FAQs for individuals already credentialed as CCy

Cytometry Certification: Changes are Underway
At the 2016 annual meeting of the International Clinical Cytometry Society (ICCS), an announcement was made concerning the changes coming to the current International Clinical Cytometry Society’s (ICCE) Certification in Cytometry (CCy) exam. Over the past year, the Cytometry Advisory Committee (CAC), a committee that oversees the exam and includes representatives from both ICCS and ISAC (the International Society for Advancement of Cytometry) has been working with the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification (ASCP BOC) to create a new credential that will replace both the CCy as well as the ASCP BOC Qualification in Cytometry, QCYM.

The new exam and cytometry credential will now be managed and overseen by the ASCP BOC beginning in October, 2017. In the meantime, the ICCE will still be available until June 30, 2017 to those who wish to take it before the upcoming proposed changes take place. More information about how to apply for the ICCE, as well as what content is included on the exam, can be found on the ICCE website: http://www.cytometrycertification.org/

There has been a lot of discussion and questions since the announcement was made at the 2016 ICCS meeting about the new cytometry credential, Specialist in Cytometry, SCYM(ASCP)CM, being created to replace the CCy. The following are frequently asked questions and answers specific to those who are currently credentialed as CCy or will be as of June 30, 2017.

What is the timeline for the transition from the CCy credential to the SCYM(ASCP) credential?

- June 9, 2017: Last day to apply for the ICCE examination to be scheduled at a Castle testing center.
- June 10, 2017: The last paper ICCE examination will be offered at the ISAC CYTO meeting in Boston.
- June 30, 2017: Last day available for taking the ICCE examination at a Castle testing location.
- July 1, 2017: First day of ASCP BOC taking over all CCy data, including examination applications and recertification processing.
  - First day that the current CCy credential transitions to the new ASCP BOC SCYM(ASCP)CM credential.
  - First day that applications will be accepted by the ASCP BOC for the SCYM(ASCP) certification.
- October 1, 2017: First day for eligible candidates to take the ASCP BOC SCYM(ASCP) certification examination.
What if I have applied, or want to apply, for the current ICCE examination?
If you have applied to take the current ICCE CCy exam you will have until June 30, 2017 to take it; otherwise, beginning July 1, 2017, you must meet the new eligibility requirements and apply to take the new exam for the SCYM(ASCP)™ certification. The first administration of the new exam will begin October 1, 2017.

If I currently have the CCy credential, will I have to take another examination to become SCYM(ASCP)™ credentialed?
No. Anyone who currently has the CCy credential, and anyone who successfully passes the current ICCE exam by June 30, 2017, will be transitioned to the new ASCP BOC Specialist in Cytometry credential [SCYM(ASCP)™]. There will be a process to be transitioned over; this will not require any additional education or experience. Further information and additional details will be provided in the coming months.

Will there be a fee to be transitioned from CCy to SCYM(ASCP)™?
No. There will not be any separate fees to transition to the new SCYM(ASCP)™ certification credential.

Will I be contacted personally about the transition and recertification processes?
Yes. Those currently credentialed as CCy will be contacted via mail with information about upcoming changes. This communication will provide you with your ASCP Customer ID #, new certification number, and a confirmation of your valid dates of certification.

My current CCy credential expires in the coming year. Should I wait to renew or should I renew it now?
Until June 30, 2017, follow the regular renewal instructions for renewal of your credential, CCy.

After July 1, 2017, all credential renewal will be processed online through the ASCP BOC website at www.ascp.org/cmp.

What will happen once I transition to the new SCYM(ASCP)™ credential?
Your new certification as SCYM(ASCP)™ will remain valid until three years after you were originally credentialed as CCy. To maintain the new credential, you will be required to participate in the ASCP BOC Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) every three years.

What are the ASCP BOC requirements for maintaining my SCYM(ASCP)™ certification?
You will be required to participate in the ASCP BOC Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) every three years to maintain SCYM(ASCP)™ certification. This program requires the completion of 36 continuing education credits (CMP points) as follows:
- 1 point in laboratory or patient safety (i.e. quality control, quality assurance)
- 10 points in the area of Cytometry
- 25 points in area of laboratory specialty, management, education, or other related laboratory areas of interest
Details and instructions for completing the CMP can be found at this link on the ASCP BOC website:
www.ascp.org/cmp

When will I receive a wall certificate with my new SCYM(ASCP)\textsuperscript{CM} credential?
After successful completion of your first CMP renewal, you will receive an updated wall certificate showing your transition to the SCYM(ASCP)\textsuperscript{CM} credential with your new three year cycle of valid certification dates. You will receive an updated wall certificate with each renewal cycle.

What are the steps for recertification under the ASCP CMP?
1. Complete the continuing education (CEs) required for SCYM(ASCP)\textsuperscript{CM} recertification and accumulate and save documentation for these activities. This documentation will only be required if your recertification application (Declaration Form) is selected for audit.
2. Login to your ASCP account at any time and enter all non-ASCP CEs into your ASCP transcript as you complete them. (ASCP credits will automatically be recorded in your transcript for you.)
3. Using the online CMP process and drop downs provided, categorize your CEs by topic area (i.e. safety, cytometry, and related interests), date completed, and credits/CMP points awarded to meet the CMP requirements.
4. At least one month prior to your certification expiration date, login to the ASCP website and submit your completed online CMP Declaration Form and application fee.

What if I am currently credentialed as CCy and do not want to transition to the new certification credential of SCYM(ASCP)\textsuperscript{CM}?
All valid CCy credentials will be transitioned to the new SCYM(ASCP)\textsuperscript{CM} credential.

What if, after I transition over to the new SCYM(ASCP)\textsuperscript{CM} credential, I don't participate in the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP)?
If you choose not to maintain your SCYM(ASCP)\textsuperscript{CM} credential and it expires, you will be required to complete the ASCP BOC Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) to reinstate your certification. The reinstatement fee, in addition to the application fee, would apply. Click here for further information.

More information will be shared as the process continues. Updates will be posted on the ICCS, ISAC, and ASCP BOC websites.

ISAC http://isac-net.org/
ICCS http://www.cytometry.org/web/index.php
ASCP BOC https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification