



## ***Position Statement Regarding State Licensure for Cytotechnologists***

The ASC neither advocates for nor against licensure for cytotechnologists or other laboratory professionals.

The intent of licensure laws for laboratory professionals is to protect patients by assuring high standards in the delivery of health care testing. The laws consider specific education and training requirements that allow qualified and competent laboratory professionals to practice within the field. If licensure is considered by individual states, the ASC strongly encourages cytotechnologists to participate in the legislative process, emphasizing the following:

- Cytotechnologists should have a voice in the legislative process and maintain awareness of other medical laboratory disciplines' licensure proceedings.
- State licensure should not include any limits on the scope of practice for qualified cytotechnologists, and should be consistent with the scope of practice as defined under Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act (CLIA).
- Reciprocity for state licensure is desirable and encouraged. If an individual has already obtained a license in another state, we recommend that the state consider an expedited process of licensure that accepts the documentation and confirmation of licenses/certificates from the other state.
- ASCP Board of Certification in cytotechnology should be accepted as the equivalent of a state examination documenting proficiency in practice.
- State legislatures are encouraged to follow the guidelines and resources, provided in the links below, for developing their laws and regulations concerning licensure.

In recognition of the importance of active involvement in state affairs concerning the practice of Cytotechnology and Cytopathology, the ASC provides the following resources to assist its members in participating in the legislative process:

[Guidelines and Resources for Cytotechnologist State Licensure](#)

### *References*

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