

Adding a faculty appointment to accreditation liaison requirements (all disciplines)

Current Standards

E. Accreditation Liaison (when required, for international programs only)

1. Qualifications

The accreditation liaison, when required, must be a medical laboratory professional who:

- a. Has knowledge of NAACLS accreditation.
- b. Has at least a master's degree and three years of experience in the program discipline.
- c. Holds ASCP BOC or ASCPi BOC certification as a medical laboratory scientist.

2. Responsibilities

The accreditation liaison, when required, must:

- a. Provide guidance and assistance in NAACLS accreditation requirements, policies and procedures.
- b. Provide input into the curriculum and continuous program assessment and improvement.
- c. Have regular contact with the program director, faculty and program personnel.

Proposed

E. Accreditation Liaison (when required, for international programs only)

1. Qualifications

The accreditation liaison, when required, must be a medical laboratory professional who:

- a. Has knowledge of NAACLS accreditation.
- b. Has at least a master's degree and three years of experience in the program discipline.
- c. Holds ASCP BOC or ASCPi BOC certification as a medical laboratory scientist.

2. Responsibilities

The accreditation liaison, when required, must:

- a. Provide guidance and assistance in NAACLS accreditation requirements, policies and procedures.
- b. Provide input into the curriculum and continuous program assessment, improvement **and accreditation review of material and processes.**
- c. Have regular contact with the program director, faculty and program personnel.

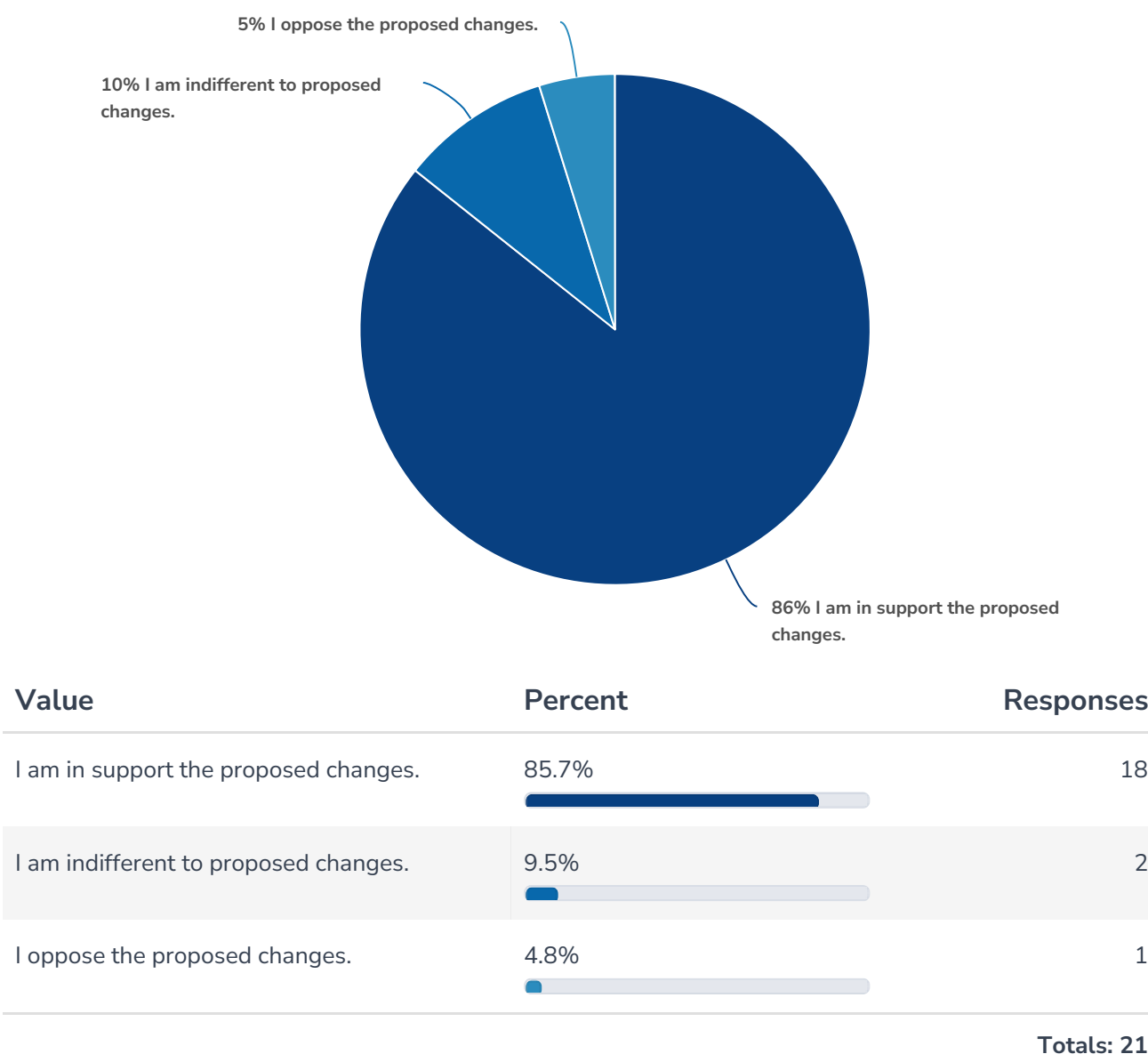
3. **Appointments**

The accreditation liaison must have a faculty or clinical appointment at the sponsoring institution.

Rationale

To increase the likelihood of the accreditation liaison being included on related communication. The standard language is based on similar language in the program director standard.

8. 2024 Standards Adding a Faculty Appointment to Accreditation Liaison Requirements - in regard to the proposed standard change, please select an option below.



9. 2024 Standards Adding a Faculty Appointment to Accreditation Liaison Requirements - if you have additional commentary in support or in opposition to the change, please submit it below.

ResponseID Response

4 None

9 Program directors and accreditation liaisons for NAACLS accredited MLT, MT/MLS, and Phlebotomy programs have several strong academic, workforce, regulatory, and professional reasons to recognize and accept American Medical Technologists certification as a valid national credentialing pathway for graduates. 1. AMT is a nationally recognized certifying organization AMT is a long-established national certification agency for allied health professionals and laboratory personnel. It is recognized by employers, healthcare systems, and many state licensing bodies across the United States. AMT credentials such as: MLT (Medical Laboratory Technician) MT/MLS equivalent pathways RPT (Registered Phlebotomy Technician) are used nationwide in hospitals, reference laboratories, physician offices, dialysis centers, and outpatient healthcare systems. Accepting AMT supports broader national workforce mobility and credential portability for graduates. 2. Alignment with NAACLS mission and workforce development NAACLS emphasizes quality education, student success, workforce readiness, and public protection. Restricting graduates to only one certifying body may unnecessarily limit employment opportunities and reduce workforce pipeline flexibility. Recognizing AMT: Expands graduate employment options Supports workforce shortages in laboratory medicine and phlebotomy Increases accessibility for diverse and nontraditional students Promotes equitable credentialing opportunities Given ongoing national shortages of laboratory professionals and phlebotomists, accepting multiple reputable certification pathways helps healthcare systems fill critical staffing gaps. 3. AMT examinations assess competency-based outcomes AMT certification exams evaluate: Specimen collection and handling Quality assurance Laboratory operations Safety and infection control Clinical laboratory procedures Professional ethics Regulatory compliance These competencies align closely with NAACLS curriculum standards and entry-level practice expectations. Programs should evaluate whether certification bodies adequately measure competency, not merely whether one organization has greater historical market dominance. 4. Employer acceptance across healthcare systems Many hospitals and healthcare organizations already accept AMT-certified personnel interchangeably with other national certifications for hiring and employment eligibility. Healthcare employers frequently focus on: Graduation from an accredited program National certification eligibility Demonstrated competency Clinical experience rather than limiting consideration to a single certifying agency. 5. Supports student success and credential attainment Some graduates perform better with different testing environments, exam structures, or scheduling flexibility. Allowing AMT: Improves certification accessibility May improve graduate pass outcomes Helps reduce delays in entering the workforce Provides an alternative route for qualified graduates Programs ultimately benefit when more graduates successfully achieve national credentialing and employment. 6. Consistency with inclusive educational practices Educational institutions should avoid creating unnecessary barriers when multiple nationally recognized credentialing options exist. Acceptance of AMT demonstrates: Student-centered policy development Inclusivity Workforce responsiveness Professional fairness especially for adult learners, second-career students, and economically disadvantaged populations. 7. Regulatory and accreditation flexibility NAACLS standards generally require programs to

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	prepare students for national certification and competent practice, but they do not universally mandate exclusive acceptance of one certifying body over another. If a certification organization: Maintains psychometrically sound examinations, Uses competency-based standards, Requires continuing education, Upholds ethical standards, Maintains national recognition, then programs have a reasonable basis to acknowledge it as a valid credentialing pathway. 8. Encourages professional diversity and competition Recognizing multiple certifying agencies: Encourages innovation in credentialing Helps keep examination access competitive Reduces monopolistic limitations Benefits students through broader options and affordability Healthy competition among credentialing agencies can improve candidate support, continuing education offerings, and accessibility.
10	N/A
23	I support this change. A faculty or clinical appointment gives the Accreditation Liaison a defined institutional role, improves communication, and strengthens accountability for accreditation-related review and continuous program improvement.