



ASCP BOARD OF
CERTIFICATION

Newsletter

June 2024

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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.



CHAIR'S MESSAGE:

What ASCP BOC Certification Means to Me

**Vicki Freeman, PhD, MASCP,
MLS(ASCP)^{CM},SC^{CM},FADLM**

As a medical laboratory professional, I have always felt that obtaining the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) Board of Certification (BOC) credential has held immense importance throughout my career. When I graduated from my Medical Technology (now Medical Laboratory Sciences) program, I believe that passing the ASCP BOC validated my skills and knowledge and also opened doors to numerous opportunities for professional growth and advancement.

To begin with, ASCP BOC certification served as a benchmark of my excellence in medical laboratory science. It demonstrated that I met the

rigorous standards set by individuals who were experts in the field. This certification was (and still is) recognized and respected by employers, colleagues, and patients, enhancing my credibility and reputation within the industry.

One of the key benefits of ASCP BOC certification was the increased job prospects it offered. As a military wife who moved to many different locations, with my MLS(ASCP) credential, I was able to find a job with very few problems. For instance, when I moved to Hawaii, the state licensing body recognized my ASCP BOC credentials for the state license. In addition, many employers prioritized individuals such as myself who held this certification when hiring for medical laboratory positions. It showed my commitment to maintaining and advancing my knowledge and skills in this ever-evolving field. With the ASCP BOC certification, I stood out among other applicants and had a competitive edge in the job market.

Another significant aspect of the ASCP BOC certification is the sense of pride and accomplishment it brought me. The rigorous examination process and the extensive knowledge required to pass the certification exam made achieving this credential a significant milestone in my career. It represented the dedication, hard work, and expertise I acquired throughout my education and professional experience.

My MLS(ASCP) and Specialist in Chemistry – SC(ASCP) - credentials are symbols of my commitment to excellence and my passion for providing accurate and reliable laboratory results. The certification is not a one-time achievement; it requires ongoing maintenance through continuing education and recertification. This commitment to lifelong learning ensures that I stay up-to-date

with the latest advancements and best practices in medical laboratory science. It allows me to continually improve my skills and stay at the forefront of my profession, which is crucial in providing high-quality patient care. Furthermore, the ASCP BOC ensures that I adhere to the highest standards of professionalism and ethics in my practice. The certifications require me to uphold a strict code of conduct, emphasizing confidentiality, integrity, and patient safety. This commitment to ethical practice not only benefits patients but also contributes to the overall integrity of the medical laboratory profession.

Moreover, my involvement with the ASCP BOC provided me with many opportunities for professional growth and advancement. I have served on many committees with the BOC. One of these committees was working with the Joint Generalist Examination Committee where I helped to set the standards and examination questions for new graduates to take the exam. Additionally, serving on the Research and Development Committee allowed me to hone my research skills while examining more closely the factors

involved in the education of laboratory professionals. Being involved with the R&D Committee helped me to advance in my university career from instructor to full professor (and now Professor Emeritus). Now, as Chair of the BOC Board of Governors, I work with incredibly talented individuals in all areas of the laboratory to ensure that the ASCP BOC maintains the high quality that is expected as the premier credentialing agency for laboratory professionals.

In conclusion, the ASCP BOC credential holds great significance for medical laboratory professionals like myself. It not only validates our skills and knowledge, but also opens doors to numerous opportunities for professional growth and advancement. The credentialing process enhances our credibility, increases job prospects, and serves as a symbol of our commitment to excellence and ethical practice. As a medical laboratory professional, I strongly believe that obtaining the ASCP BOC certification is a vital step toward a successful and fulfilling career in the field of medical laboratory science.



CREDENTIALING DATA INSIGHTS

Amy Spiczka, MS, HTL(ASCP)^{CM}SCT,MB^{CM},CPHQ

The value of BOC credentialing cannot be overstated in our quest for superior patient safety and to advocate for enhanced laboratory professionals' career development. Beyond the extensive examination portfolio we offer - ranging from phlebotomists being recognized as effective laboratory "ambassadors" as they perform patient venipunctures bedside or at draw stations, all the way through high-complexity laboratory directors credentialed by the BOC, the BOC has likewise been a reliable partner for publishing certification and qualification examination statistics for years.

In the past year and a half, the BOC has transitioned to data visualizations for enhanced insights and analytics. The BOC team and Board of Governors are focused on providing even more viable and relevant data for data-driven decision making moving forward. These dashboards range from enhanced examination statistics already being deployed in our examination committee and qualification workgroups, as well as future solutions illuminating the value of stacked (or multi-) credentialed laboratory professionals.

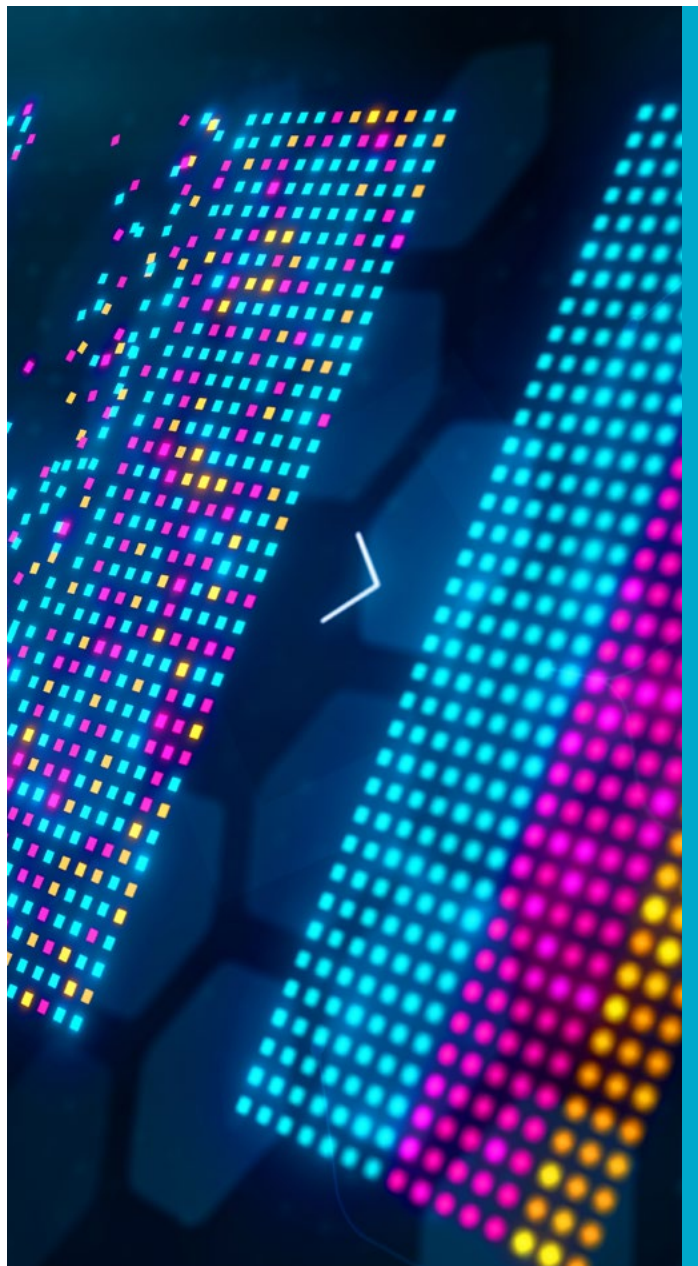
Please stay tuned for visual insights from esteemed experts as the BOC aims to provide a thorough perspective on how BOC credentials contribute to optimizing laboratory performance and harmonize the workforce.

The following active links provide calendar year 2023 credentialing data insights (inclusive of pass rates, volume of examinations, and range of scores):

[ASCP BOC Certification Statistics](#)

[ASCPⁱ Certification Statistics](#)

[Qualification Statistics](#)





Passing the ASCP BOC Qualification in Biorepository Science (QBRs) exam has allowed me to learn more about biorepository processes and best practices and has given me tools to reflect and improve on my own work practice. Having a specific qualification for biorepository science has also allowed me to gain professional recognition as a biobanking technician.



Paola Foulkes, QBRs^{CM}

PAOLA FOULKES, QBRs^{CM}: Qualification in Biorepository Science (QBRs)

1. Introduce yourself and what do you do as a biobanking laboratory technician.

My name is Paola Foulkes, QBRs^{CM}, and I work as a laboratory technician for the Wales Cancer Biobank. I manage the collection, processing, storage and issuing of blood and tissue samples for our cancer research applications, as well as the clinical trials we host.

2. How many years have you practiced in the field of biobanking?

3 years

3. How did you find out about the field of biobanking, and why did you choose to work in this field?

The first time I came across the concept of biobanking was learning about the Global Seed Vault in Svalbard at school. I thought the concept of preserving plants and seeds for future generations was clever, but I didn't realize that there were other types of biobanks as well. I really liked the way that my role intersects with patient diagnosis and cancer research, which is why I picked this field.

4. What is the most rewarding or important aspect of your work in the field of biobanking?

Working in this field gives you the opportunity to contribute to and safeguard the answers to research questions that we may not be able to answer now. This is especially true in the context of cancer research. Illness can take away your sense of control and choice; by providing samples, patients are offered the chance to be involved in securing better outcomes for future patients. The most important part of my work is making sure that I keep those samples at their best quality for research.

5. What do you find most interesting about your work?

My days are very varied, and two days rarely look the same. I get the opportunity to learn about patient diagnostics, as well as how our samples are used in research. Hearing the outcomes of the research projects we supply is probably the most interesting part of my work.

6. Describe the impact that passing the ASCP BOC Qualification in Biorepository Science (QBRs) exam has had on your career.

Passing the QBRs exam has allowed me to learn more about biorepository processes and best practices and has given me tools to reflect on and improve my own work practice. Having a specific qualification for biorepository science has also allowed me to gain professional recognition as a biobanking technician.

7. What advice would you give to those who are thinking about becoming credentialed?

I'd say go for it! It's a great opportunity for gaining professional recognition for your existing knowledge, and having a globally recognized biorepository qualification will also make you stand out to potential employers.

If you're curious about the field of biobanking and want to see a snapshot of what Paola does as a laboratory technician at the Wales Cancer Biobank, follow this link <https://bit.ly/3SiXDDm>. To learn more about the ASCP BOC QBRs exam and how, like Paola, you can get a globally recognized qualification as a biobanking laboratory technician, click here <https://bit.ly/47YHqOJ>.

CREDENTIALING VALUE: WHY THE ASCP BOC?

The ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) is patient-centric and elevates peer laboratory professionals through rigorous examinations, tailored to today's laboratory medicine and pathology practice models. Our mission is to provide excellence in certification of laboratory professionals on behalf of patients worldwide. Since the BOC's inception in 1928, more than 625,000 credentials have been attained by laboratory professionals from around the globe. There are twenty-seven ASCP BOC certification or qualification examinations currently available that span the spectrum of all medical laboratory specialties.

Within a professional framework, the ASCP BOC's portfolio provides the opportunity to acquire additional or advanced specialty credentials that are proven to provide career advancement. In this same vein, ASCP BOC credentials serve employers who are seeking validated evidence of knowledge and competency to effectively model and implement career ladders which affirms recruitment and retention in today's ever-changing healthcare workforce environment.

The ASCP BOC assures high-quality outcomes through meticulous and comprehensive processes when building and maintaining exams. The exams are led by vetted practice analyses which reflect current expertise and emerging concepts that contribute to enhanced patient outcomes. Recognized volunteer experts and practice leaders contribute to examination content. Credential-related processes are overseen by dedicated, skilled BOC team members who are likewise experts in psychometrics, laboratory sciences, operations, education, examination development and assessment, association management, as well as data governance. Examination questions are reviewed annually for relevancy and accuracy, with new content incorporated to allow for industry and technological advancements. We ensure that our exams and exam questions are psychometrically fair, valid, and reliable. The ASCP BOC safeguards our intellectual property through routine stringent assessments.

A distinctive feature of ASCP BOC exams is the use of Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT), which tailors question difficulty to each individual examinee for an accurate measurement of candidate ability and determination of

competency. ASCP BOC certifications are accredited by ANAB (ANSI National Accreditation Board) based on ISO17024 standards, further validating the credibility and quality of our certifications.

In addition, as an unincorporated subsidiary of ASCP with independent governance, ASCP BOC is not a membership organization. A core tenet of the ASCP BOC is its robust federated governance structure that incorporates meaningful insights from the majority of laboratory and pathology specialties. The ASCP BOC committee architecture prioritizes diversity of thought, emphasizes research and development, and scrutinizes prospective examinations for congruence with evolving professional practices, all through an expansive network of 35 committees, work groups, and task forces. The ASCP BOC also widely publishes and promotes our value through peer-reviewed publications and unique engagement strategies, while also being recognized through local, state, and federal workforce advocacy channels.

We can confidently say that ASCP BOC and our credentials are employer preferred, offering the highest level of credibility and recognition for laboratory professionals and patients in the industry. Please contact us if you have any questions or we can be of further assistance.



UPDATE FROM THE MARCH 2024 ASCP BOC BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

The ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) Board of Governors met March 15-16, 2024, in Fort McDowell, AZ. Several motions were passed that impact eligibility requirements, as summarized below.

Upcoming Fee Increases

Notification of CMP fee increases has been available on the ASCP BOC website since early 2024, and all eligibility updates were made by late March. www.ascp.org/certification

Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) Fees – as of July 1, 2024:

- CMP fees for all ASCP and ASCPⁱ credentials (certifications and qualifications) will increase by \$5.
- CMP fees for additional credentials (certifications and qualifications) will increase by \$5.
- CMP reinstatement fees for all ASCP and ASCPⁱ credentials (certifications and qualifications) will increase by \$10.
- Scholarship pricing for resource limited countries will remain unchanged.

Updates to Eligibility Requirements

HT(ASCP) and HTL(ASCP)

- Non-NAACLS accredited structured programs
Route 2 for both categories was updated to allow graduates of non-NAACLS accredited two-part structured histology programs to be made eligible under this route, with acceptable didactic and clinical experience documented. For complete information, see www.ascp.org/boc/ht or www.ascp.org/boc/htl

Revised Examination Topic Outline

The Examination Topic Outline for the Qualification in Biorepository Science (QBRS) exam administered beginning July 1, 2024, has been revised. The revised topic outline is currently available on the [Get Credentialed](#) page of the BOC website.

New Credential – Diplomate in Medical Laboratory Immunology, DMLI(ASCP)

The new PhD level Immunology exam is now available for application and testing; the exam was launched April 1, 2023. See www.ascp.org/boc/dmli for complete information. It is important to note that CMS has approved the DMLI exam as qualifying doctoral individuals for directing high complexity labs. See www.cms.gov/clia/certification-boards for further information.



NEWS IN CREDENTIAL MAINTENANCE

Optimized Timing for Early CMP Declaration Submissions

The ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) recommends that a credential holder submit their completed CMP declaration at least 30 days prior to their three-year cycle expiration date. This benefits BOC credential holders with time to resolve any potential deficiencies prior to CMP expiration, or to provide documentation in the event the submission is selected for audit.

Credential holders may continue to complete and allocate their CMP continuing education credits at any time within the three-year CMP cycle. However, the submission timeframe for a completed declaration has changed to assure credential holders are aligned with current CMP requirements for an effective outcome.

Effective May 1, 2024, the earliest a completed CMP declaration may be submitted to the ASCP Board of Certification for review is 90 days prior to the CMP expiration date. This assures the credential holder is completing the accurate and current CMP requirements.



2024: Increase in CMP Points for Qualifications

CMP requirements were increased to **add 2 new points** (medical ethics & laboratory safety) for qualification cycles expiring in **January 2024 moving forward, regardless of when you submit your completed online declaration form** for the following categories QBRS, QDP, QIA, QIHC, QLI categories. This **increases** the overall total CMP points required from **6 to 8**.

- **1 CMP point in medical ethics** (e.g., HIPAA, DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion), sexual harassment/microaggressions, compliance, confidentiality, IRB, etc.)
- **1 CMP point in laboratory safety** (i.e., quality control, quality assurance)
- CMP requirements were also increased to **add 1 new point** (medical ethics) for qualification cycles expiring in **January 2024 moving forward, regardless of when you submit your completed online declaration form** for the QLS category. This **increases** the overall total points for CMP required from 6 to 7.
- **1 CMP point in medical ethics** (e.g., HIPAA, DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion), sexual harassment/microaggressions, compliance, confidentiality, IRB, etc.)

2024: Increase in Dedicated CMP Points

CMP requirements **increased from 2 to 8 points in the area of certification** for the following categories: BB, C, CG, CT, H, HT, HTL, M, and MB. This is in effect for all certification categories noted above expiring in **January 2024 and moving forward, regardless of when you submit your completed online declaration form**. This does **not** increase the overall total CMP points required.



ASCPi

News

THE POWER OF CREDENTIALS IN MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE: Insights from University Health - San Antonio



Stephanie Whitehead, MBA, MPH, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

In a recent interview with the ASCP BOC, Stephanie Whitehead, MBA, MPH, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, highlighted the pivotal role that credentials play in the medical laboratory profession. As the Executive Director of Pathology Services at University Health - San Antonio and co-host of the eLABorate Topics podcast, Ms. Whitehead

possesses a deep understanding of the medical laboratory field and the professional development of its workforce.

University Health operates across a vast network that includes 14 departments with a cross-section of disciplines. This system is heavily invested in fostering a culture where professional credentials are not just encouraged but seen as a hallmark of excellence and dedication. Many of the laboratory professionals within the system hold ASCP BOC credentials.

ASCP BOC credentials are often emphasized as a critical component of University Health programs. For instance, one important initiative under Ms. Whitehead's leadership is the partnership with BioBridge Global to offer a Specialist in Blood Bank Technology/Transfusion Medicine (SBBT/TM) Program. This program is unique in that it not only provides rigorous training but also offers an employee incentive that covers the costs of tuition and other expenses related to the SBB(ASCP) exam, demonstrating the system's commitment to supporting their staff's professional growth and an understanding of the professional value that ASCP BOC credentials offer to institutions.

Furthermore, University Health actively promotes the importance of credentials through various channels. Their marketing efforts, including the impactful “Everyday Extraordinary” (Link: [Lab Team | Everyday Extraordinary | University Health](#)) underscore the direct correlation between specialized training and enhanced patient care. Similarly, their human resources policies support this ethos by embedding credential requirements into career progression paths, ensuring that their staff are well-equipped to handle the complex demands of their roles.

Ms. Whitehead also touched on the broader implications of credentialing in the laboratory profession. She is a staunch advocate for standardized professional nomenclature, supporting the ASCP’s “I Am MLS” campaign to unify titles within the field. This standardization is crucial for professional identity and recognition across the healthcare industry.

“The value of certification extends beyond individual recognition; it is integral to patient care and laboratory operations,” said Ms. Whitehead.

“At University Health, certified professionals like phlebotomists receive incentives for obtaining their

credentials, which not only enhances their skills but also contributes to the overall quality of care provided.”

Challenges such as the medical laboratory workforce shortage are persistent issues that Ms. Whitehead acknowledges need strategic intervention. Initiatives like the ASCP’s Career Ambassador program are part of the solution, aiming to inspire new generations about the vital work performed by laboratory professionals.

Ms. Whitehead concluded by indicating that advocacy for credentialing in medical laboratory science highlights a critical pathway for professional development and quality patient care.

According to Ms. Whitehead, “University Health exemplifies how integrating rigorous standards, continuous learning, and professional growth into the fabric of healthcare institutions can yield significant benefits for both healthcare providers and recipients. As the laboratory profession continues to evolve, the role of professional credentials [such as those offered by the ASCP BOC] will undoubtedly remain a cornerstone of its success.”



University Health System – San Antonio, TX

ASCP BOC-JAMT VISITOR PROGRAM RESUMES

On March 14, the ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) opened its doors to distinguished guests from Japan, marking a significant event in its collaborative efforts with international laboratory professionals. The visit, part of the ongoing partnership with the Japanese Association of Medical Technologists (JAMT) and Loyola University Medical Center, brought Shisei Go, C(ASCP)^{CM}, and Dr. Kenichiro Ohnuma, PhD, MLS(ASCP)ⁱ^{CM}, to the ASCP BOC headquarters in Chicago.

Bridging Cultures and Enhancing Skills

This event is a cornerstone of a unique visitor exchange program designed to foster cross-cultural professional development. It offers Japanese laboratory professionals, who are either ASCP certified or eligible, a chance to participate in a week-long laboratory internship in the United States. The program not only aims to enhance their practical skills but also facilitates an understanding of the BOC's credentialing processes and the broader scope of medical laboratory practices in the U.S.

During their visit, Ms. Go and Dr. Ohnuma were introduced to various aspects of the medical laboratory profession

in the U.S., which includes the ASCP BOC's ASCP and ASCPⁱ credentialing processes and the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA '88) regulations. Their experience was enriched with a special presentation tailored to explain these processes along with an interactive session on CT(ASCP)ⁱ credentialing opportunities.

Impact and Reflections

Reflecting on the visit, the significance of this program extends beyond simple knowledge exchange. It underscores the ASCP BOC's dedication to enhancing the qualifications and skills of international medical technologists. This initiative not only helps strengthen the relationship between the ASCP BOC and JAMT but also promotes global best practices in patient care and laboratory procedures.

The event was a testament to the importance of international collaboration in the medical laboratory field, and it highlights the ASCP BOC's role in shaping global standards. The feedback from the visitors was overwhelmingly positive, proving that such exchanges are invaluable for professional and organizational growth.



From left to right: Kenichiro Ohnuma, PhD, MLS(ASCP)ⁱ^{CM}; Joseph Baker, MS, BOC Director of Engagement & Experience; and Shisei Go, C(ASCP)^{CM}

LAUNCH OF THE ASCP BOC CARIBBEAN ADVISORY BOARD:

A Milestone for Medical Laboratory Professionals in the Region

The ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) is excited to announce the official launch of the ASCP BOC Caribbean Advisory Board. The inaugural meeting, held on March 23, 2024, in Nassau, Bahamas, marks a pivotal moment for medical laboratory professionals across the region.

The ASCP BOC Caribbean Advisory Board brings together a diverse group of experts from various Caribbean countries, including distinguished members from Jamaica, Bahamas, Bermuda, Barbados, Trinidad & Tobago, and Puerto Rico. The board is set to spearhead initiatives that enhance the visibility and significance of BOC credentials, which are crucial for elevating professional standards and improving patient care throughout the Caribbean.



ASCP BOC Caribbean Advisory Board Members & ASCP BOC Team Members in Nassau, Bahamas, for the official launch of the ASCP BOC Caribbean Advisory Board."

JOIN ASCP BOC'S SPANISH LANGUAGE FACEBOOK GROUP!

Are you a Spanish speaker or interested in joining a Spanish-speaking professional community? Join the ASCP BOC Junta de Certificación, our new Facebook group tailored for bilingual and Spanish-speaking individuals. This platform offers a vibrant space to connect, share, and grow professionally with peers who speak your language. Whether you're fluent in Spanish or just keen on enhancing your language skills in a professional setting, this group is perfect for you.

Follow us today at [ASCP BOC Junta de Certificación](#) and be part of a community that speaks your language!



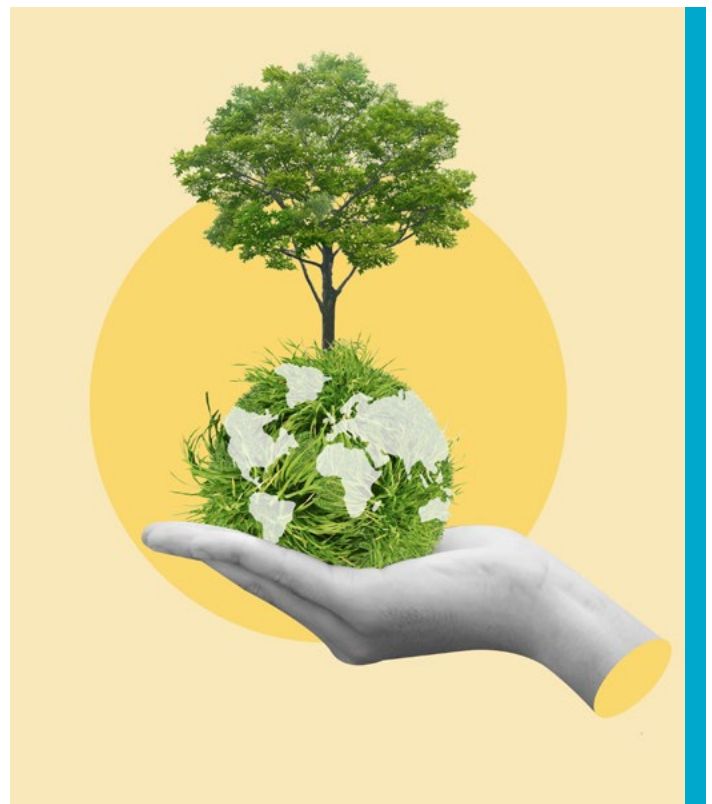
ASCPⁱ SUPPORTS SUSTAINABILITY IN THE LAB AT MEDLAB, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 2024

The ASCP Board of Certification (ASCP BOC) made significant strides in advancing global medical laboratory standards during its participation at Medlab 2024 in Dubai, UAE. Amy Spiczka, MS, HTL(ASCP)^{CM}SCT,MB^{CM},CPHQ, Executive Director of the ASCP BOC, and Jennifer Young, CT(ASCP)^{CM}, Director of International Partnerships, were among the representatives who took part in this prestigious event. The conference, now in its 23rd year has expanded to triple its previous size its 23rd year and expanded to triple its previous size, featuring over 900 exhibitors from more than 40 countries.

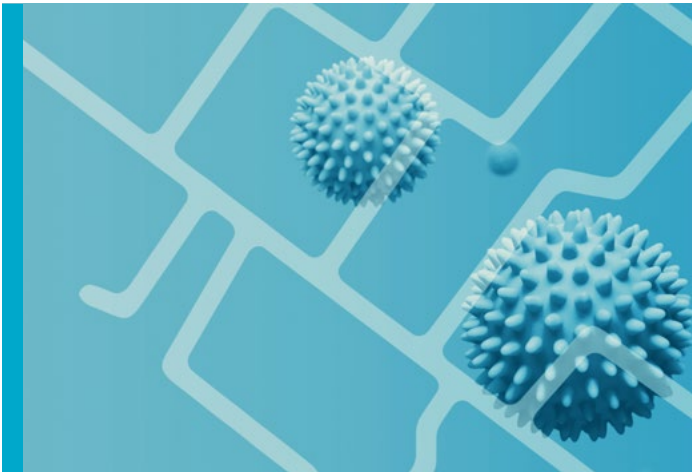
The ASCP BOC showcased its presence February 5 - 8, 2024, in the America's Pavilion, offering insights on ASCP BOC credentials and providing personalized consultations for prospective applicants. This engagement underscored the increasing significance of standardized and top-tier pathology and laboratory medicine practices on a global scale, across all laboratory levels.

Key discussions and collaborations marked the delegation's participation. Meetings with the ASCP BOC UAE Advisory Board, led by Rana Nabulsi PhD, FACHE, MSc, CPHQ, Global Executive MBA Consultant, Head of Quality Assurance Unit, Dubai Health, centered on updates regarding the medical laboratory profession and ongoing efforts to promote BOC credentials within the UAE. Ms. Spiczka delivered a student-focused presentation on the benefits of BOC credentials at Sharjah University, a prominent institution in Medical Laboratory Science in the UAE. Another highlight was Ms. Spiczka's involvement as a judge in the annual student competition, 'LabQ,' featuring representatives from four MLS programs. The University of Sharjah, recognized as the winning contestants, was awarded a copy of the MLS BOC Study Guide. Additionally, Ms. Spiczka presented "The Value of BOC Credentials for Workforce Sustainability" in one of the featured tracks at MedLab and participated in an expert panel discussion on workforce sustainability.

With over 100 ASCPⁱ credential holders in the UAE and significant immigration of ASCPⁱ credential holders to the region—56 international survey respondents migrated to the UAE in 2022—the ASCP BOC's presence at MedLab not only underscores its dedication to global healthcare standards, but also facilitates new avenues for collaboration and knowledge exchange. These efforts aim to elevate the standards and recognition of medical laboratory professionals in the UAE and throughout the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, ultimately contributing to enhanced patient care worldwide.



IMPACT OF COVID SURVEY



Last year, the ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) Research and Development Committee prepared the Impact of COVID survey to gather information on how

the COVID-19 pandemic impacted educational programs. The survey was designed for participation by all graduates and program directors from National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS), Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), and Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) accredited/approved programs.

Two papers were written based on the results from the survey. [One paper](#) focusing on the program directors' perspective was published in November 2023. The [other paper](#) focusing on the graduates' perspective was published in December 2023.

We hope the results of this survey will give the BOC insight into how COVID-19 has affected programs. As a graduate or program director in the laboratory profession, you are the future of the profession.. Thank you to those who participated in this important project and to everyone for all you do.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE DOCTORATE IN CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE (DCLS) EXAMINATION COMMITTEE!

In the fall, it was identified that there are a growing number of DCLS graduates to support a practice analysis. As such, the ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) Board of Governors passed a motion to create a DCLS Examination Committee. Those interested in volunteering for the DCLS Exam Committee can complete the application on the BOC Volunteer page.

All ASCP BOC Examination Committees and Work Groups consist of laboratory professionals representing broad geographic regions of the United States and

laboratory facilities of various types and sizes. They are responsible for the development, maintenance, and evaluation of exam items, as well as setting the standards for exams and performing job task analyses. A complete list of exam committee and work group vacancies can be found on the BOC Volunteer page.



IN MEMORIAM:

Longtime Educator and Author Kathleen Becan-McBride, EdD, MASCP, MLS(ASCP)



Kathleen Becan-McBride, EdD,
MASCP, MLS(ASCP)

It is with great sadness that the ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) shares news of the passing of Dr. Kathleen (Kathy) Becan-McBride, EdD, MASCP, MLS(ASCP) on March 19, 2024. Kathy was a pillar in the field of laboratory medicine and a loved and respected BOC volunteer. Kathy made a lifelong commitment to phlebotomy education and contributed to more than 20 medical textbooks, including the *Phlebotomy Handbook: Blood Specimen Collection from Basic to Advance*, D. Garza; K. Becan-McBride (2018).

Kathy began volunteering on the Board of Registry [Board of Certification] when appointed to the Research and Development Committee in 1984. She later served on the Phlebotomy Examination Committee (1994 – 1999) and the BOR Board of Governors (2001 – 2011) where she was elected Chair (2003 – 2006). Kathy was instrumental in laying the path for ASCP[®] (international) certification and was integral in the BOR merger with the National Credentialing Agency for Laboratory Personnel (NCA). Kathy was awarded the BOC's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award in 2012. Following years of service to the BOC, she went on to volunteer on numerous ASCP committees.

Kathy had a passion for education and will forever be remembered as a genuine and kind colleague, volunteer, and friend.

WHERE TO FIND THE BOC

The BOC will be exhibiting at
the following meetings:

ASCLS JAM

<https://ascls.org/annual-meeting/>

AAPA

[https://www.pathassist.org/page/
Conferences_Upcoming](https://www.pathassist.org/page/Conferences_Upcoming)

ASC

[https://cytopathology.org/
mpage/2024Meeting_Homepage](https://cytopathology.org/mpage/2024Meeting_Homepage)

ASCP Annual Meeting/BOC Global Café

<https://www.ascp.org/annualmeeting/2024>

NSH

<https://www.histoconvention.org/>

ADLM

<https://meeting.myadlm.org/>

STAFF SPOTLIGHT:

Edith Miller Retirement



On March 29, 2024, the Board of Certification Team said goodbye to Project Manager, Edith Miller who retired after

27 years of service to the ASCP. In late March, the BOC Team recognized Edith for her numerous contributions to both the ASCP and the ASCP BOC. Day in and day out Edith always had a positive attitude, friendly demeanor, and she was someone others could rely on.

Edith worked in various roles with the BOC, and one of her most significant contributions was reviewing numerous iterations of the BOC Study Guide over the years. Edith also assisted with exam publication, supporting and improving committee experiences, and updating and organizing internal documents.

Edith plans to travel in her newfound free time. The BOC Team wishes Edith all the best in her retirement.



BOC PROFESSIONAL PARTNERS MEETING DATES

JUNE 2024

[ASM Microbe](#)

June 13 – 17

Atlanta, GA

JULY

[2024 Joint Annual Meeting \(ASCLS/AGT\)](#)

July 7 – 11

Pittsburgh, PA

[ADLM Annual Scientific Meeting & Clinical Lab Expo](#)

July 28 – August 1

Chicago, IL

SEPTEMBER

[ASCP 2024 Annual Meeting](#)

September 4 – 6

Chicago, IL

[49th Annual Conference \(AAPA\)](#)

September 15 – 19

Fort Lauderdale, FL

[2024 NSH Convention](#)

September 20 – 24

New Orleans, LA

OCTOBER

[2024 AABB Annual Meeting](#)

October 19 – 24

Houston, TX

NOVEMBER

[ASC's 72nd Annual Scientific Meeting](#)

November 7 – 10

Orlando, FL

DECEMBER

[66th ASH Annual Meeting & Exposition](#)

December 7 – 10

San Diego, CA

FEBRUARY 2025

[2025 Clinical Laboratory Educators Conference](#)

March 6 – 8, 2025

Atlanta, GA

MARCH 2025

[2025 ASFA Annual Meeting](#)

April 9 – 11, 2025

Quebec, Canada

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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