COLA

FAST FACTS 32RI

RHODE ISLAND PERSONNEL LICENSURE RESOURCE SHEET

Rhode Island is one of several states that has its own state laboratory personnel licensure rules and regulations. This COLA fact sheet summarizes provisions in Rhode Island law for licensing clinical laboratory personnel, includes a list of approved sources for continuing education and lists education requirements for licensure.

State	Rhode Island
CLIA Status	Not Exempt
Revision	July 1999
Source	R23-16.3-CLS (General Laws of RI (23-16.3))

Summary of Provisions:

- Licensure as a clinical laboratory scientist or laboratory technician is not required when performing limited function tests (waived tests) or within the scope of his or her practice and for which he or she is otherwise licensed by Rhode Island as a medical professional (e.g. R.N., M.D., etc.)
- Individuals may receive a provisional license for a period of 12 months if they meet the education and experience requirements for licensure and are awaiting the results of certification examinations and have filed an application that is complete except for the examination scores. Provisional license may be reissued at least one time.
- A temporary permit may be issued for a period of 90 days to individuals who qualify for licensure, have filed an application; and have provided acceptable evidence of being currently licensed under the laws of another state or (in the absence of the licensure law) has successfully completed a nationally recognized certification examination.

Testing Requirements:

- A national or other approved exam is required.

Application Information:

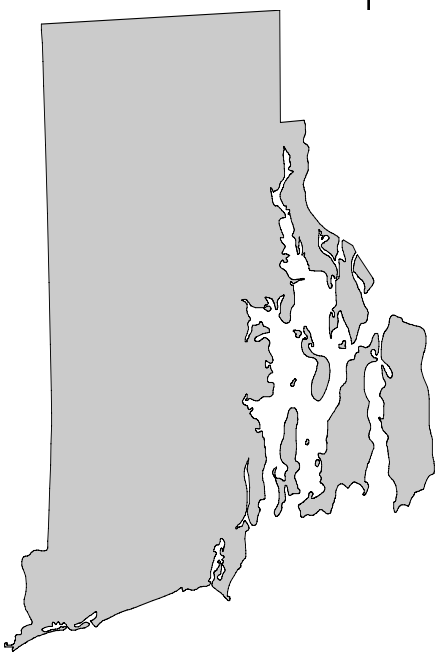
- Licensing and renewal is on or before December 31 of each odd numbered year.
- $62.50 for the following:
  - Clinical Laboratory Scientist (Technologist);
  - Clinical Laboratory Scientist (Technologist/ Categorical) - refer to chart on page 3; and
  - Cytotechnologist.
- $31.25 for the following:
  - Clinical Histologic Technician;
  - Clinical Laboratory Technician.
- Each renewal application includes an attestation statement indicating either 1) completion of at least thirty (30) hours of continuing education courses, clinics, lectures, training programs, seminars, or other programs related to clinical laboratory practice which are approved or accepted by the Board; or 2) successful completion of a continuing competency recognition program by a national certification organization.
- An individual holding more than one license under these rules and regulations need earn only thirty (30) continuing education credits every two (2) years.

Laboratories in Rhode Island may enroll in COLA to meet CLIA requirements. COLA accredited labs are required to meet federal and state personnel requirements.

If you have any questions about Rhode Island personnel licensure and your laboratory, please contact the COLA Information Resource Center toll-free at (800) 981-9883, or the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Department of Health, Division of Professional Regulation at (401) 222-2827.

RHODE ISLAND:
APPROVED SOURCES FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

1. Approved Continuing Education programs, sponsored by the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science, Association of Cytogenetic Technologists, American Society of Microbiology, American Society for Clinical Pathologists, College of American Pathologists, American Association for Clinical Chemistry, American Association of Blood Banks, American Society of Hematology, Clinical Laboratory Managers Association, American Association of Bioanalysts, American College of Medical Genetics, or programs provided or approved by any national laboratory-related professional organization and/or their constituent groups;



2. Programs provided by government agencies;

3. College or university course work. For example, this may include science, computer science or business management courses, as well as other clinically relevant courses appropriate to the field of clinical laboratory science;

4. Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification approved by the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association;

5. Activities which have been approved by the American Medical Association (AMA Category I) or the American Nurses Association (ANA) through the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) as long as they are relevant to the clinical laboratory sciences;

6. Activities related to the development and initial offering of clinical laboratory science or other career related courses or workshops to clinical laboratory personnel, students or allied health professionals. Lectures = 5 contact hours per hour of lecture (this includes 4 hours preparation time); teleconferences = 5 contact hours per hour of lecture. Credit may be obtained only for teaching the same topic once. Documentation includes copy of syllabus, program or letter of recognition that demonstrates content and length of teaching time;

7. Credit for papers, publications, books, and exhibits (paper or poster sessions), including publishing a paper in a recognized (indexed) journal or presented before a professional audience; writing a chapter of a clinical laboratory science or medically related book; or developing a technical/scientific exhibit for display at a national scientific meeting. Single or dual authorship = 10 contact hours; first (senior) authorship = 10 contact hours; multiple authorship = 5 contact hours. Documentation includes title page of publication, chapter listing and title page, abstract identifying poster session, or meeting outline identifying presentation.

RHODE ISLAND PERSONNEL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Clinical Laboratory Scientist (Technologist)	Clinical Laboratory Technician	Cytotechnologist	Clinical Histologic Technician	Clinical Laboratory Scientist (Technologist) - Categorical
Defined: A person who performs tests pursuant to established and approved protocols requiring the exercise of independent judgment and responsibility, maintains equipment and records, performs quality assurance activities related to test performance, and may supervise and teach within a clinical laboratory setting.	Defined: A person who performs laboratory tests pursuant to established and approved protocols which require limited exercise of independent judgment and which are performed under the personal and direct supervision of a clinical laboratory scientist (technologist), laboratory supervisor, or laboratory director.	Defined: A health care professional specializing in cancer detection. She/he is responsible for diagnostic testing and may also be involved in management, education arid research.	Defined: A person who is concerned with the preparation of surgical, autopsy or research tissue for microscopic examination pursuant to established and approved protocols which require limited exercise of independent judgement and responsibility.	Defined: A person who performs tests pursuant to established and approved protocols requiring the exercise of independent judgment and responsibility, maintains equipment and records, performs quality assurance activities related to test performance, and may supervise and teach within a clinical laboratory setting.
OPTION #1 BA/BS in clinical laboratory science (medical technology) with curriculum that included one year clinical training program; **or** BS biological, chemical or physical science and at least one year of appropriate clinical education in an accredited clinical laboratory science program; **or** BA/BS degree with a minimum of 36 semester (or equivalent) hours in the biological, chemical and physical sciences, plus two (2) years of full-time (minimum of thirty-five (35) hours per week) work experience including a minimum of four (4) months in each of the four (4) major disciplines of laboratory practice (clinical chemistry, clinical microbiology, hematology, immunology/immunohematology); **or** BA/BS consisting of 90 semester (or equivalent) hours, 36 of which must be in the biological, chemical or physical sciences, and a twelve (12) month clinical training program;	**OPTION #1** AA or sixty (60) semester (or equivalent) hours from a clinical laboratory technician program (MLT or equivalent) that included a structured curriculum in clinical laboratory techniques; **or** HS diploma (or equivalent) and completion of twelve (12) months in a technician training program such as a clinical laboratory assistant (CLA) program or a medical laboratory technician certificants (MLT-C) program in an accredited school approved by the Board; **or** Successful completion of an official military medical laboratory procedure course of at least fifty (50) weeks duration and has held the military enlisted occupational specialty of Medical Laboratory Specialist (laboratory technician); *And,* Nationally recognized certification examination for a clinical laboratory technician or other examination as may be approved by the Board.	**OPTION #1** BA/BS with 20 semester (30 quarter) hours of biological science, 8 semester hours (12 quarter hours) of chemistry and 3 semester (4 quarter) hours of mathematics and successful completion of twelve (12) month cytotechnology program; **or** BA/BS with 20 semester (30 quarter) hours of biological science, (8) semester (12 quarter) hours of chemistry and (3) semester (4 quarter) hours of mathematics and (5) years full time acceptable clinical laboratory experience including cytopreparatory techniques, microscopic analysis and evaluation of the body systems within the last ten (10) years. At least two (2) of these years must be subsequent to the completion of the academic component and at least two (2) years must be under the supervision of a licensed physician who is a pathologist, certified, or eligible for certification, by the American Board of Pathology in Anatomic Pathology or has other suitable qualifications	AA with 60 semester (or equivalent) hours to include a combination of mathematics and at least 12 semester hours of biology and chemistry and successful completion of an accredited program in histologic technique or one (1) full year of training in histologic technique under the supervision of certified histotechnologist or an appropriately certified histopathology supervisor *with* at least three (3) years experience; ***or*** HS diploma and two (2) years full-time acceptable experience under the supervision of a certified/licensed clinical histologic technician at a licensed clinical laboratory in histologic technique; *And,* Nationally recognized certification examination for a clinical histologic technician or other examination as may be approved by the Board.	**Chemistry** BA/BS with 36 semester (54 quarter) hours in biological, chemical, and physical sciences and the equivalent of six (6) months full-time clinical lab training in chemistry within last ten (10) years; **and** Certification exam; **or** Doctoral degree in chemical or clinical lab science **and** certification. **Microbiology** BA/BS with 36 semester (54 quarter) hours in biological, chemical, and physical sciences and the equivalent of six (6) months full-time clinical lab training in microbiology within last ten (10) years; **and** Certification exam; **or** Doctoral degree in biological or clinical lab science **and** certification. **Hematology** BA/BS with 36 semester (54 quarter) hours in biological, chemical, and physical sciences and the equivalent of six (6) months full-time clinical lab training in hematology within last ten (10) years; **and**

Clinical Laboratory Scientist (Technologist) ***(continued)***	**Clinical Laboratory Technician** ***(continued)***	**Cytotechnologist** ***(continued)***	**Clinical Histologic Technician** ***(continued)***	**Clinical Laboratory Scientist (Technologist) - Categorical** ***(continued)***
And, Nationally recognized certification examination for a clinical laboratory scientist (technologist), or other examination as may be approved by the Board. **OPTION #2** Clinical laboratory scientist (technologist) who previously qualified under federal regulatory requirements such as 493.1433 of the March 14, 1990 *Federal Register* as follows: **OPTION #3** PHD in a clinical laboratory science; ***and*** Certification, including successful completion of a national certification examination, as approved by the Board, and as may be offered by the American Board of Medical Microbiology, the American Board of Clinical Chemistry, the American Board of Bioanalysis, the American Board of Medical Laboratory Immunology, the American Board of Medical Genetics (ABMG) or others as may be approved by the Board.	**OPTION #2** Clinical laboratory technician who previously qualified under federal regulatory requirements such as 493.1433 of the March 14, 1990, *Federal Register.*	acceptable to the Board; *And*, Nationally recognized certification examination for a cytotechnologist. **OPTION #2** A cytotechnologist who previously qualified under federal regulatory requirements such as 493.1433 of the March 14, 1990 *Federal Register.*		Certification exam; **or** Doctoral degree in biological or clinical lab science **and** certification. **Immunohematology** BA/BS with 36 semester (54 quarter) hours in biological, chemical, and physical sciences and the equivalent of six (6) months full-time clinical lab training in immunohematology within last ten (10) years; **and** Certification exam; **or** Doctoral degree in chemical, biological or clinical lab science **and** certification. **Immunology** BA/BS with 36 semester (54 quarter) hours in biological, chemical, and physical sciences and the equivalent of six (6) months full-time clinical lab training in immunology within last ten (10) years; **and** Certification exam; **or** Doctoral degree in chemical, biological or clinical lab science **and** certification.

A license to practice under any category of licensure may be issued to an applicant who holds a valid license or its equivalent, in that category, issued by another state provided:

- The Board of Licensure in each state in which the applicant has held or holds licensure submits directly to the Division, a statement attesting to the licensure status of the applicant during the time period the applicant held licensure in said state;
- The applicant provides acceptable evidence to the Division that the requirements under which the applicant was originally licensed in another state meet or exceed the standards required in this state.