

GUIDE TO THE CITATION OF ASCP BOARD OF CERTIFICATION CREDENTIALS

CERTIFICATION WITH NO EXPIRATION

There is no time-limit on ASCP certification awarded to individuals who are certified prior to mandatory credential maintenance (1/01/2004 for US (ASCP) certification and 1/1/2012 for International (ASCPⁱ) certification). Certification for these individuals does not expire.

ASCP certification credentials are listed with the designation “(ASCP)” after the category initials for US certification and “(ASCPⁱ)” after the category initials for International certification as follows:

Medical Laboratory Scientist, MLS(ASCP)

International Medical Laboratory Scientist, MLS(ASCPⁱ)

TIME LIMITED CERTIFICATION

Individuals awarded US or International certification based on the chart below, receive a time-limited certification valid for a three year period. These individuals are required to participate in the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) to maintain a valid ASCP certification or their certification will expire. Once a certification has expired, these individuals are no longer permitted to use the ASCP credential after their name.

Individuals required to complete the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) to maintain their certification are required to use the initials “CM” in superscript following (ASCP) and (ASCPⁱ).

Example: Mary Jones, MLS(ASCP)^{CM} or Mary Jones MLS(ASCPⁱ)^{CM}

The goal of the CMP is to demonstrate that laboratory professionals with this designation are completing continuing education requirements for recertification and performing activities to stay current in their practice.

US (ASCP) CERTIFICATION CATEGORY	CMP REQUIRED BEGINNING YEAR INDICATED
MLS, MLT, AT, BB, C, CG, CT, H, HT, HTL, I, M, MLA, MB, PBT, DPT	2004
PA	All ASCP Certified
DLM, HP, SBB, SC, SCT, SCYM, SH, SI, SLS, SM, SMB, SV	2006

INTERNATIONAL (ASCP ⁱ) CERTIFICATION CATEGORY	CMP REQUIRED BEGINNING YEAR INDICATED
MLS, CLM, MLT, BB, C, CG, CT, CTgyn, H, HT, HTL, M, MB, PBT, SBB, SC, SCT, SCYM, SH, SM, SMB	2012

NCA CERTIFICATION	CMP REQUIRED BEGINNING YEAR INDICATED
ALL CERTIFICATIONS	All certificants who are not also ASCP certified prior to 2004 in the same category

CERTIFICATION CREDENTIALS BASED ON NUMBER/TYPES OF CERTIFICATION

A. ONE CERTIFICATION CATEGORY

1. Certification is listed before the (ASCP) or (ASCPⁱ) with no comma or space, followed by superscript “CM” **if applicable.**

Example: Susan Smith, MLS(ASCP)^{CM} or Maria Sanchez, MLS(ASCPⁱ)^{CM}

B. TWO CERTIFICATION CATEGORIES

1. The second certification category is listed immediately after (ASCP) or (ASCPⁱ) with no comma or space, followed by superscript “CM” or “iCM” **if applicable.**

Example: Susan Smith, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}BB or Maria Sanchez, MLS(ASCPⁱ)^{CM}MB^{iCM}

2. If one of the categories is MT or MLS, it should always be listed before the (ASCP) or (ASCPⁱ) as above regardless of chronology.

3. If multiple certifications exist in the same discipline, the lower level certification should be omitted

Example: Susan Smith, BB(ASCP)SBB becomes Susan Smith, SBB(ASCP)

4. Two categories in separate disciplines, where neither is MT or MLS, are listed in chronological order based on the date received.

Example: Susan Smith, HTL(ASCP)SCT

C. THREE OR MORE CERTIFICATION CATEGORIES

1. Additional categories, listed after the second category, are separated by commas but no spaces

Example: Susan Smith, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}BB,H or Maria Sanchez, MLS(ASCPⁱ)^{CM}MB^{iCM},CTgyn^{iCM}

D. CERTIFICATION CATEGORY AND ADVANCED DEGREE

1. The advanced degree always precedes the certification(s)

Example: Susan Smith, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}MB or Maria Sanchez, PhD, MLS(ASCPⁱ)^{CM}MB

E. US AND INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION

1. If one of the certifications is a US (ASCP) certification and the other is an International (ASCPⁱ) certification, the US certification should always be listed **first** regardless of category or chronology

Example: Susan Smith, MB(ASCP), MLS(ASCPⁱ)^{CM}

F. MORE THAN ONE CERTIFICATION WITH CMP

1. If more than one certification is in a valid Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) cycle, each certification is followed by the superscript “CM” or “iCM”

Example: Susan Smith, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}MB^{iCM}

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION IN CERTIFICATION MAINTENANCE

Individuals certified prior to mandatory credential maintenance may participate in the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) on a voluntary basis by successfully completing the CMP continuing education requirements for their category. They would then use the initials “CM” in superscript after their certification for the three year period during which the certification maintenance remains valid.

Example: Mary Jones, MLS(ASCP)^{CM} or MLS(ASCPⁱ)^{CM}]

If the individual chooses not to complete CMP in the future, the “CM” is removed and the credential initials revert back to MLS(ASCP) or MLS(ASCPⁱ) with no expiration date.

TIME LIMITED QUALIFICATIONS

Individuals awarded ASCP qualification receive a time-limited qualification valid for a three year period. These individuals are required to participate in the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) to maintain a valid ASCP qualification or their qualification will expire. Once a qualification has expired, these individuals are no longer permitted to use this ASCP credential after their name.

Individuals awarded qualifications are required to use the initials “CM” in superscript following the qualification credential.

Example: Susan Smith, QIHC^{CM}

The goal of requalification is to demonstrate that laboratory professionals with this credential are completing continuing education requirements for requalification and performing activities to stay current in their practice.

QUALIFICATION CATEGORY	CMP REQUIRED
QDP, QBRS, QIA, QIHC, QLI, QLS	All ASCP Qualifications

A. ONE QUALIFICATION CATEGORY

The qualification category is listed after the name followed by superscript “CM”.

Example: Susan Smith, QIHC^{CM}

B. MORE THAN ONE QUALIFICATION CATEGORY

A second qualification is listed after the first qualification separated by a comma and a space.

Example: Susan Smith, QIHC^{CM}, QLC^{CM}

C. CERTIFICATION AND QUALIFICATION

If the individual has both a certification and a qualification, the certification is listed first as described under “Certification Credentials”, followed by (ASCP) or (ASCPⁱ) and the qualification follows with no comma or space.

Example: Susan Smith, HT(ASCP)QIHC^{CM} or Susan Smith, MLS(ASCPⁱ)QIHC^{CM}