



American Society for
Clinical Pathology
Board of Registry



FAQ's Regarding the BOR/NCA Unification into a Single Certifying Agency

- **When does the Board of Certification become effective?**
The effective date is October 23, 2009
- **If I'm an active certificant with NCA /BOR what do I need to do?**
Maintain your credential or make sure your credential is active and your contact information is current. All individuals with an active credential will be transitioned over to the Board of Certification without further requirements until recertification is due.
- **If I am not current with the organization what do I need to do?**
If you are not a current or active credentialed individual you will need to complete the recertification (certification maintenance) requirements and submit this information to the respective organization. For NCA Certificants, this needs to be completed on or before October 23. Further deadlines and details will be published regarding the transition.
- **What if I have already applied or my students have already applied to take an NCA examination?**
All complete and qualified candidates who have applied and paid for an NCA examination will be tested. The final NCA application deadline was August 21, 2009.
- **What if I'm due to recertify with NCA in February 2010?**
You have two options – you can recertify early if you have enough credits, or you can submit your recertification documentation on schedule to the Board of Certification. The BOC will honor all contact hours earned and the policies of NCA to qualify for recertification for NCA certificants who have an expiration date of February 2010.
- **What are the examination fees for the Board of Certification?**
The fees are business and operational decisions that as of yet have not been made.

- **What are the recertification fees for the new agency?**
 This fee is a business and operational decision that as of yet has not been made.
- **Will the recertification requirements change in any way?**
 Recertification requirements are a decision for the new Board of Certification, but as both NCA and BOR require 36 contact hours of continuing education within three years it is safe to say that initially there will be no changes in recertification requirements. (see above)
- **When is the BOC accepting applications?**
 The final NCA application deadline was August 21, 2009. The BOR will continue accepting applications and all applications will transition over to the BOC after October 23, 2009.
- **In what format will the BOC exams be administered?**
 Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT)
- **Will the exam questions be merged and who decides that?**
 For the exams that both groups currently have in common, or duplicative, these exam pools will be merged once the combined examination committee reviews and classifies all of the items; for the NCA genetic exams – these will remain being administered separately until such time as a seamless transition can take place.
- **What will the program/school reports look like?**
 The program reports will likely be the same reports as BOR currently distributes.
 NCA will work with the current BOR staff to determine the best method and process for transferring all of its student and school data over to the current system in place.
- **When will the first BOC exams be administered?**
 The BOC will begin testing on October 24.
- **The new baccalaureate level credential, Medical Laboratory Scientist, is different from the designation conferred by my state's licensure law. Will we need to change the law?**
 No, licensure titles do not need to match certification credentials.
- **Will my credential with the BOR or NCA still be valid?**
 If you hold an active and current credential with either organization, that credential will be transferred to the Board of Certification without having to take an examination, even if that certification is no longer being offered.

- **How does certification as a CLSup (NCA) or CLDir (NCA) relate to the DLM(ASCP) certification?**
This will be determined in the near future by the BOC.
- **If I was MT(ASCP) certified prior to 2004 and I have not participated in the CMP program, will my credential change to “MLS”?**
You will not receive the “MLS” credential until you complete the CMP program. Individuals certified MT(ASCP) prior to 2004 who do not participate in the CMP program will retain the credential MT(ASCP).
- **Will CLS (NCA) certificants who are current with NCA be transferred to the ASCP?**
All CLS(NCA) certificants who have an active credential with NCA will be transferred to the BOC as MLS(ASCP). Similarly, all CLT(NCA) certificants who have an active credential with NCA will be transferred to the BOC as MLT(ASCP).
- **Are certifications with ASCP and NCA considered equivalent?**
All certifications with ASCP and NCA are recognized as equal and should be treated as such.