



FEBRUARY 2024

Save the Date: Upcoming Chapter Events

February 2024 Chapter Leader Call – February 22 @ 2 pm ET

Chapter Legislative Representative Call – February 26 @ 11 am ET

Chapter Membership Chair Call - February 27 @ 2 pm ET

[View the comprehensive 2024 chapter meeting, event, and communications schedule »](#)

Leadership Highlights

Brush up on your chapter leadership knowledge with this year's orientation and virtual training sessions

Crystal Edwards, Associate Director, Component Relations

APIC held its annual Chapter Leader Orientation for both new and returning leaders in January. Leaders joined the training session to get the information and tools needed to start the year off strong. Participants learned how chapters fit into APIC and its strategy to advance the science and practice of infection prevention and control. They were also provided an overview of the Chapter Leader Resource microsite and the various leadership resources available to help chapters and chapter leaders fulfill their purpose.

The training featured a breakout series for more in-depth role-specific training provided by Member Engagement Committee (MEC) members and chapter leader volunteers. There were sessions for each of the four (4) primary offices, as well as Membership Chairs, and Communication/Social Media Chairs/Webmasters.

If you missed the orientation or simply need a refresher of the chapter leadership resources or the requirements of your role, you can access the recordings and slides on the [Chapter Leader Resources microsite](#) now. The session for Social Media/Webmasters was not recorded. However, [chapter website training videos are available here](#).

Have questions or suggestions for additional training chapter leaders need? Email chapters@apic.org.

Keep up with chapter leadership events through the Virtual Chapter Event Calendar

Crystal Edwards, Associate Director, Component Relations

This year's Chapter Event Calendar has been set and was distributed to all chapter leaders with updated leadership records submitted by the required deadline. However, we realize that some have since and continue to submit and we want to make sure that no leader is left behind. The [Virtual Chapter Event Calendar](#) has been updated with all 2024 leadership events, including the links to register and/or join. Haven't received an invite or don't have a specific event on your calendar? Find and click the corresponding event on the [virtual calendar](#) to get the information you need, download to your calendar, register, or join the event at the appointed time.

Protect your chapter and its members from online phishing scams

Crystal Edwards, Associate Director, Component Relations

Local chapter boards, including the officers and directors, have a fiduciary responsibility to their chapters to ensure the benefit to the local organization and its members. Part of that responsibility includes exercising reasonable care to protect the chapter from unnecessary risk.

APIC and its chapters are routinely targeted by online phishing scams which can be a source of great risk to organizations and their members. In these attacks, scammers spoof emails from one leader to another about urgent money transfers. Phishing messages typically include at least one link to a fake website, designed to mimic the site of a legitimate business. The message entices the recipient to provide information that could be used for identity or online financial theft. If you receive any suspicious emails, do not respond and do not transfer funds.

As a leader, you can help increase your protection against these attacks by developing a chapter process for handling sensitive information (member lists, payment requests, etc.). Limited information should be sent electronically and only with the consent of multiple chapter leaders. When sending information electronically is necessary, electronic files containing sensitive information should be password protected. And, if you are at all suspicious, follow up with the supposed sender either by phone or by sending a new email. To broaden your chapter's protections, you should also educate your members on this phenomena and how they can help protect themselves and the chapter.

[Click here for more helpful hints on protecting your chapter from online phishing.](#)

Membership Highlights

Celebrating Black History Month in your local chapters

Crystal Edwards, Associate Director, Component Relations

As we continue to have critical diversity, equity, and inclusion conversations, we should also consider developing programs and opportunities that will strengthen our organizations in each of these areas. APIC represents a diverse workforce of professionals dedicated to infection prevention and control. To fortify the power of our organization and the profession, and affect greater equality both within APIC and without, we must continue to value and give greater attention to the diversity and inclusivity of our organization at all levels. This includes the local chapters. While these efforts should be made all year-round versus relegated to just one month a year, Black History Month presents an opportunity to advance increased awareness, recognition, education, and honor around Black History and the contributions of Black peoples to American culture.

Perhaps this type of initiative is new for your chapter, or you'd simply like to do something different. [Here are few things your chapter can do to celebrate this Black History Month.](#)

The pursuit of diversity and inclusion and celebration of Black History is not merely a one-time or isolated project, but an ongoing effort that will take time. The more this becomes ingrained into your chapter's fabric, the better the chapter will be, the better your

members and volunteer leaders will work together, and the more you will encourage and cultivate ongoing change in your chapter and positively impact the association at large.

CBIC Update for chapters: The Advanced Certification in Infection Prevention and Control (AD-CIP)

Gina Cairo, Certification Program Manager, CBIC

The CBIC board of directors met alongside APIC and APIC Consulting board directors last month at our annual board leadership orientation and we are excited for a productive year ahead! Work continues on the [Advanced Certification in Infection Prevention and Control \(AD-CIP\)](#). Our dedicated group of subject matter experts meet regularly to develop this portfolio-based certification. The [APIC Competency Model](#) will serve as the framework for this certification but will focus more on the outer circle of future-oriented competencies such as research, leadership, professional stewardship, IPC operations, etc.

CBIC will be holding a session on the AD-CIP at the upcoming [APIC conference](#) in June and the schedule for this will be available in the coming months. The CBIC staff and board of directors are looking forward to seeing many of you and your members at this in-person event. For more information on the certification, see the dedicated page on the [CBIC website](#). We will continue to update this as more information is available.

In the meantime, do you have an upcoming chapter meeting in 2024? To request representation from CBIC at a future APIC chapter meeting, please fill out the following survey: <https://forms.office.com/r/6F0n7CsnAU>.

If you or your members have questions about CBIC's certifications, please contact us at info@cbic.org. It is always a pleasure to connect with APIC chapters and to learn how CBIC can better assist current and prospective certificants.

Featured Chapter of the Month



Your chapters' stories and photos belong here.

This section is dedicated to telling your chapters' stories. Your chapters' wins are rarely just for you and often answer burning questions or hold the keys to a fellow chapter's success. Regularly sharing anecdotes of your chapter successes highlights all the amazing things our chapters do, as well as inspires innovation across the chapter network. From dynamic education programs, to mentoring initiatives, or custom award programs, we want to know!

We are now accepting stories to be featured in 2024. Sharing opportunities include this monthly newsletter, as well as the chapter leader calls. Have a great story to share? Send it in 250 words or less to chapters@apic.org. We want to hear about and share the successes of your chapters!

APIC Happenings to Share

Group training opportunities for chapters and their members

APIC's group training(s) offers a valuable opportunity for both individual and collective growth and expansion through communal learning and development. Being surrounded by others who share the same goals allows for the exchange of new ideas, processes, and skills. Do you or any of your members have 5 or more in your respective organizations? If so, we can help. Contact us at education@apic.org. We offer the [EPI Intensive](#), [CIC certification](#), [LTC Essentials](#), or [LTC - CIP Certification](#) training for you and your local members' continued growth.

Ten crucial insights for Infection Preventionists on AAMI Standards

The Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI) is a primary source of consensus standards for the medical device industry. This document is intended to assist Infection Preventionists in selecting, interpreting, and utilizing advisory documents regarding processing medical devices/equipment.

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