molecular diagnostic methods to detect and characterize acquired and inherited diseases, including malignant, metabolic, and infectious diseases. Uses advanced techniques, including sequencing and genomic analysis, with applications in personalized medicine.

[www.ascp.org/boc/imb](http://www.ascp.org/boc/imb)

## **Specialist Certification**

### **International Specialist in Blood Banking, SBB(ASCP)<sup>®</sup>**

Performs all operations in blood banking and transfusion services, from routine testing to the most advanced procedures, to determine blood types, identify antibodies, and select blood components to support providers in blood transfusion therapy. Specialists are often technical supervisors and laboratory managers who serve as leaders, educators, and advisors.

[www.ascp.org/boc/isbb](http://www.ascp.org/boc/isbb)

### **International Specialist in Chemistry, SC(ASCP)<sup>®</sup>**

Performs analysis on blood and body fluids to determine the quantity of chemical and/or hormonal content in the specimen to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases. Specialists have advanced knowledge, skills, and abilities; they serve as leaders, educators, and advisors within their specialty area.

[www.ascp.org/boc/isc](http://www.ascp.org/boc/isc)

### **International Specialist in Cytology, SCT(ASCP)<sup>®</sup>**

Skilled in examining cellular specimens from all body sites including rapid on-site evaluation of needle aspirates, endoscopic/bronchoscopic ultrasound-guided fine needle aspirations, use of fluorescence in-situ hybridization, and advanced cancer diagnostics. May also direct quality assurance programs in cytopathology. Specialists have advanced knowledge, skills, and abilities; they serve as leaders, educators, and advisors within their specialty area.

[www.ascp.org/boc/isct](http://www.ascp.org/boc/isct)

### **International Specialist in Cytometry, SCYM(ASCP)<sup>®</sup>**

Knowledgeable in all aspects of flow cytometry. Performs and/or oversees flow cytometry assays in clinical, research or reference laboratories. Able to lead the development and implementation of new assays. Proficient in all aspects of flow cytometry including technical, quality, and regulatory issues. Specialists have advanced knowledge, skills, and abilities; they serve as leaders, educators, and advisors within their specialty area.

[www.ascp.org/boc/iscym](http://www.ascp.org/boc/iscym)

### **International Specialist in Hematology, SH(ASCP)<sup>®</sup>**

Performs analyses of blood and body fluids to identify hematologic and coagulation disorders aiding in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases. Specialists have advanced knowledge, skills, and abilities; they serve as leaders, educators, and advisors within their specialty area.

[www.ascp.org/boc/ish](http://www.ascp.org/boc/ish)

### **International Specialist in Microbiology, SM(ASCP)<sup>®</sup>**

Identifies bacteria and microorganisms in tissue samples and body fluids to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases. Specialists have advanced knowledge, skills, and abilities; they serve as leaders, educators, and advisors within their specialty area.

[www.ascp.org/boc/ism](http://www.ascp.org/boc/ism)

### **International Specialist in Molecular Biology, SMB(ASCP)<sup>®</sup>**

Uses molecular diagnostic methods to detect and characterize acquired and inherited diseases, including malignant, metabolic, and infectious diseases. Possesses specialized skills in molecular methodologies and operates at an advanced level, providing support in high complexity testing, test development, and troubleshooting. Has advanced knowledge of molecular testing methods, clinical applications, and regulatory standards. Able to assume supervisory responsibilities; specialists serve as leaders, educators, and advisors within their specialty area.

[www.ascp.org/boc/ismb](http://www.ascp.org/boc/ismb)

## OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

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### Eligibility for Examination

Eligibility to take a certification examination is established by:

- Meeting all the requirements for category and route (go to [Get Credentialed](#))
- Submission of the online application
- Payment of the application fee
- Submission of all required documentation

Before your examination eligibility can be determined, you must submit documentation verifying that you meet the current ASCP Board of Certification requirements.

### Verification of Academic Education

Applicants who have completed education outside of the United States or Canada\* must have their academic degree evaluated by an acceptable evaluation agency for foreign transcripts. The foreign transcript evaluation may be sent via email to [ascpinternational@ascp.org](mailto:ascpinternational@ascp.org).

The foreign transcript evaluation must:

- be completed by an acceptable transcript evaluation agency.
- show a U.S. educational equivalency statement.
- contain a course by course breakdown.

**Important note:** A foreign degree must be equivalent to a U.S. degree.

For complete information, go to [www.ascp.org/boc/intl-documentation](http://www.ascp.org/boc/intl-documentation) and choose “Verify Academic Education.”

The ASCP BOC reserves the right to request a foreign transcript evaluation from any applicant with education outside of the U.S.

*\*Applicants with education or training in Canada, go to [www.ascp.org/boc/documentation](http://www.ascp.org/boc/documentation) and choose “Canadian Education and Clinical Training Programs” under “Gather Documentation - U.S. Certifications.”*

### Verify Education from an Approved Program

Applicants that have completed education from an approved program must review country specific information on verification of academic education to determine necessary documentation needed to establish their eligibility.

For complete information, go to [www.ascp.org/boc/intl-documentation](http://www.ascp.org/boc/intl-documentation) and choose “Documentation from an Approved Program.”

### Verification of Experience

#### Experience Documentation Forms

If required for the route under which you are applying, experience must be completed and documented before you will be determined eligible for examination.

Download and print the appropriate experience documentation form corresponding to your category and route of application (go to [International Certifications](#)).

For complete information, go to [www.ascp.org/boc/intl-documentation](http://www.ascp.org/boc/intl-documentation) and choose “Verify Laboratory or Teaching Experience.”

### Verification of Training

#### Training Documentation Forms

If required for the route under which you are applying, training must be completed and documented before you will be determined eligible for examination.

Download and print the appropriate experience documentation form corresponding to your category and route of application (go to [International Certifications](#)).

For complete information, go to [www.ascp.org/boc/intl-documentation](http://www.ascp.org/boc/intl-documentation) and choose “Verify Training.”





## APPLICATION PROCESSING

### Completion of Online Application

#### Determine Category and Route

For complete information, see [Determine Category and Exam Route](#).

#### Submit Online Application, Documentation

For complete information, see [Application Process and Gather and Submit Documentation](#).

#### Change of Email, Mailing Address, and/or Name Change

Keeping your contact information current with the ASCP BOC is imperative. For complete information, see [Update Email or Mailing Address](#) or [Name Change Request](#).

#### Submitting an Application

For complete information, see [Submit Application](#).

#### Requesting Testing Modifications

Requested modifications to the examination environment due to a documented disability must be reviewed and approved before an application is submitted. For complete information, go to [www.ascp.org/boc/intl-documentation](http://www.ascp.org/boc/intl-documentation) and choose “Documentation for Applicants with a Disability.”

#### Study Materials

Study materials and recommended reading lists are available to prepare for examination. Visit the ASCP BOC website at [www.ascp.org/examprep](http://www.ascp.org/examprep) for details.

## CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

### Scheduling Your Examination

All scheduling, cancelling, and re-scheduling of examination appointments is between the examinee and [Pearson VUE](#). For complete information, see [Schedule or Reschedule a Test Date](#).

| TEST DAY         | LAST CANCEL / CHANGE DAY<br>At least 24 hours before appointment |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Friday of the preceding week                                     |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Monday of the same week  |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Tuesday of the same week   |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | Wednesday of the same week                                       |
| <b>Friday</b>    | Thursday of the same week  |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | Friday of the same week  |

### Examination Administration

The ASCP Board of Certification uses computer adaptive testing (CAT) for most certification examinations. For complete information, see [www.ascp.org/boc/the-exam](http://www.ascp.org/boc/the-exam).

#### The Testing Center

A valid (not expired) ID with your photograph and signature must be presented in order to test. For complete information about what to expect at the Pearson VUE Testing Center and details regarding acceptable forms of identification, see [www.ascp.org/boc/test-center](http://www.ascp.org/boc/test-center).

#### The Examination

For complete information about exam administration and duration, as well as taking the exam, see [www.ascp.org/boc/the-exam](http://www.ascp.org/boc/the-exam).

### After the Examination

Complete information about accessing your passing score report, receiving your wall certificate, verifying your credential, and how to protect your credential from fraudulent use can be found [here](#). Make sure you can view your passing score report before ordering verification of your credential.

If you did not successfully pass the examination, information about accessing your score report and reapplying for an examination can be found [here](#).

#### Examination Results

For complete information about receiving examination results, see [www.ascp.org/boc/the-exam](http://www.ascp.org/boc/the-exam).

Our mission is to provide  
**excellence in certification**  
of laboratory professionals on  
behalf of patients worldwide.

Our vision is to be  
the **gold standard in**  
**global certification** for all  
laboratory professionals.



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