



Building Bridges Across the Laboratory Community:

International Lab Scientists Practicing in the US

Webinar: July 9, 2025

Opportunities of Interest

The following links represent potential training and professional opportunities of interest shared by presenting moderators or panelists for audience members interested in the career tracks:

- ASCP's [Support CDC OneLab](#) Website – free lab educational resources
- CDC [OneLab REACH](#) Learning Management System – free lab educational resources on preparedness, quality, safety, LIS, and core science
- [ASCP Career Ambassadors](#)
- [ASCP Credentials](#)
- [Abbott Student Internships](#)
- [CDC Laboratory Leadership Service Fellowship](#)
- [APHL/CDC Public Health Laboratory Fellowship](#)
- [Executive MHA at Columbia University](#)
- [Public Health Microbiology Laboratory Abstract](#)
- [Curry International Tuberculosis Center](#)
- [California Public Health Microbiologist certification training](#)
- [APHL's Board Certification Exam Boot Camp](#)
- [Africa Laboratory Management Academy](#)
- [ASCP Facebook Group](#)
- [Laboratory Management University](#)
- [Africa Laboratory Management Academy](#)
- [Certification in Healthcare Information Systems](#)
- [National Association for Healthcare Quality](#)
- [Project Management Professional](#)
- [Udemy Courses on HL7](#)

Question & Answer Session (Bonus Content)

This includes questions answered by hosts, moderators, and panelists via the Zoom Q&A box during the session and related past webinars, along with top resources for international attendees based on 2025 survey data from the Building Bridges series.

“Martin, did you have to obtain any certification or formal training for your role as an LIS Analyst?”

“For LIS Analyst jobs, you will most likely learn on the job. All you need is interest in technology, problem solving and willingness to learn.”

Martin Muganzi – Kingman Regional Medical Center

“@Patricia: During job interviews for a new job, did they ever question you about job hopping? That’s one of my biggest issues. I want growth but interviewers look for permanence even though they always talk about how they want to see you grow and promote.”

“When I was a newer lab scientist, it was common for younger lab scientists to leave after 1-2 years only because the pay was on the lower end. But as I started with my leadership roles, I stayed within the Mount Sinai Health system for 8 years before I got the interview for Keck Medicine of USC. When we are hiring into supervisory roles, it is more important to see that someone has stayed for most of their roles for at least 2 years.”

Patricia Uychiat – USC Keck Medicine

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Question & Answer Session (Bonus Content)

"I'm MLS(ASCP) certified, and I do have experience as a laboratory scientist, but unfortunately, I can't get CA CLS because of restriction to get your experience from ISO accredited lab. There are few labs which are ISO accredited and my experience was outside USA, so I can't work in California as CLS although I have the experience. Is there any chance of changing the requirement of ISO accredited lab?"

"Consider working in other states that do not require licensing and gain experience. I believe you can always return to California."

Martin Muganzi – Kingman Regional Medical Center

"This is an area that the ASCP and ASCP BOC are investigating further. However, please note that ASCP BOC's eligibility requirements for credentialing are independently determined. State licensing boards directly determine their own licensure requirements. The ASCP BOC does not have control over state licensure requirements."

ASCP and ASCP BOC

"Do you have more information regarding PAMET that was mentioned earlier?"

"Hi there! Rex will share more information about PAMET in the second part of the session. Here is also the home page for PAMET: <https://pametinc.ph/home/>"

ASCP Staff

"I am in the USA on visa F1 student. If I applied for H1b visa as a medical lab specialist in chemistry, is the visa screening process waived? Or I do still need it to go through H1b?"

"Your F-1 should allow for a period of practical training, but you might have challenges securing a spot for that. I think the H-1B is what you want to focus on."

Matt Schulze – ASCP Center for Public Policy

"Is the title of Medical Laboratory Technologist recognized in America? I am a graduate of the College of Applied Health Sciences Technology from Egypt."

"The ASCP Board of Certification (ASCP BOC) has worked closely with ASCLS to standardize the nomenclature of laboratory positions. The term Medical Technologist has been updated to Medical Laboratory Scientist. While the title of Medical Laboratory Technologist may still be recognized in America, we encourage you to consider updating your title to Medical Laboratory Scientist, as appropriate, to align with the ASCP BOC's recommended best practices. Please check out this [article](#) and [position paper](#) for more information."

ASCP and ASCP BOC Staff

"How do we join mentorship programs or get mentors through the ASCP website?"

"The ASCP Mentorship program is free to ASCP members – more information is available here: <https://mentorship.ascp.org/home>. ASCP membership is also available at discounted rates for international laboratory scientists from LMICs, and freely available networking opportunities through the [ASCP BOC ASCP Facebook Group](#) page or ASCP BOC social media accounts on LinkedIn or [Instagram](#) may also lead to opportunities for mentorship."

ASCP Staff

"How to make use of education courses available on ASCP? Can we use it for our CV?"

"ASCP is a world-renowned provider of high-quality continuing education for laboratory professionals, and ASCP educational courses are primarily used for professional development of laboratory professionals. These credit-bearing continuing education courses may also be used towards ASCP Board of Certification [credential maintenance](#)."

ASCP Staff

"What do employers look out for before they contact you for interviews?"

"When I review job applications, I appreciate well-written letter of intent that shows passion of the person for my line of work and understanding of what the work will involve and how their prior experience will be applicable. In your CV, make sure to highlight the certifications to stand out."

Varvara Kozyreva – California Department of Public Health

Questions About Navigating Transitions to the US Lab Workforce

“Are there legit sites which I can use to get jobs in USA? If yes, kindly state or share. Thank you.”

“The following agencies represent ones that support international job placement of medical laboratory scientists. Providing the links below does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation by American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). ASCP is not responsible for the accuracy, reliability, or quality of any information or services provided by these agencies, nor for any claims made by these agencies. As always, you should exercise your own judgment and discretion before engaging with any of the following agencies or relying on any information provided by them.

TruMerit runs the Alliance for Ethical International Recruitment Practices. According to their survey, individuals reported greater levels of satisfaction using a Certified Ethical Recruiter. See [here](#) for a list of Certified Ethical Recruiters.”

ASCP Staff

“Hello I am ASCP certified medical lab scientist at in Connecticut and have 10+ years of experience. But wanted to relocate to Tampa,FL. I need some advice on how to start process and how can I get certification from Florida licensing agencies?”

“Most U.S. laboratories prefer or require credentialing when hiring to ensure staff competency. Additionally, several states mandate licensure or credentialing to legally practice. These requirements vary, so candidates must contact the relevant state licensure boards for specific information. More information about Florida state licensure is available here: <https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification/get-credentialed/#fl-lic>”

ASCP and ASCP BOC Staff

Where to Find More Resources on International Career Transitions to the US

Personnel Standards

A federal law, the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments outlines personnel requirements for laboratory personnel. The CLIA standards differ depending on the level of complexity of the testing services provided. That said, individuals satisfying CLIA's high complexity personnel requirements may be more likely to secure an employment-based visa. The regulations specific to high complexity testing personnel may be of greatest interest, but there are also requirements specific to laboratory directors, supervisors, cytologists and others. See [here](#).

Recruiters

Providing the link below does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation by American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). ASCP is not responsible for the accuracy, reliability, or quality of any information or services provided by the referenced agencies, nor for any claims made by these agencies. As always, you should exercise your own judgment and discretion before engaging with any of the following agencies or relying on any information provided by them.

TruMerit runs the Alliance for Ethical International Recruitment Practices. According to their survey, individuals reported greater levels of satisfaction using a Certified Ethical Recruiter. See [here](#) for a list of Certified Ethical Recruiters.

VisaScreen

Individuals interested in securing an employment-sponsored permanent resident or nonimmigrant visa must secure a VisaScreen certificate from TruMerit. See [here](#).

For Data on Employers that Have Hired International Talent

[H-1B Employer Data Hub | USCIS](#)

ASCP BOC ASCPⁱ Facebook Group

[ASCP BOC ASCPⁱ | Facebook](#)

ASCP BOC Instagram Page

<https://www.instagram.com/ascpboc/?igsh=MXVtaX-BvdGlzaGs4eQ%3D%3D#>

ASCP BOC LinkedIn Page

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ascp-boc/posts/?feedView=all>

Eligibility and Application for ASCPⁱ Credentials

ASCPⁱ credentials are designed for individuals who have trained or obtained laboratory experience outside of the United States that wish to pursue ASCP credentialing as a benchmark of the high-standard of their laboratory skills. Many ASCP credentials also accept international education through other eligibility routes. We recommend all candidates carefully compare credentialing options on the [ASCP BOC website](#) to find the best fit. Notably, ASCPⁱ applicants take the same examinations as ASCP applicants. Instructions on how to apply for ASCPⁱ credentials are available [here](#).

Value of ASCPⁱ Credentials

Earning an ASCPⁱ credential demonstrates a high level of academic and professional preparation. It assures employers of a candidate's didactic and technical competency, validated through required education, training, and laboratory experience.

Immigration Considerations

Individuals seeking to use ASCPⁱ credentials for immigration should thoroughly research applicable government requirements. In the U.S., ASCPⁱ credentials do not override federal or state work regulations. However, certain ASCPⁱ certifications are recognized by employers and licensure agencies in select states. For immigration processes such as the U.S. VisaScreen, credential verification is conducted by TruMerit.

IMPORTANT: Some credentials - like CT(ASCPⁱ), SCT(ASCPⁱ), and CTgyn(ASCPⁱ) - are not recognized for practice within the U.S.

Licensure and Hiring Practices in the U.S.

Most U.S. laboratories prefer or require credentialing when hiring to ensure staff competency. Additionally, several states mandate licensure or credentialing to legally practice. These requirements vary, so candidates must contact the relevant state licensure boards for specific information.

Questions about ASCPⁱ Credentials

"Hi, How do we renew our ASCPⁱ credential after 3 years i.e. after expiry? Do we sit for another ASCPⁱ examination?"

"Hi there! To maintain your ASCPⁱ credential, you need to complete your continuing education requirements. You can find more information here: <https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification/stay-credentialed/#information-about-cmp>"

ASCP and ASCP BOC Staff

"Please confirm, can MLS(ASCPⁱ) be converted to ASCP after working in an accredited medical lab in USA for at least 5 years?"

"Yes, that's correct. MLS(ASCP) Route 5 for allows for MLS(ASCP) credential holders to transition to MLS(ASCP) certification, based on 5 years of acceptable clinical experience in an accredited US lab within the last ten years."

ASCP and ASCP BOC Staff

"American here- how can I use the ASCPⁱ to work overseas? Could the ASCP work with other organizations to set up a certificate for those of us who want to work overseas?"

"ASCPⁱ credentials are designed for individuals who have trained or obtained laboratory experience outside of the United States that wish to pursue ASCP credentialing as a benchmark of the high-standard of their laboratory skills. Many ASCP credentials also accept international education through other eligibility routes. We recommend all candidates carefully compare credentialing options on the [ASCP BOC website](#) to find the best fit. Notably, ASCPⁱ applicants take the same examinations as ASCP applicants. Instructions on how to apply for ASCPⁱ credentials are available [here](#). Furthermore, if you already possess an ASCP credential, you may find that it could help leverage overseas opportunities without the need for additional certificates. Ultimately, national and state licensure boards should be consulted as you consider working overseas."

ASCP and ASCP BOC Staff

Where to Find More Resources on ASCPⁱ Credentials

- Get Credentialed Homepage: <https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification/get-credentialed#>
- International Certifications (ASCP) Homepage: <https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification/get-credentialed/#international-certifications>
- Compare US & International (ASCP vs ASCPⁱ) Certification Homepage: <https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification/get-credentialed/#comparison>
- State Licensure Homepage: <https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification/get-credentialed/#state-licensure>
- CMP Homepage: <https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification/stay-credentialed/#information-about-cmp>
- CMP for IMLS Homepage: <https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification/stay-credentialed/#cmp-impls>
- ASCP BOC ASCPⁱ Facebook Group: [ASCP BOC ASCPⁱ | Facebook](#)
- ASCPⁱ Credentialing Team: ascpinternational@ascp.org
- ASCP BOC Instagram Page: <https://www.instagram.com/ascpboc/?igsh=MXVtaXBvdGlzaGs4eQ%3D%3D#>
- ASCP BOC LinkedIn Page: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/ascp-boc/posts/?feedView=all>

ASCP Building Bridges International Survey Assessment: Top 4 Topics of Greatest Need Regarding ASCPⁱ Credentials

- [Credential Maintenance Program](#)
- [Similarities and differences of ASCP and ASCPⁱ credentials](#)
- The value of ASCP/ASCPⁱ credentials (See Above)
- [Where to find more resources on ASCPⁱ credentials](#)

Questions on ASCP BOC Examinations, Processes

“What is the procedure to apply for ASCP examinations?”

“I have [XYZ training or lab] experience. Am I eligible for/what is the process for taking ASCP credentialing exams?”

- The procedure to apply for ASCP BOC examinations, including Credentials, Qualifications, and Licensure examinations is available on our ASCP BOC website [here](#).
- For US-educated applicants, the [BOC Eligibility Assistant](#) is also an excellent resource to determine if you meet eligibility requirements for ASCP examinations.

ASCP and ASCP BOC Staff

“What are the [eligibility] criteria for ASCP [Hematology] examinations and benefits of this examination?”

- Each ASCP examination offers multiple eligibility routes. You can review the different options currently offered on our [website here](#). Please keep in mind that although ASCP and ASCPⁱ exams are identical, each offers independent and varied options for eligibility routes.
- [ASCPⁱ credentials](#) are designed for individuals educated outside the United States who wish to pursue ASCP credentialing as a benchmark of the high-standard of their laboratory skills. While these are intended for applicants educated outside the US, many ASCP credentials also accept international education through other eligibility routes. We recommend all candidates carefully compare credentialing options on the [ASCP BOC website](#) to find the best fit.

ASCP and ASCP BOC Staff

ASCP Building Bridges International Survey Assessment: Top 3 Topics of Greatest Need Regarding ASCP BOC Examinations

- [Where to find more resources on specific ASCP BOC examinations](#)
- Studying/preparation (see “Where to Find More Resources” section below)
- Practice analysis (see “Where to Find More Resources” section below for an example of a Practice Analysis report for MLS and MLT laboratory positions)

Where to Find More Resources on ASCP BOC Examinations and Processes

- ASCP BOC Certification Exam Process: <https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification/get-credentialed/#about-the-exam-process>
- BOC Eligibility Assistant: <https://apps.ascp.org/BOCROUTEFINDER/BOCCertificationEligibility/Index>
- Get Credentialed Homepage: <https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification/get-credentialed#>
- Compare US & International (ASCP vs ASCPⁱ) Certification Homepage: <https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification/get-credentialed/#comparison>
- ASCP BOC ASCPⁱ Facebook Group: [ASCP BOC ASCPⁱ | Facebook](#)
- ASCP Certification Preparation: The MLS Online Review Course: <https://store.ascp.org/productlisting/productdetail?productId=103132245>
- BOC Study Guide 7th Edition: MLS-MLT Clinical Laboratory Examinations: <https://store.ascp.org/productlisting/productdetail?productId=148755311>
- BOC Study Guide 7th Edition & MLS Online Review Course Bundle: <https://store.ascp.org/productlisting/productdetail?productId=150356456>
- BOC Complete MLS Study Bundle: <https://store.ascp.org/productlisting/productdetail?productId=162688978>
- MLS and MLT Practice Analysis Report (2019): https://www.ascp.org/content/docs/default-source/boc-pdfs/about_boc/mlt-and-mls-practice-analysis-report.pdf?sfvrsn=2&srsltid=AfmBOoq2FIKZDkBWSEYTz28VYvwYfCXJnmf5jOKRn05SgO0NynuXM5F
- ASCPⁱ Credentialing Team: ascpinternational@ascp.org
- ASCP BOC Instagram Page: <https://www.instagram.com/ascpboc/?igsh=MXVtaXBvdGlzaGs4eQ%3D%3D#>
- ASCP BOC LinkedIn Page: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/ascp-boc/posts/?feedView=all>

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Please note that Dr. Kozyreva serves as the Section Chief of Mycobacterial, Mycotic, and Parasitic Diseases Section at the California Department of Public Health and is NOT involved in any matters related to California state licensure requirements for CLS.

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Visit our [hub site](#) to find additional resources for this *Building Bridges Across the Laboratory Community* webinar session!

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