

Biology-Cytotechnology Licensure Requirements by State

ASCP Board of Certification (BOC)

February 2019

Any person looking to practice as a Cytotechnologist is required to become board certified by successfully passing the board certification examination presented by *The American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP)*.

In addition, the following states require a license in order to practice. Their requirements are as followed:

<https://www.cytopathology.org/guidelines-and-resources-for-cytotechnologist-state-licensure/>

ALABAMA

Street Address:

The RSA Tower
201 Monroe St.
Montgomery, AL 36104

Postal Address:

State of Alabama Department of Public Health
PO Box 303017
Montgomery, AL 36130-3017

Phone: 1-800-252-1818

Requirements:

- Has completed one of the following
 - Completed two years in an accredited college or university with at least 12 semester hours in science, 8 hours in biology, and
 - Has had 12 months of training in a school of cytotechnology accredited by an accrediting agency and approved by the State, or
 - Has received 6 months of formal training in a school of cytotechnology accredited by an accrediting agency and 6 months of full-time experience in cytotechnology in a laboratory acceptable to the pathologist who directed such formal 6 months of training
 - Prior to January 1, 1969, has:
 - Been graduated from high school,
 - Completed six months of training in cytotechnology in a laboratory directed by a pathologist or other physician recognized as a specialist in cytology, and
 - Completed 2 years of full-time supervised experience in cytotechnology
 - Achieved a satisfactory grade in a proficiency examination approved by the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services; however, after December 31, 1977, initial certification as a cytotechnologist must be in accordance with AAC Rule 420-5-8.03(6) (a)1, or 2.

Please visit <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/providerstandards/assets/ICLIPL714.pdf> or <http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/about/contact.html> for additional information.

ALASKA

Street Address:

Frontier Building

3601 C St. #902

Anchorage, AK 99503

Phone: 907-465-4648

Alaska Requirements:

- The license will be issued if the applicant:
 - Submits an application on the form approved by the department
 - Pays the required fee
 - Provides evidence satisfactory to the department that the applicant is competent, as evidenced by the applicant's certification by a credentialing agency or organization approved by the department in consultation with the board

Please visit <http://www.akleg.gov/basis/Bill/Text/26?Hsid=HB0028A> for additional information.

CALIFORNIA

Postal Address:

PO Box 997377, MS 0500

Sacramento, CA, 95899-7377

Phone: 916-558-1784

California Requirements:

- Academic requirements:
 - 20 semester or equivalent quarter units of biological science
 - 8 semester or equivalent quarter units of chemistry
 - 3 semester or equivalent quarter units of mathematics
- Training or experience requirements:
 - 12-month cytotechnologist program accredited by CAAHEP or equivalent, or
 - 5 years of full-time clinical laboratory experience in cytology
 - Experience must be within the last 10 years
 - At least 2 years must be obtained after completion of the academic requirements
 - At least 2 years must be under the supervision of a licensed physician who is a board-eligible pathologist
- Licensure requirements:
 - A verified and complete application
 - Evidence of satisfactory performance
 - The application fee required under Business and Professions Code Section 1300 and Health and Safety Code Section 116

Please visit <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OSPHLD/LFS/Pages/Cytotechnologist.aspx#> or [https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I7CB1EF30D60511DE88AEDDE29ED1DC0A?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=\(sc.Default\)&bhcp=1](https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I7CB1EF30D60511DE88AEDDE29ED1DC0A?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default)&bhcp=1) for additional information.

FLORIDA

Florida Administrative Code and Register

Mailing Address:

R.A. Gray Building

500 South Bronough Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Phone: 850-488-1234

Florida Requirements:

- Bachelors Degree (or higher) in Clinical Laboratory, Chemical, or Biological Science
- Clinical laboratory training program, or 3 years experience with a minimum of 6 months in each specialty for which licensure is sought
- CT (ASCP) certification or specialist examinations in a single discipline for licensure in that specialty area

Please visit

<https://www.flrules.org/gateway/RuleNo.asp?title=QUALIFICATIONS%20FOR%20LICENSURE&ID=64B3-5.003> or <https://floridasclinicallabs.gov/> for additional information.

GEORGIA

Street Address:

Georgia Department of Community Health

2 Peachtree Street, NW

Atlanta, GA 30303

Phone: 404-656-4507

Georgia Requirements:

- Must be certified by a specialty examination by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) or another agency approved by the department
- Has completed one of the following
 - 90 quarter hours in an accredited college or university with at least 20 quarter hours in science and one year of pertinent laboratory experience or training accepted by the Department
 - At least 2 years of pertinent laboratory experience as a technician under the supervision of a director qualified in the specialty, or a one-year formal training program accepted by the Department in the specialty

Please visit

https://dch.georgia.gov/sites/dch.georgia.gov/files/related_files/document/Lab_Rules_Chapter_11-8-10.pdf for additional information.

HAWAII

Street Address

Hawaii Department of Health State Laboratory Division

2725 Waimano Home Road

Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

Phone: 808-453-6652

Hawaii Requirements:

- Has completed one of the following:
 - Holds a bachelor's degree in cytotechnology from an accredited college or university
 - Holds a bachelor's degree in a chemical, physical, or biological science and has successfully completed an accredited program in cytotechnology
 - Before September 1, 1992, has successfully completed at least 60 semester hours (or their equivalent) in an accredited college or university with at least 12 semester hours in science, 8 of which are in biology, and
 - Completed 12 months of training in an accredited program of cytotechnology or
 - Completed 6 months of formal training in an accredited program of cytotechnology and 6 months of full-time experience in a clinical laboratory under the direct supervision of a pathologist who is certified in anatomic pathology by the American Board of Pathology or the American Osteopathic Board of Pathology
 - Before September 1, 1994, has full-time experience of at least 2 years within the preceding 5 years examining slide preparations under the supervision of a pathologist who is certified in anatomic pathology by the American Board of Pathology or the American Osteopathic Board of Pathology or other physician certified as a specialist in cytology, and before January 1, 1969, must have
 - Graduated from high school
 - Completed 6 months of training in cytotechnology in a laboratory that is acceptable to the department and was directed by a pathologist or other physician certified as a specialist in cytology

Please visit <http://health.hawaii.gov/statelab/files/2013/07/sld-lic-har.pdf> or <http://health.hawaii.gov/statelab/contact/> for additional information.

ILLINOIS

Street Address:

Illinois Department of Public Health

525-535 West Jefferson Street

Springfield, IL 62761

Phone: 217-782-4977

Illinois Requirements:

- Has completed one of the following
 - Has completed 2 years (60 semester hours of academic credit) in an accredited college or university with at least 12 semester hours in science, 8 hours of which are in biology, and has had 12 months of training in a school of cytotechnology accredited by one of the agencies recognized by the U.S. Commissioner of Education
 - Has completed 2 years (60 semester hours of academic credit) in an accredited college or university with at least 12 semester hours in science, 8 hours of which are in biology, and has received 6 months of formal training in a school or agency cytotechnology accredited by one of the accrediting recognized by the U.S. Commissioner of Education and 6 months of full time experience in cytotechnology in a laboratory affiliated with the school of cytotechnology
 - Prior to January 1, 1969, the individual has
 - Graduated from high school
 - Completed 6 months of training in cytotechnology in a laboratory directed by a physician certified or determined board eligible by the American Board of Pathology in pathologic anatomy
 - Completed 2 years of full time supervised experience in cytotechnology

Please visit <ftp://www.ilga.gov/jcar/admincode/077/07700450sections.html> for additional information.

LOUISIANA

Street Address:

Louisiana Department of Health

628 N 4th St.

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Phone: 888-342-6207

Louisiana Requirements:

- Meet one of the following:
 - Possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university, fulfill the educational requirements necessary to enroll in a school of cytotechnology, complete one year of full-time cytotechnology experience (or its equivalent) in an approved school of cytotechnology, and successfully complete a nationally recognized certification examination
 - Complete the educational, clinical, and employment experience requirements, if any, necessary to be eligible for and successfully complete a nationally recognized certification examination
 - Meet the requirements for licensure without examination as provided in R.S. 37:1319
- Pay the license fee

Please visit

<https://www.lsbme.la.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Laws/Practice%20Acts/Clinical%20Laboratory%20Personnel/CLP%20Practice%20Acts%20July%202009.pdf> for additional information.

MAINE

Street Address:

Maine Department of Health and Human Services

Division of Licensing and Regulatory Services

11 State House Station, 41 Anthony Ave.

Augusta, ME 04333-0011

E-Mail: DLRS.info@maine.gov

Maine Requirements:

- Possess a current license as a cytotechnologist issued by the state
- Meet one of the following:
 - Have graduated from a school of cytotechnology accredited by the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation or other organization approved by HHS
 - Be certified in cytotechnology by a certifying agency approved by HHS
 - Before September 1, 1992
 - Completed 2 years in an accredited institution with at least 12 semester hours in science, 8 hours of which are in biology
 - Have had 12 months of training in a school of cytotechnology accredited by an accrediting agency approved by HHS
 - Have received 6 months of formal training in a school of cytotechnology accredited by an accrediting agency approved by HHS and 6 months of full-time experience in cytotechnology in a laboratory acceptable to the pathologist who directed the formal 6 months of training
 - Have achieved a satisfactory grade to qualify as a cytotechnologist in a proficiency examination approved by HHS and designed to qualify persons as cytotechnologists

Please visit <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/42/493.1483> or <https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/10/144/144c256.doc> for additional information.

MASSACHUSETTS

Street Address:

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

1 Ashburton Pl 11th floor

Boston, MA 02108

Phone: 617-573-1600

Massachusetts Requirements:

- Meet one of the following:
 - Have successfully completed 2 years in an accredited college or university with at least 12 semester hours in science, 8 hours of which were in biology, and
 - Have had 12 months of training in a school of cytotechnology accredited by an accrediting agency approved by the Department, or
 - Have received 6 months of formal training in a school of cytotechnology accredited by an accrediting agency approved by the Department and 6 months of full-time experience in cytotechnology in a laboratory acceptable to the pathologist who directed such formal 6 months of training
 - Have achieved a satisfactory grade in a proficiency examination offered by the Public Health Service, department of Health and Human Services or approved by the Department

Please visit <https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2016/07/qc/105cmr180.pdf> for additional information.

MONTANA

Mailing Address:

Montana Board of Clinical Laboratory Science Practitioners

301 South Park, 4th Floor

P.O. Box 200513

Helena, MT 59620-0513

Phone: 406-841-2395

Montana Requirements:

- Has graduated with a baccalaureate degree, including a minimum number of hours in areas or disciplines established by rule of the board
- Has passed a certifying examination approved by the board
- A specialist license will be issued if:
 - Graduated with a baccalaureate degree
 - Has passed a certifying examination covering those fields in which the applicant is eligible and approved by the board

Please visit https://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/title_0370/chapter_0340/part_0030/sections_index.html for additional information.

*Some requirements are subject to change, refer to employer for updated requirements.

NEVADA

Street Address:

Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health

Medical Laboratory Services

727 Fairview Dr, Suite E

Carson City, NV 59701

Phone: 775-687-4475

Nevada Requirements:

- Has completed one of the following:
 - Successfully complete 2 years in an accredited college or university with at least 12 semester hours in science, of which 8 hours are in biology, and at least 12 months of training in an accredited school of cytotechnology, and pass a national examination for certification approved by the board
 - Successfully complete 6 months of formal training in an accredited school of cytotechnology and 6 months of full time, supervised experience in cytotechnology in a laboratory whose director is a pathologist, and pass a national examination for certification approved by the board
 - Pass the examination for cytotechnologists given by the United States Department of Health and Human Services

Please visit <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-652.html#NAC652Sec425> for additional information.

NEW YORK

Mailing Address:

New York State Education Department
89 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12234

Phone: 518-474-3852

New York Requirements:

- File an application with the department
- Have a bachelor's degree in cytotechnology from a program registered by the department or determined by the department to be the substantial equivalent, or have received a bachelor's degree that includes a minimum number of credit hours in the sciences and received appropriate clinical education in an accredited cytotechnology program or a program determined by the department to be the substantial equivalent
- Pass an examination acceptable to the board and in accordance with the commissioner's regulations
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Be of good moral character as determined by the department
- Pay a fee of \$175 for an initial license and a fee of \$170 for each triennial registration period

Please visit <http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/clt/article165.htm> for additional information.

RHODE ISLAND

Street Address:

Rhode Island Department of Health

3 Capitol Hill

Providence, RI 02908

Phone: 401-222-5960

Rhode Island Requirements:

- Meets one of the following:
 - A baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with: 20 semester hours, 30 quarter hours of biological science; 8 semester hours, 12 quarter hours of chemistry; 3 semester hours, 4 quarter hours of mathematics; and successful completion of a 12 month cytotechnology program
 - A baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with: 20 semester hours, 30 quarter hours of biological science; 8 semester hours, 12 quarter hours of chemistry; 3 semester hours, 4 quarter hours of mathematics; and 5 years full time acceptable medical laboratory experience including cytopreparatory techniques, microscopic analysis, and evaluation of the body systems within the last 10 years. At least 2 of these years must be subsequent to the completion of the academic component and at least 2 years must be under the supervision of a licensed physician who is a pathologist, certified, or eligible for certification, by the American Board of Pathology in anatomic pathology or has other suitable qualifications acceptable to the board

Please visit <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText18/SenateText18/S2230.pdf> for additional information.

TENNESSEE

Street Address:

State of Tennessee Department of Health Medical Laboratory Board
Metro Center Complex
665 Mainstream Drive, 2nd Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

Phone: 615-532-3202

Tennessee Requirements:

- Submit a completed medical laboratory personnel application
- Submit fees (\$60) to the State of Tennessee
- Has met one of the following:
 - Graduated from a school of cytotechnology accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation (CAHEA) or other accrediting agencies acceptable to the Board
 - Agency must send proof of certification directly to the office
 - Be certified in cytotechnology by a certifying agency approved by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

Please visit

[https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/Medical_Laboratory_Personnel_Application_\(PH-1056\).pdf](https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/Medical_Laboratory_Personnel_Application_(PH-1056).pdf) or www.tn.gov/health/article/medlab-about for additional information

WEST VIRGINIA

Street Address:

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources

350 Capitol St.

Charleston, WV 25301

Phone: 304-558-0684

West Virginia Requirements:

- Passed a national certification exam administered by a certifying agency recognized under subsections 2.1 of 64CSR57
- Complete the application form provided by the secretary
- Choose one:
 - Has graduated from a school of cytotechnology accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, or its predecessor, the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation
 - Has been certified in cytotechnology by a certifying agency approved by United States Department of Health and Human Services

Please visit apps.sos.wv.gov/adlaw/csr/readfile.aspx?DocId=8747&Format=WORD for additional information.