

Don't be Mystified..

Be Certified!

Opportunities on a Global Scale

Panel:

Kathleen Becan-McBride, Ed.D., MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Nathan Johnson, Lt Col, USAF, BSC

Sue Kozlowski, MSA, MT(ASCP)SBB, DLM, CSSBB(ASQ)

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Objectives

At the end of the presentation, participants will be able to:

- describe the BOC application process
- compare the eligibility routes for BOC certifications, including BOC international certifications.
- find resource material to support applicants taking any of the certification exams

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Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Kathleen Becan-McBride, ASCP BOC Immediate Past Chair and Chief International Liaison
 - Technician Certifications, and International Certifications
- Sue Kozlowski, Senior Consultant / Healthcare
 - Anatomic Pathology, and Categorical Certifications
- Nathan Johnson, USAF, Commander, 6th Medical Support Squadron
 - Specialty Certifications, and DLM
- Q&A

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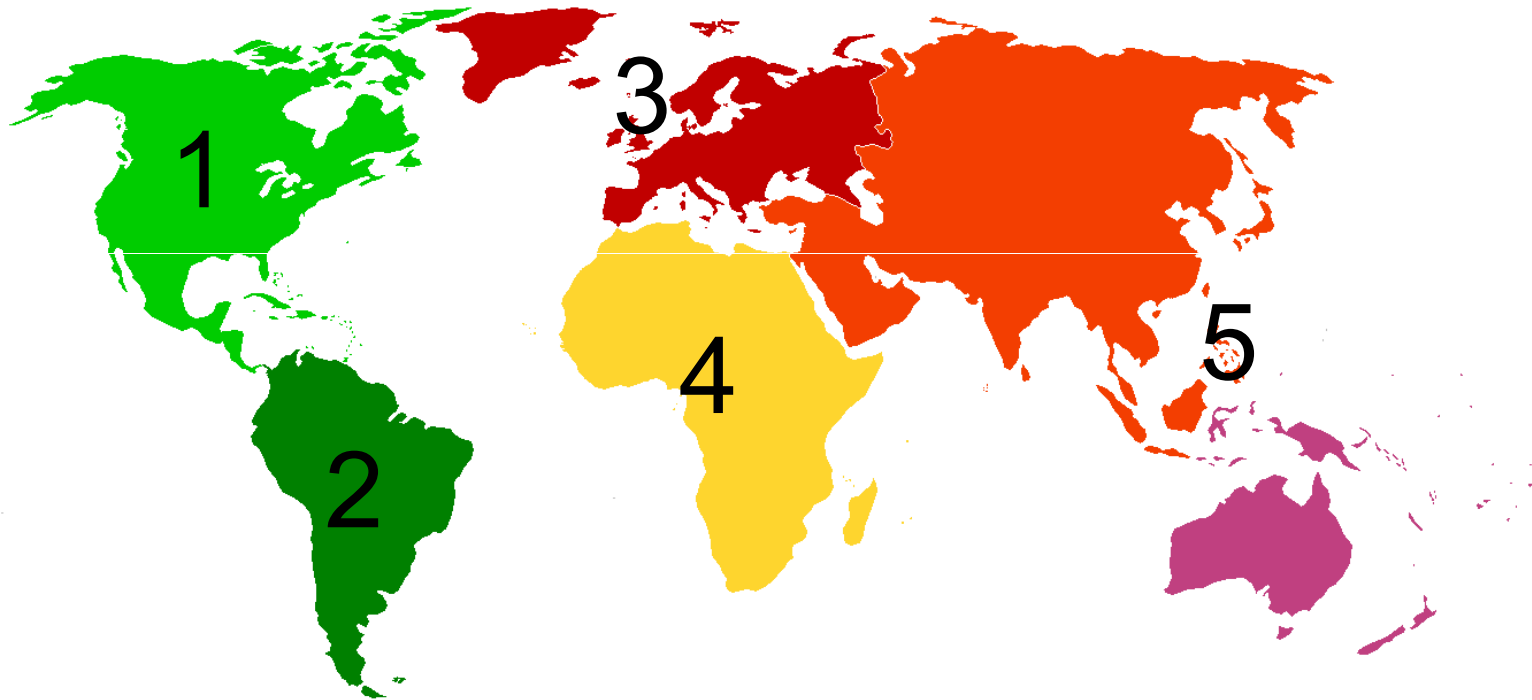
Polling Question - Practice

- Where do you work?
 1. Hospital-based Lab
 2. Commercial Lab
 3. Equipment, Reagent, or Services Vendor
 4. Physician Office Lab
 5. University Program or Research Lab

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Polling Question - Practice

- Where do you work?



Polling Question

- Are you certified?
 1. One certification
 2. More than one certification
 3. Not yet – planning to become certified!
 4. Not applicable – I am in another field
 5. Not applicable – I am a physician or other licensed caregiver



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US Certifications

- ✘ Generalist Certifications: MLS, MLT
- ✘ Categorical Certifications: CT, CG, HT, HTL, PBT, BB, C, H, M, MB and DPT
- ✘ Specialist Certifications: PA, SBB, SC, SCT, SH, SLS, SM
- ✘ Diplomate Certification: DLM

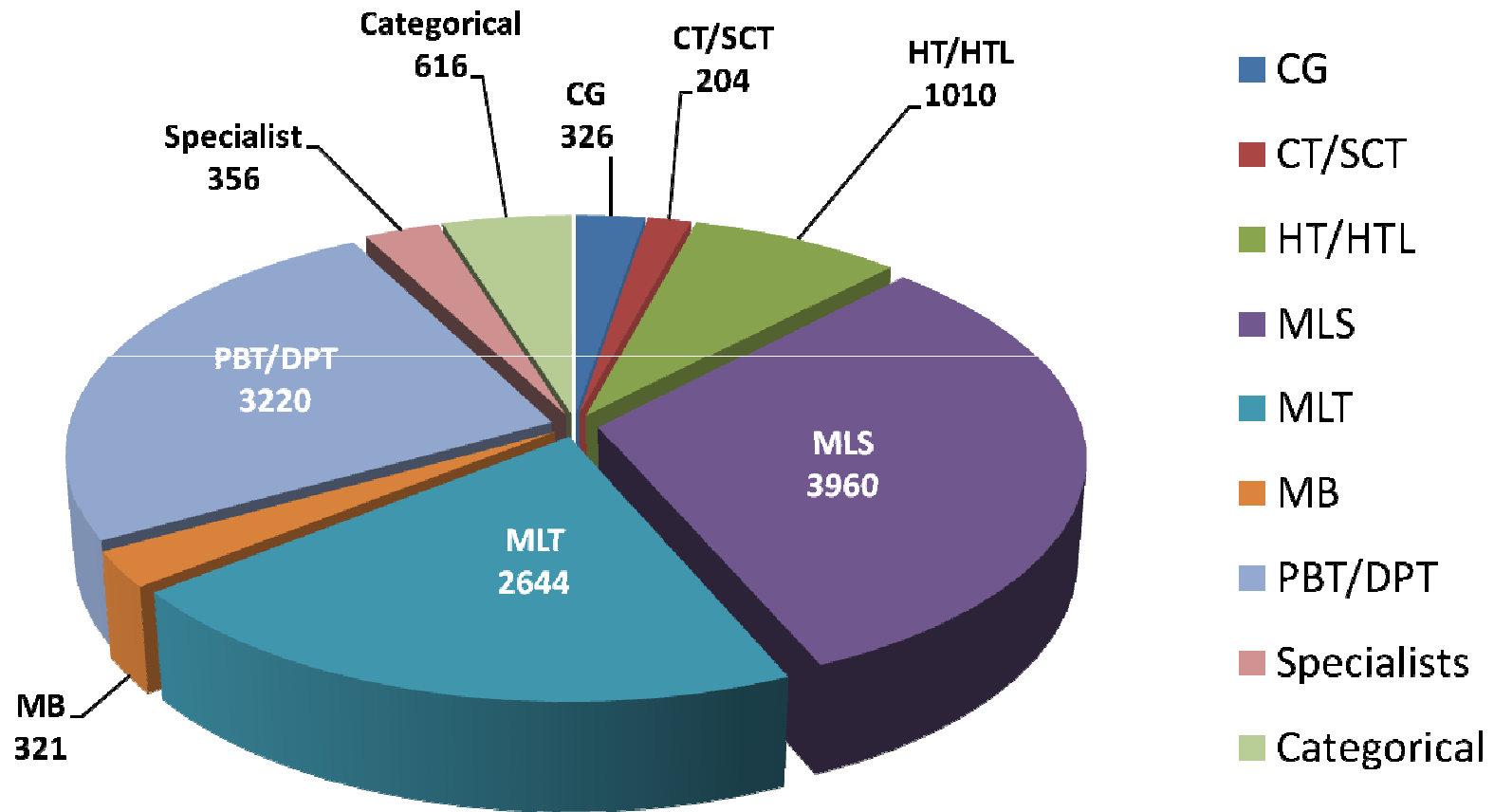
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BOC Customers: Examinees

- ✘ Students in accredited programs
- ✘ Experienced laboratory practitioners
 - Candidates from non-traditional routes
 - Candidates for specialist or diplomate examinations

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BOC Examinees 2010



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The BOC Certification Process

- **Identify the examination you're applying for and determine your eligibility.**
 - For each certification category, you'll find a choice of routes that you can take to verify your eligibility for the examination, depending on the education and training you've completed
- **Gather your education and experience documentation.**
 - You'll need to provide documentation of your education and training and specified experience requirements that you've fulfilled in your area of specialization.
- **Apply for the examination.**
 - Complete and submit the application form with the application fee, along with all the documentation you gathered.

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The BOC Certification Process

- **Schedule your examination.**
 - Once your application and eligibility documentation has been approved by the BOC, you'll receive a letter that admits you to the examination within a three-month period. Then, it's time to schedule your examination at a **Pearson Professional Center**.
- **Study for Exam.**
 - Various resources are available: online practice tests, *Board of Certification Study Guide for the Clinical Laboratory Certification Examinations, 5th Edition*, reading lists.
- **Prepare for your examination day.**
 - Review Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT) method that is used by the BOC.

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The BOC Certification Process

- **Watch for your results.**
 - You'll receive your examination scores within ten business days of your examination date.
- **Watch for your certificate.**
 - You'll receive your certificate approximately four to six weeks after your examination date. This certificate is valid for three years.

Polling Question

- If certified at any, how has this helped you?
 1. Required for my first lab job
 2. Was hired uncertified, and needed certification to keep the job
 3. Needed a certification to get a promotion
 4. Did not need it, but got certified to improve promotion opportunities
 5. Did not need it, just did it for self-development

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Polling Question

- What's your highest certification level?
 1. Technician: MLT, PBT, DPT, HT
 2. General / Technologist: MLS, CT, HTL
 3. Categorical: BB, C, H, M, CG, MB
 4. Specialist: SBB, SC, SH, SM, SLS, SCT, PA
 5. Diplomate: DLM

Generalist Certifications

Technician-Level Certifications

MLS, MLT

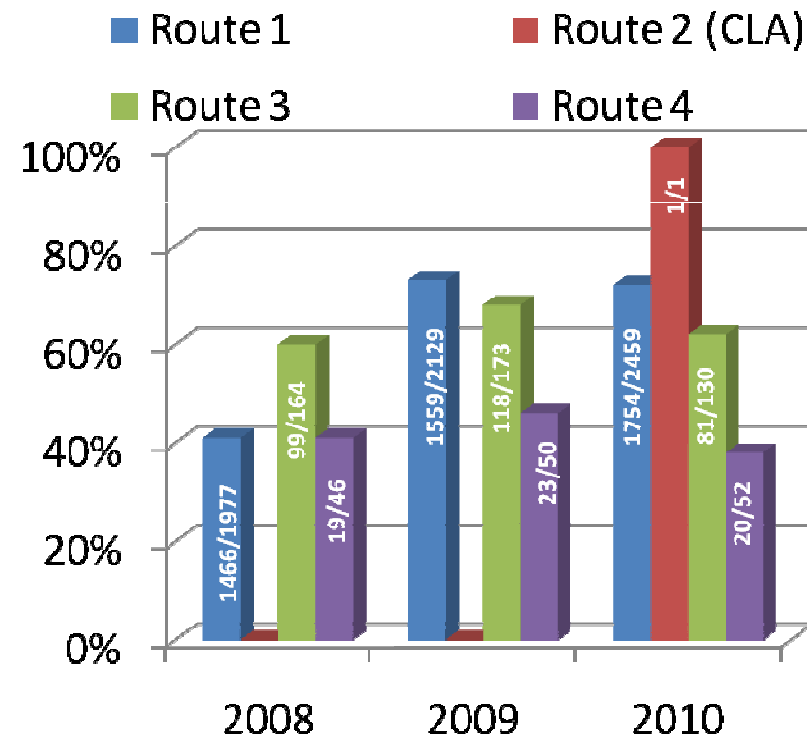
PBT, HT, DPT

Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) Exam Statistics

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Pass Rate by Route

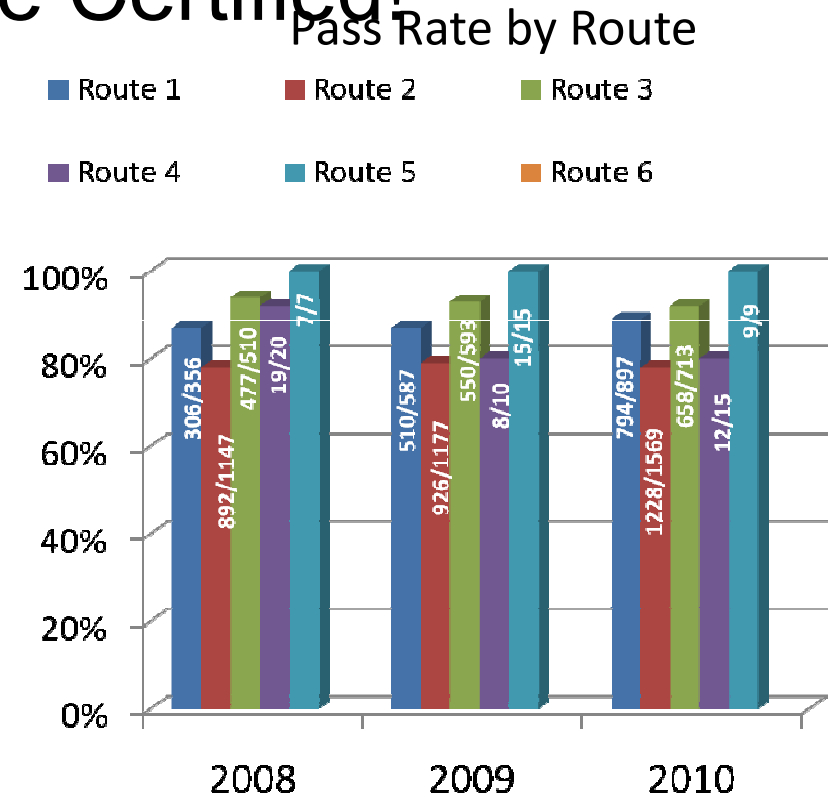
	2009	2010
Total Examinees	2352	3960
Mean	479	477
Pass	1700 72%	3016 76%
NAACLS 1 st Time Pass	1434 77%	2577 84%



Phlebotomy Technician (PBT) Exam Statistics

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	2009	2010
Total Examinees	2382	3203
Mean	516	516
Pass	2009 84%	2701 84%
NAACLS 1 st Time Pass	1210 82%	1602 82%

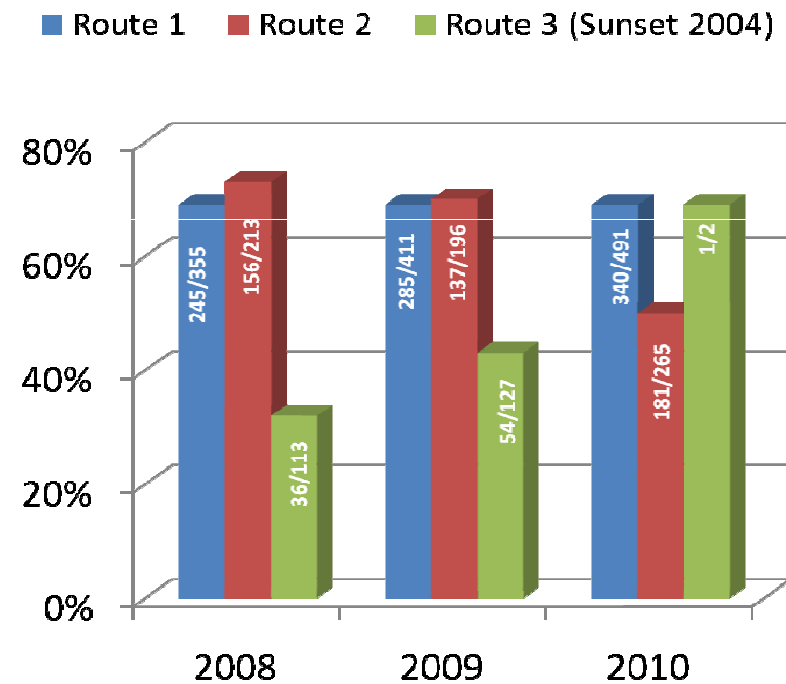


Histotechnician (HT) Exam Statistics

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Pass Rate by Route

	2009	2010
Total Examinees	734	758
Mean	425	462
Pass	476 65%	522 69%
NAACLS 1 st Time Pass	244 76%	294 77%



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Questions?

- From live audience
- From virtual audience

Int



ASCP
BOARD OF
CERTIFICATION



ion

ASCPi : MT, MLT, MB, PBT, CTgyn

Polling Question

- Do you have an international certification?
 1. Yes, MTⁱ, MLTⁱ, MBⁱ, PBTⁱ, or Ctgynⁱ
 2. No, not yet, but interested in obtaining
 3. Interested in other international certifications when they are available
 4. No, I'm eligible but not interested
 5. No, not applicable

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International Certification

- Over 3,752 applications from 67 countries as of July 20, 2011.
- Over 2,000 ASCPⁱ certified as of August 2011.
- Collaborating Society agreement is under discussion with The Brazilian Society of Clinical Pathology / Laboratory Medicine (SBPC/ML) -anticipated final announcement in August 2011.
- ASCP BOC continues to build relationships in South America with presence planned at international meetings in Brazil, Peru, Ecuador and Colombia.

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International Certification

- Kingmed-a national reference laboratory in China-has committed to ASCPⁱ testing of 30+ employees and will reimburse examination fees of successful applicants.
- Eastern Europe development trip is scheduled to Krakow, Poland August 2011 to discuss future office space, collaborate with Pearson VUE, and meet with local laboratory officials.

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International Certification

- **Available to qualified applicants worldwide!**

Available in the Future :

CT(ASCPi)

C(ASCPi)

M(ASCPi)

and available in Spanish!

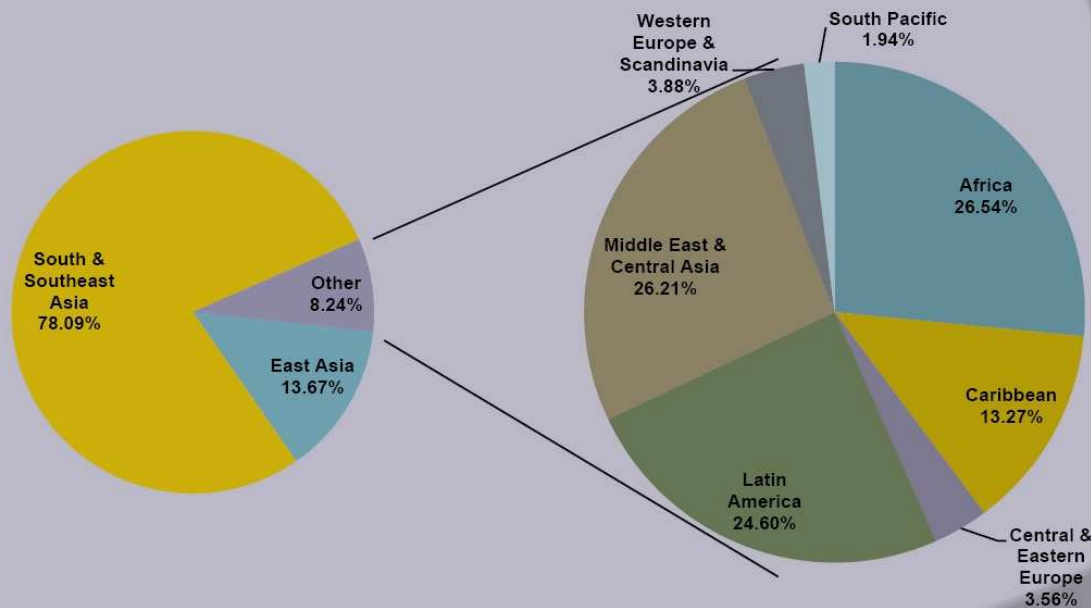
U.S. Regulatory "Bridge" exam

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International Certification

Applications by Region of Education



67 Countries

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International Certification

Jan 2006- end June 2011	First Year Certified	Total Examinations Administered	Pass
MT(ASCPi)	2006	3,151	1,740 (55%)
MT(ASCPi) Spanish	2010	12	6 (50%)
MLT(ASCPi)	2006	259	161 (62%)
MB(ASCPi)	2007	46	21 (46%)
PBT(ASCPi)	2007	32	32 (100%)
CTgyn(ASCPi)	2011	2	1 (50%)

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Questions?

- From live audience
- From virtual audience

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Polling Question

- If certified in Anatomic Pathology, what is the highest certification that you have?
 1. HT
 2. HTL
 3. CT
 4. SCT
 5. PA

Anatomic Pathology

Technologist: HTL, CT

Certifications

Exam	Total Taking	Mean	Pass	1 st Time Pass
HTL	252	427	62%	70%
CT	188	517	87%	91%

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Histotechnologist, HTL(ASCP)

- **Route 1:** Baccalaureate degree and program within the last 5 years; OR
- **Route 2:** Baccalaureate degree and one year full time experience within the last 10 years; to include Fixation, Microtomy, Processing, Staining

Cytotechnologist, CT(ASCP)

- × **Route 1:** Baccalaureate degree, AND successful completion of a CAAHEP accredited program within the last 5 years.

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Polling Question

- If you have a categorical certification, what is it?
 1. BB
 2. C
 3. H
 4. M
 5. CG or MB

Technologist BB C H M CG MD

Exam	Total Taking		Mean	Pass	1 st Time Pass
BB	BB	120	410	58%	
C	C	170	432	61%	
H	H	115	430	59%	
CG	CG	326	-	73%	
M	M	211	435	63%	
MB	MB	321	458	74%	79%

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Blood Banking – Chemistry – Hematology - Microbiology

- **Route 1:** MLS(ASCP) certification and a baccalaureate degree; OR
- **Route 2:** Baccalaureate degree and 1 year clinical experience within the last 10 years; OR
- **Route 3:** Baccalaureate degree and successful completion of a structured NAACLS program in blood banking; OR
- **Route 4:** Master's or doctorate in an appropriate field, and 6 months clinical experience within the last 10 years.
- **Route 5:** Eligibility for the MLS exam.

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Technologist in Cytogenetics, CG(ASCP)

- **Route 1:** Baccalaureate degree and successful completion of a cytogenetics program within the last 5 years; OR
- **Route 2:** Baccalaureate degree and 1 year work experience within the last 3 years in a cytogenetics laboratory; OR
- **Route 3:** Graduate level degree (Master's or Doctorate) in Genetics or Molecular Biology from a regionally accredited college/university AND nine months full time acceptable work experience within the last three years in an accredited cytogenetics laboratory in the U.S., Canada or an accredited laboratory.

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Molecular Biology, MB(ASCP)

- **Route 1:** ASCP certified as a technologist or specialist AND a baccalaureate degree; OR
- **Route 2:** Baccalaureate degree and completion of a diagnostic molecular science program, within the last 5 years; OR
- **Route 3:** Baccalaureate degree and 1 year full time experience in a molecular biology laboratory; OR
- **Route 4:** Graduate level degree in an appropriate field and 6 months clinical experience in molecular diagnostics within the last 5 years.

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Categorical Certifications

- These are a great way to utilize your experience in one or more areas of the lab, if you do not have generalist experience; and a great way to get back into “Medical Laboratory Science” if you have been out for a while.

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Questions?

- From live audience
- From virtual audience

Diplomate in Laboratory Management

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Polling Question

- Do you have a DLM certification?
 1. Yes
 2. No, not yet!
 3. No, not planning on it
 4. Not applicable

Polling Question

- If you have a DLM, why did you get it?
 1. Wanted to improve promotion opportunities
 2. Was required for a job
 3. Wanted to have more impressive credentials
 4. Did not need it, just did it for self-development

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Diplomate in Laboratory Management (DLM)

- Demonstrates Excellence in Laboratory Management
- Open To Both Laboratory Professionals and Pathologists
- Cost - \$375 & 6 Different Routes

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DLM Routes

Route	Degree	Certification - MLS	Years Experience Mgt Supervision
1	Master's degree - mgt related	No	2 in last 10 years
2	Master's degree	Yes	2 in last 10 years
3	BS	Yes	4 in last 10 years
4	Doctorate	No	2 in last 10 years
5	BS - Business	No	4 in last 10 years
6	BS	No	5 in last 10 years

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DLM - Experience Required

- In Last 10 Years, Must Have Experience In 20 of 32 areas (hint, this is a great checklist to show employers!)
- Financial Management - Billing and collection, Budgets, Capital equipment acquisition, Cash flow analysis, Contract negotiations, Cost analysis, Financial accounting, Materials management: Inventory control, purchasing, Reimbursement issues

DLM - Experience Required (cont)

- Marketing Management - Consumer relations, Managed care, Market research, Product development
- Operations Management - Information Technology, Facilities management, Data management, Intra/Interdepartmental relations, Licensure/accreditation, Performance improvement, Productivity, Risk management/medical legal issues, Safety

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DLM - Experience Required (cont)

- Personnel Management - Conflict resolution, Counseling/disciplinary action, Education and training/continuing education, Job descriptions, Motivation, Performance standards/evaluations, Personnel negotiations, Staffing/scheduling, Wage and salary administration

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Can You Pass This?

- In 2009, 9 of 28 passed (32%)
- Tremendous Opportunity, Supply and Demand!
- 953 have been certified since 1989 (~47/year)
- Study Guides Available
- Medical Laboratory Management and Supervision, 2nd Ed. (<http://priorityed.com/>)

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Questions?

- From live audience
- From virtual audience

SBB, SC, SCT, SH, SLS, SM, PA
Specialist Certifications

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Polling Question

- Do you have a specialty certification?
 1. Yes (SBB, SC, SCT, SH, SLS, SM, PA)
 2. No, not yet!
 3. No, not planning on it
 4. Not applicable

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Specialist Certifications

- Blood Banking
- Chemistry
- Cytotechnology
- Hematology
- Laboratory Safety
- Microbiology
- Pathologists' Assistant

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Specialist Certifications

Exam Type	Total Certified	Avg Cert/Year	Attempted	Passed	% Pass
<u>Blood Banking</u>	2923	104.4	54	31	57%
<u>Chemistry</u>	1717	30.1	8	4	50%
<u>Cytotechnology</u>	604	11.6	11	9	82%
<u>Hematology</u>	2595	60.3	19	12	63%
<u>Laboratory Safety</u>	208	18.9	9	8	89%
<u>Microbiology</u>	3056	52.7	20	7	35%
<u>Pathologists' Assistant</u>	1446	241.0	60	55	92%

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Specialty Certifications – Example Specialist of Chemistry (ASCP)

- \$260
- MT(ASCP) + BS + 3 years
- MS + 3 years
- Doctorate + 2 years
- Experience in 8/12 listed areas (i.e. blood gas, protein, etc..)
- Experience in 2/6 management areas (QC, supervision, etc...)

SUBTEST	C and SC
General Chemistry	15%
Protein and Enzymes	15%
Acid-Base, Blood Gases and Electrolytes	15%
Hormones and Vitamins	15%
Toxicology and Therapeutic Drug Monitoring	10%
Instrumentation and Analytical Techniques	10%
Laboratory Operations	20%

Specialty Certifications – Example Specialist of Laboratory Safety

- \$260
- MT(ASCP) + 1 year safety
- MLT(ASCP) + 18 months safety
- BS + 2 years
- Exam
 - Management 20%
 - General Safety 20%
 - Chemical Safety 20%
 - Biohazard Control 20%
 - Physical and Environmental 20%

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Questions?

- From live audience
- From virtual audience

Certification of Maintenance

All certifications as of January 2004

Certification Maintenance Program (CMP)

- CMP is required for all individuals who are newly certified beginning January 1, 2004
- Valid for 3 years
- Based on points – see CMP information booklet
- Example – DLM – 36 points in 3 year period
 - 1 pt lab/patient safety
 - 10 points area of specialty
 - 25 points in specialty, management, education, other related lab areas of interest

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Questions?

- From live audience
- From virtual audience

References – on handouts

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References

- Handout
- ASCP web site: Practice tests, study guides, content outlines, reading lists
<http://www.ascp.org/certification>
- Practice MLS exam
http://www.labce.com/ascp_mls_practice_test_exam.aspx?gclid=CJrX4Lay2aoCFUPBKgodaUU69A
- Board of Certification Study Guide, 5th ed.

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References

- **Discussion Forums**

- <http://www.indeed.com/forum/job/medical-technologist/>

- **Discipline Web Sites**

- <http://phlebotomycertificationcenter.com/how-to-prepare-for-the-phlebotomy-certification-test/>

- <http://www.nsh.org/content/certification-exam-study-aids>

- **Social Networking**

- <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Medical-Technologist-Network/52671016454>