



Future and Emerging Professions Taskforce Report

July 16th, 2026

Members: Elizabeth Gockel – Blessing (Chair), Peter Hu, Karen Brown, Janice Conway, Carol Rentas, Hassan Aziz, Michelle Hill and Michele Giannosa (Staff Liaison)

The Future and Emerging Professions (FEP) Task Force has not been met since its August 2025 meeting. At the September 2025 Board of Director meeting, the proposed MLM Standard Changes were tabled that the FEP Taskforce put forth. However, the task force has remained actively engaged through ongoing email communication.

The following items have been reviewed and discussed since that time:

- **October 2025:** The task force contacted the CAPHLD organization to confirm interest in the new PHM Pathway. At that time, CAPHLD indicated they would not be pursuing accreditation.
- **December 2025:** The task force was informed that the ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) approved the MLM Pathway during its November Board of Governors meeting. The addition of the MLBBS Pathway was also discussed and is scheduled for consideration at the April 2026 meeting.
- **January 2026:** The task force reviewed a BMS Preliminary Potential Partnership questionnaire for a Cell Therapy Program at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute at Harvard University. The task force unanimously agreed that the program is eligible to pursue NAACLS Initial Accreditation and should proceed with completing the Application Packet.
- **January 2026:** Beth Gockel-Blessing and Janice Conway drafted a NAACLS News article to promote the MLBBS Pathway. [NAACLS Introduces the Medical Laboratory Blood Bank Scientist Pathway - National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences \(NAACLS\)](#)
- **April 2026:** The task force was informed that the ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) approved the MLBBS Pathway during its April Board of Governors meeting.
- **June 2026:** NAACLS received our first MLM Self – Study Report and they have achieved Serious Applicant Status. The program is scheduled to have a fall 2026 site visit.
- **Ongoing:** Members of the task force have been reviewing Initial Application Packets for two MLM programs, one MLBBS and three BMS programs. Staff has been using a [tracking sheet](#) to document program interest:
 - Tulane University (MLM) – Self – Study received June 2026.

- University of Florida (MLM) – Self- Study anticipated in Fall 2026.
- University of Toronto (BMS – Clinical Embryology) – Self -Study anticipated in Fall 2026.
- American Red Cross (MLBBS) – Self- Study anticipated in Fall 2026 Dana-Farber Cancer Institute at Harvard University (BMS – Cell Therapy) – PPP Questionnaire approved.
- George Washington University (BMS- Clinical Laboratory Management) - PPP Questionnaire approved.

The task force will continue its work through email correspondence until a virtual meeting is deemed necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Gockel – Blessing

Chair of the FEP Task Force