

CBIC 2023 Update



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- CBIC Director
- Director of Infection Prevention for UT Southwestern Health System
- First Certified: 2014

Doramarie Arocha, PhD, MT(ASCP)SM, CIC



- CBIC Executive Director
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Science in Human Resources
- Project Management Certified
- 10+ years experience in healthcare certification and licensure

Jessica Dangles, MBA, MS, PMP

Disclaimer

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What
certification
means for me...



What is CBIC?

Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc.

Voluntary, autonomous, multidisciplinary board

Mission: Provide pathways to demonstrate and maintain competence in infection prevention and control.

Vision: A world free of infections through demonstrated professional competency.

CBIC Examinations

- Certification in Infection Control (CIC®) Examination
- Certification in Infection Control Recertification Examination



CBIC Examinations

- Associate-Infection Prevention and Control (a-IPC™) Examination
- Long Term Care Certification in Infection Prevention (LTC-CIP)



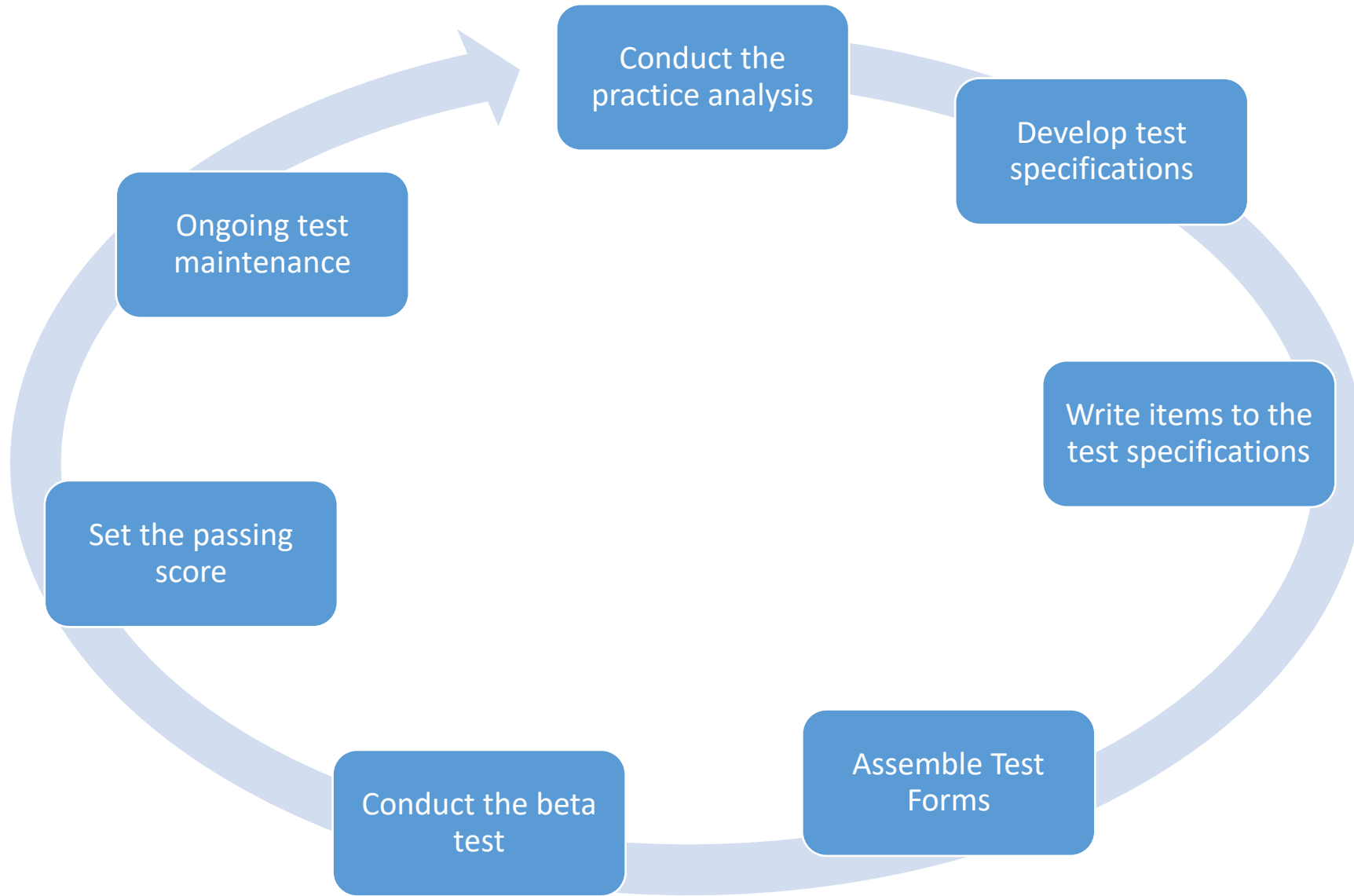
Certificate *versus* Certification

A *certificate* is awarded following the completion of a course or series of courses that provides education and training around an intended learning outcome.

A ***certification*** is awarded following successful completion of a **comprehensive** examination process and provides an independent assessment of the knowledge, skills, and/or competencies required for competent performance of an occupation or professional role.

*CBIC Exam
Development Cycle*





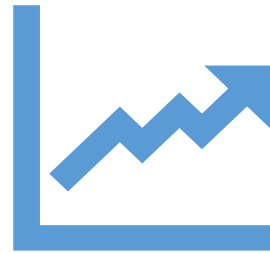
CBIC Practice Analysis



A Practice
Analysis is
foundational



Ensures a
valid and
reliable exam

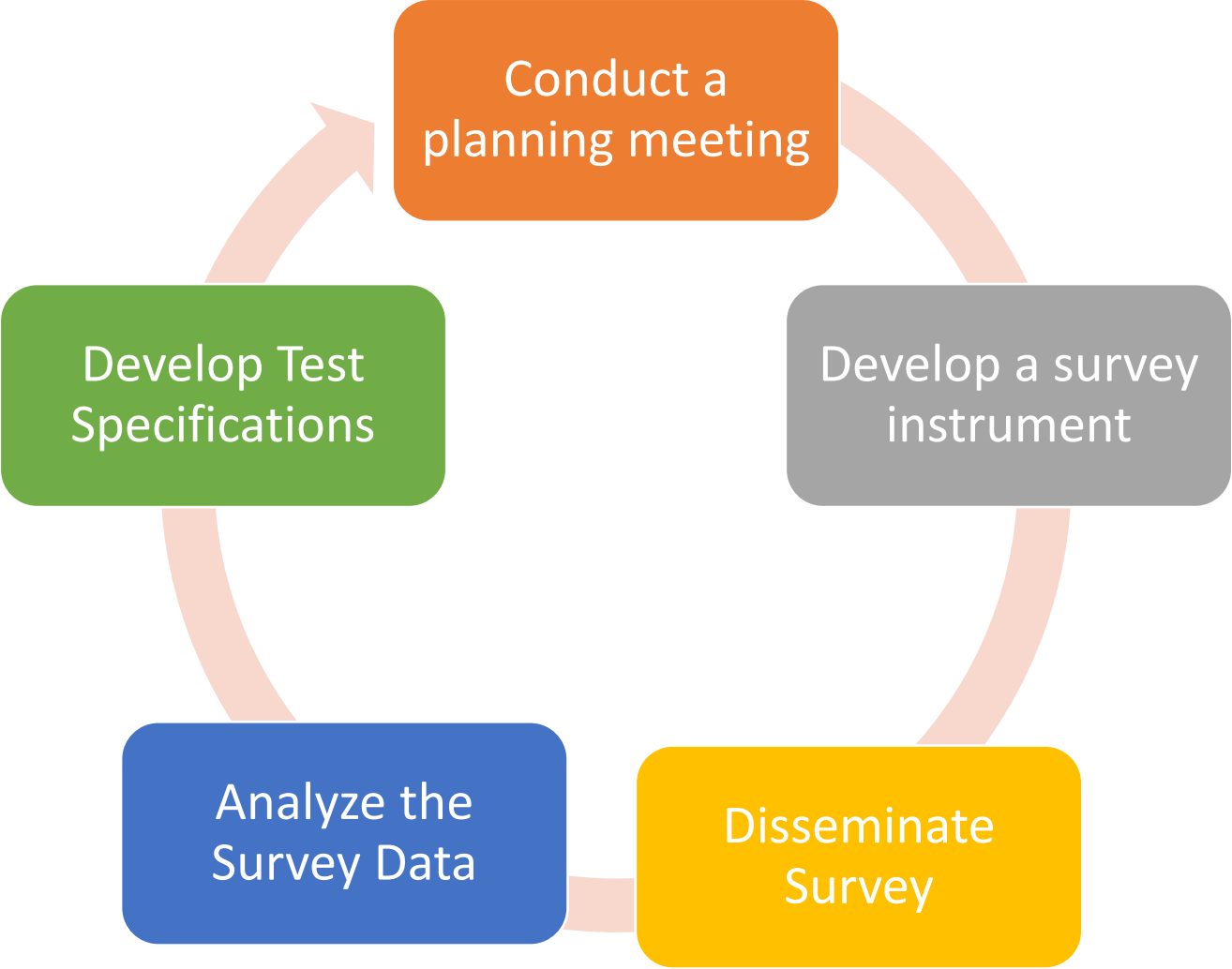


Conducted
every 4-5
years



Results in
exams with
new criteria

Steps of a Practice Analysis



Candidate Testing Experience

- CBIC partners with Prometric to deliver exams in a secure, proctored environment
- Prometric is a U.S. based company in the test administration industry and provides test development and delivery services

<https://www.prometric.com/>



Candidate Testing Experience

- Candidates can take the exam at a physical testing center or via Prometric's live remote proctoring option, Pro Proctor
- Testing is available 5-7 days a week depending on location





Prometric Testing Centers

- Located worldwide in 40+ countries
- Testing available 5-7 days a week during normal business hours
- Candidates are monitored throughout the exam in a secure environment

Pro Proctor

- Candidates can take the exam at home
- A live, remote proctor locks down the candidate's browser
- 360-degree environment check done of candidate workspace



The Value of the CIC[®]

“CIC supports higher salary compensation, increases job satisfaction through a structured career development framework, improves patient outcomes, advances evidence-based infection prevention practices, and is valued by the public and within the health care industry.”

American Journal of Infection Control 47 (2019) 1265–1269

The Value of the CIC[®]

- Instills professionalism among practitioners in infection prevention and control; and
- Formally recognizing experienced professionals in infection prevention and control who fulfill the requirements for CIC[®] certification and recertification.

Impact of Certification

- CIC IPs may have a stronger understanding than other practitioners of the evidence for certain IPAC practices
- CIC IPs are more likely to recommend implementing them in the hospitals where they work-
and especially when the lead IP is certified.
- Hospitals hiring certified infection preventionists were more likely to implement certain infection prevention practices

Hsu, Yea-Jen et al. Impact of certified infection preventionists in acute care settings: A systematic review. American Journal of Infection Control Published online: June 25, 2022

p334-339

Purpose of the CIC[®]

The purpose of the CIC[®] certification and recertification process is to protect the public by:

- Providing standardized measurement of current essential knowledge needed for infection prevention and control practitioners

The CIC[®] - NCCA accredited

- The CIC is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA)
- Provides impartial, third-party validation that CBIC's program has met recognized national and international credentialing industry standards for development, implementation, and maintenance of our certification program.



<https://www.credentialingexcellence.org/>

The CIC[®]

- The *only* standardized measurement of essential knowledge, skills, and abilities expected of infection prevention and control professionals in North America
- Currently over **8,700 CICs** in **over 45 countries**
- Exam consists of 135 multiple-choice scored items and 15 pre-test, unscored items



*CIC[®] Eligibility
Requirements*

CIC[®] Eligibility Requirements

1. Completed post-secondary education in a health-related field including but not limited to medicine, nursing, laboratory technology, or public health. Post-secondary includes public or private universities, colleges, community colleges, etc.
2. Direct responsibility for the infection prevention program activities in a healthcare setting

CIC[®] Eligibility Requirements

3. Work experience, defined as active engagement in infection prevention, determined by a current job description, for compensation, for a minimum of:

- At least one-year full-time employment **OR**
- Two (2) years part-time employment **OR**
- Completed 3,000 hours of infection prevention work experience earned during the previous three (3) years

CIC[®] Eligibility Requirements

Infection Prevention activities must include...

Identification of infectious disease processes

Surveillance and epidemiologic investigation

Preventing and controlling the transmission of infectious agents

Environment of care

Cleaning, disinfection, sterilization, and asepsis

- **AND** at least two (2) of the remaining three (3) components:

Employee / occupational health

Management and communication

Education and research



Recertification

CIC[®] Recertification Overview



CIC certification is valid for five years from the year of successful examination.



Recertification takes place every five years



Recertification can be completed via infection prevention units (IPUs) or open-book, unproctored examination.

Recertification Examination Updates



Effective January 1, 2026, the open-book unproctored recertification examination will no longer be offered.



Recertification will be obtainable through infection prevention units (IPUs) or by retaking the initial CIC[®] proctored examination.



*CIC[®] Recertification by
IPUs*



What is an IPU?

- IPU = Infection Prevention Unit (IPU) = continuing education credits
 - Can be achieved by*:
 - Presenting at conferences,
 - Authoring publications
 - Attending local or national conferences,
 - Participating in a professional organization in a position of leadership
 - And more! IPU guide available online.
- *must be infection prevention related

Recertification by IPU

- Candidates must submit an IPU portfolio demonstrating completion of a minimum of 40 IPUs
- IPUs must be provided by a credible organization and at least 20/40 infection prevention units must be sponsored through an accredited organization or state licensing board.
- Candidates can accumulate IPUs any time after their previous recertification submission date throughout their five-year recertification period
- Candidates may access IPU portfolio once certified and must submit by October 31st of their expiration year.

IPU Portfolio

My IPUs



▲ Category	Date Completed	IPUs Earned	Title	Domain	Status
Academic education	4/1/2022	10.00	MPH	Management and Communication, Preventing/Controlling the Transmission of Infectious Agents, Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigation	
Education module (online, paper or live format)	2/1/2022	1.00	Infection Prevention and Control Essentials for Ambulatory Care	Preventing/Controlling the Transmission of Infectious Agents	
Education module (online, paper or live format)	2/1/2022	4.00	sample	Cleaning; Sterilization; Disinfection; Asepsis	
National conference	4/1/2022	10.00	APIC Illinois	Cleaning; Sterilization; Disinfection; Asepsis, Education and Research, Employee/Occupational Health, Environment of Care, Identification of Infectious Disease Processes, Management and	

Recertification by IPUs Timeline

Professional portfolio available once certified.

Record activities and upload verification documents

Submit portfolio by October 31st

CBIC reviews all portfolios

If successful, new five-year recertification period begins



Recertification by Infection Prevention Units (IPUs)

- \$410 fee required with portfolio submission.
- Once submitted, average review time is three weeks.
- Two resubmissions are permitted.

Missed deadlines/unsuccessful portfolio



If you do not submit your portfolio by the deadline of October 31, you must take the online recertification exam.



This exam must be purchased by November 30 and completed by December 31

Missed deadlines/unsuccessful portfolio

- **If upon review and resubmission** and your IPU's are not accepted, you must take the proctored CIC exam, which must be purchased by December 17 and completed by December 31. The unproctored recertification exam is not an option if your IPU's are not accepted.

Helpful Hints



Submit your IPU's as you earn them!



Reach out to staff with questions



Don't wait until October 31 to submit your credits



Once your 40 credits have been approved, you will receive a new five-year certification and can begin submitting new IPU's for your next portfolio, due in five years.

IPUs Categories

Online, paper, or live format education

Local, national or international conferences and workshops

Academic education

Publications

Presentation

Participation in professional organization

Teaching

Research

Domains (6/8 required)

Identification of Infectious Disease Processes

Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigation

Preventing/Controlling the Transmission of Infectious Agents

Employee/Occupational Health

Management and Communication

Education and Research

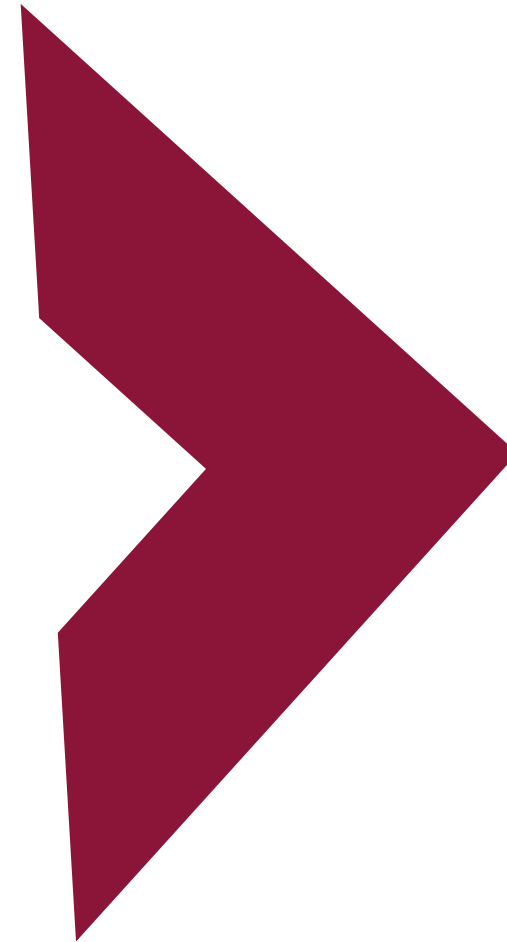
Environment of Care

Cleaning, Sterilization, Disinfection, Asepsis

IPUs and Chapter Activities

Does my Chapter activity count towards IPUs?

- Subject matter related to infection prevention and control and falls within at least one of the eight exam domains
- Able to verify chapter member attendance or participation by providing required documentation



YES!

Examples of IPU Activities*

- Attendance at national conferences (APIC/IPAC Canada)
- Online, paper or live format education
 - Webinars
 - Online educational modules
- Participation in a professional organization
 - Elected position on an IPAC Chapter Board (Treasurer, Secretary, President, President-Elect)

*All activities must be provided by or presented through a credible accredited organization

Potential Accredited Providers



...and many more!



CEU – IPU Conversion Chart

For Per Hour IPU Activities

	Duration of participation/instruction	CEUs	CMEs	CNEs	IPUs
Activity: -Online, paper, or live format education -Attendance at national conference IP-related sessions -Teaching	60 minutes of instruction or 1 “contact hour”	.1	1	1	1

Example Verification Form

Official
organization
letterhead



The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and
Epidemiology, Inc. (APIC) certifies that

Cathy Bernhardt

has been awarded 15.47 CNE/contact hours and 12.00 additional IPU credits
for participating in the educational event:

10 IPU credits have been awarded for attending the live event.
APIC's 2021 Virtual Annual Conference
June 28-30, 2021

Date Completed: Tuesday, July 6, 2021

Accreditation
Information



This educational program has been approved for attendees to earn up to
90 CNE/contact hours and 10 IPUs. Attendees will earn up to 30 additional
IPUs for the eligible on-demand sessions..

IPUs Resources

- ◆◆ IPU's FAQ page: <https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/Certification-FAQs/Recertification.htm#RecertificationIPU>
- ◆◆ IPU's downloadable Criteria Chart: <https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/2023-Files/2021-IPUs-Criteria-Chart--V7.pdf>
- ◆◆ IPU's Portfolio Manual: https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/PDFs/2023-Recertification-by-Continuing-Education-for-CBIC-Examinations_.pdf
- ◆◆ Sample IPU Portfolio: <https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/IPU-Portfolio-Guide---final.pdf>

Recertification by Examination

- Online, web-based examination taken on your home computer and on your own schedule
- Must be taken independently
- 150 multiple-choice items (135 scored items and 15 pre-test, unscored items)
- Same content outline as the CIC



Recertification Examination

Staff approves your application and sends your details to Prometric – you will receive an approval email within 5-7 business days.

The exam must be purchased on or before
November 30, 2023

Exam must be completed by **December 31, 2023 at 11:59 pm Greenwich Mean Time / 6:59 pm EST**

A grayscale photograph of a hand holding a pen, positioned as if about to write on a document. The background is a light, textured surface, possibly a desk or a piece of paper. The lighting is soft, highlighting the contours of the hand and the texture of the paper.

Recertification Examination

- Results available immediately after submitting the examination
- A candidate that does not pass the recertification examination must take and pass the initial CIC[®] examination to maintain certification – recertification by IPU is not an option after an unsuccessful attempt on the recertification examination

Recertification by Examination Timeline

Examination
available for
purchase
January 1st of
recertifying year

Exam must be
purchased by
November 30th

Submit Exam by
December 31st

If candidate fails
recert exam,
they must apply
for the CIC
proctored exam

If successful,
new five-year
recertification
period begins

Recertification Examination: Helpful Hints

- Apply now!
- **Do not wait until December 31 to begin taking your exam**
- **DO NOT ACCESS** the examination in Internet Explorer or in a remote workplace access
- Review the CBIC website for technical requirements:
<https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/Recertification.htm>

a-IPC

Associate – Infection
Prevention and
Control



a-IPC™ Examination

- Entry-level certification examination is a measure of basic infection prevention competency.
- Intended for those interested in gaining expertise or pursuing careers in infection prevention and control.
- Successful certificants have a credential that demonstrates their level of interest and dedication to the field

a-IPC™ Eligibility Requirements



No job-specific or education requirements to apply



Perfect stepping-stone to prove a candidate's foundational knowledge, interest, and dedication to the field.

a-IPC™ Examination

- Exam consists of 85 multiple-choice scored items and 15 pre-test, unscored items
- Certification valid for five years and renewable via examination



LTC-CIP
LONG TERM CARE

**CERTIFICATION
IN INFECTION
PREVENTION**

New! Long-Term Care Certification

- Practice analysis completed in 2021
- 1,700 individuals participated in the long-term care job analysis survey
- Survey provided insight into the tasks and knowledge important for Infection Preventionists in long-term care
- The survey results guided the creation of the test content outline that all test items are based on.
- Developed with the same rigor as the CIC®

LTC-CIP content outline

1. Long-Term Care Settings
2. Management and Communication of the Infection Prevention Program
3. Identification of Infectious Diseases
4. Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigation
5. Prevention and Control of Infectious and Communicable Diseases
6. Environment of Care
7. Cleaning, Disinfection, Sterilization of Medical Devices and Equipment
8. Antimicrobial Stewardship
9. Employee/Occupational Health

LTC-CIP Eligibility Requirements

- Responsibility for the infection prevention and control programs/activities in a long-term care setting. The candidate's employer/supervisor will fill out an attestation on behalf of the candidate.
- Completed post-secondary education in a health-related field including but not limited to medicine, nursing, laboratory technology, public health, or biology. Post-secondary includes public or private universities, colleges, community colleges etc.

LTC-CIP- Apply now!

- Beta testing completed October 15, 2022
- Results of beta test released in December 2022
- Exam consists of 135 multiple-choice scored items and 15 pre-test, unscored items

CBIC Resources

- Exam Prep Materials: <https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/Exam-Prep-Resources.htm>
- CBIC Podcasts (Available on CBIC Multimedia page)
- Study Groups: Check with local APIC/IPAC Canada Chapters

Questions?



Contact Information

General Information

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