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- CBIC President-Elect
- Chief of Infectious Disease at Baylor St. Luke's
- First CIC® Certified: 2019
- LTC-CIP® Certified: 2022
- AL-CIP™ Certified: 2024



Objectives



What is CBIC?

Certification Board of Infection
Control and Epidemiology, Inc.

Voluntary, autonomous,
multidisciplinary board

MISSION: *Provide pathways to demonstrate and maintain competence in infection prevention and control.*

VISION: *A world free of infections through demonstrated professional competency.*

Organizational structure:



Association for
Professionals in
Infection Control &
Epidemiology

Certification Board
of Infection Control
& Epidemiology

APIC Consulting



CBIC Strategic Plan



Sustain Excellence and Credibility of Certifications & Strengthen Global Reach



Market the Value of Certification



Build Global Partnerships for Accessible Certification

CBIC Certifications

Novice

a-IPC™

A measure of basic infection prevention knowledge

Early/Mid-Career

CIC®/LTC-CIP®

Standardized measure of the basic knowledge, skills and abilities expected of professionals working in the field of infection prevention and control

Expert

AL-CIP

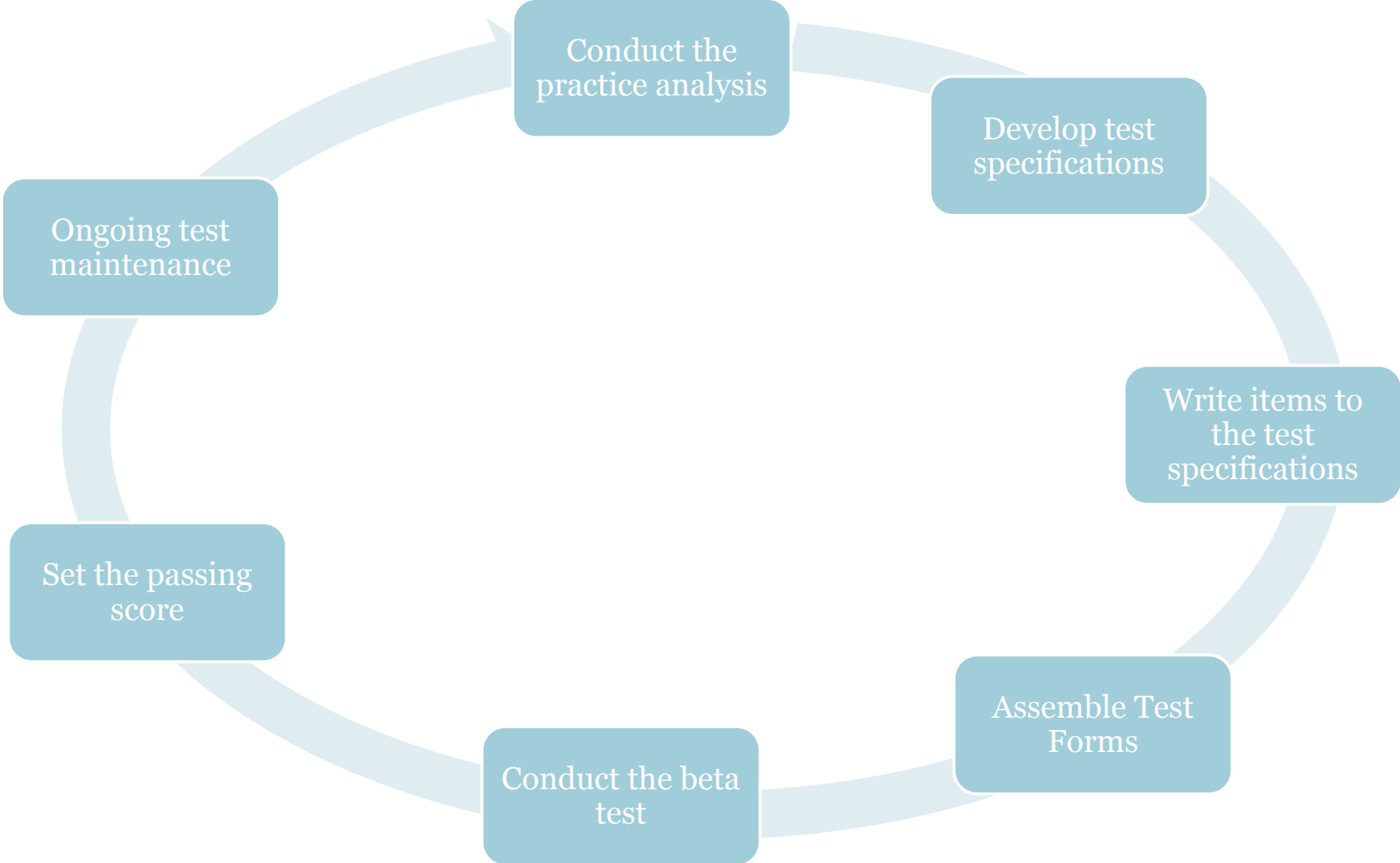
Demonstration of professional expertise in infection prevention and control through portfolio submission. CIC®/LTC-CIP® is a pre-requisite.

Certificate vs Certification

A *certificate* is awarded following the completion of a course or series of courses that provides education and training around an intended learning outcome.

A ***certification*** is awarded following successful completion of a comprehensive examination process and provides an independent assessment of the knowledge, skills, and/or competencies required for competent performance of an occupation or professional role.

CBIC Exam Development Cycle



Value to All Certificants

- Increased recognition by peers and respect of colleagues in the profession
- Improved opportunities for employability and advancement — Greater confidence in their professional competence
- Increased professional trust from employers or the public
- Increased autonomy in the workplace
- Better compensation and career longevity

Content for this statement inspired by the Institute for Credentialing Excellence, 2012, A Look at the Value of Professional Certification <https://www.credentialingexcellence.org/>

Value to the public

- Through increasing competencies, patient outcomes can improve!
- Hospitals with a CIC certified IP participated in infection prevention collaboratives and were more likely to use evidence-based catheter-related bloodstream infection prevention practices.
- Hospitals with a CIC certified IP supported evidence-based antimicrobial stewardship, device-associated health care–associated infection interventions, nurse-initiated urinary catheters discontinuation protocols, and ventilator-associated pneumonia prevention practices.

Value to Employers and Hiring Managers

- Research has shown that organizations value certifications highly when making selection decisions.¹
- When determining a practitioner's commitment to a profession, HR specialists consider knowledge, skill, and performance value factors, as well as the role of certifications. Thus, certification may reduce employee turnover and enhance employee satisfaction.

¹Garza, Adela & Morgeson, Frederick. (2012). Exploring the link between organizational values and human resource certification. *Human Resource Management Review*. 22. 271–278. 10.1016/j.hrmr.2012.06.011.

How to prepare for CBIC certification- Step 1



Review the eligibility guidelines and understand the differences between certifications. These guidelines are designed to set candidates up for success on exam day.



ASSOCIATE

**INFECTION PREVENTION
AND CONTROL**

CBIC Certification: a-IPC™

















- Entry-level certification examination is a measure of basic infection prevention knowledge.
- Recertification is completed via infection prevention units or examination.
- Intended for those interested in gaining expertise or pursuing careers in infection prevention and control.
- Successful certificants have a credential that demonstrates their level of interest and dedication to the field.
- Can help with a transition to acute or long-term care.
- Demonstrates proficiency in what you do.
- **Stands out to hiring managers!**

a-IPC™ Beta Testing



- Effective May 22, 2026, there will be a new content outline for the a-IPC™. The current outline will remain in effect through May 11, 2026, and applies **only** to individuals who have already applied and have scheduled—or will schedule—an exam appointment with Prometric on or before that date.
- CBIC will conduct a beta administration of the a-IPC™ exam under the revised content outline from May 22–July 2, 2026. During the beta period, candidates will take the new version of the exam; however, results will not be released immediately.
- Scoring will be based on data collected from all beta testers, with scores released during the week of August 18, 2026.
- **CBIC will extend a 50% reduction in exam fees from February 17, 2026, through May 4, 2026. There is also a 50% discount on the APIC online learning system.**

Where in the world are a-IPCs?

	Country	# of a-IPCs
	United States	608
	Canada	126
	Saudi Arabia	15
	United Arab Emirates	9
	Egypt	7
	Qatar	5
	Jordan	3
	India	3
	Kenya	1
	Australia	1
	China	1
	Oman	1
	Barbados	1
	Kuwait	1

- 782 a-IPCs worldwide
- Exam released in 2020



CERTIFIED

IN

**INFECTION
CONTROL**



CIC[®] Eligibility Guidelines
















1. Completed post-secondary education in a health-related field including but not limited to medicine, nursing, laboratory technology, or public health. Post-secondary includes public or private universities, colleges, community colleges, etc.
2. Direct responsibility for the infection prevention program activities in a healthcare setting



CIC[®] Eligibility Guidelines

3. Work experience, defined as active engagement in infection prevention, determined by a current job description, for compensation, for a minimum of:
 - At least one-year full-time employment **OR**
 - Two (2) years part-time employment **OR**
 - Completed 3,000 hours of infection prevention work experience earned during the previous three (3) years

Where in the world are CICs?

	Country	# of CICs
	United States	9096
	Canada	1157
	Saudi Arabia	480
	United Arab Emirates	188
	Egypt	135
	India	100
	Qatar	56
	Oman	42
	Jordan	18
	Kuwait	16
	Philippines	15
	Pakistan	13
	Singapore	12
	Sudan	11
	Bahrain	11

- 11,423 CICs worldwide in 52 countries
- Countries with 10+ CICs listed



**LONG-TERM CARE
CERTIFICATION**

IN

**INFECTION
CONTROL**

CBIC Certification: LTC-CIP[®]



Long-term care is a unique setting










- Nursing homes
- Skilled nursing facilities
- Assisted living facilities

Recent surveys and interviews reveal the LTC-CIP:

- Prepares IPC professionals to prevent and handle outbreaks
- Increases interfacility collaboration and communication
- Improves resident and staff safety
- Encourages the use of evidence-based data
- Is well respected by surveyors and can improve survey outcomes

Schweon SJ and Pogorzelska-Maziarz M. Survey said! LTC-CIP certificant's perspective with passing the certification exam. *Am J Infect Control*. 2025;53(3):291-296.

Where in the world are LTC-CIPs?

	Country	# of LTC-CIPs
	Canada	598
	United States	528
	Saudi Arabia	7
	India	3
	Egypt	2
	Bermuda	1
	United Arab Emirates	1
	Nigeria	1
	Jordan	1

- 1,142 LTC-CIPs worldwide
- Exam released in 2023

How to prepare for CBIC certification- Step 2



Review the examination content outline.

CIC[®] Content Outline

Identification of
infectious disease
processes

Surveillance and
epidemiologic
investigation

Preventing and
controlling the
transmission of
infectious agents

Environment of
care

Cleaning, disinfection,
sterilization, and
asepsis

Employee /
occupational health

Management and
communication

Education and
research

a-IPC™ Content Outline: Effective May 22, 2026

Processes to
Identify Infectious
Diseases

Surveillance and
epidemiologic
investigation

Preventing and
controlling the
transmission of
infectious agents

Employee/
Occupational
Health

Management and
Communication of
the Infection
Prevention Program

Education and
Research

Environment of
Care

Cleaning,
Disinfection,
Sterilization of
Medical Devices
and Equipment

LTC-CIP® Content Outline

Long-Term Care
Settings

Management and
Communication of the
Infection Prevention
Program

Identification of
Infectious Diseases

Surveillance and
Epidemiologic
Investigation

Prevention and Control
of Infectious and
Communicable Diseases

Environment of Care

Cleaning, Disinfection,
Sterilization of Medical
Devices and Equipment

Antimicrobial
Stewardship

Employee/Occupational
Health

How to prepare for CBIC certification- Step 3



Develop a study plan and a timeline – work backwards from when you would like to take the exam.

Helpful Hints:

- Take a practice test. Use the results to determine where you should focus your studying.
- Review questions you answered incorrectly and learn from those questions.
- Review the primary and secondary resources used to develop the examination – these are the only resources used to develop the content.
- Develop a study plan and dedicate time each day to reviewing content.

Helpful Hints:

- Join a study group! Learning with others can help with motivation. Celebrate your successes and help each other throughout the process. Your local APIC Chapter can be a great source of support.
- Follow the timing & break structure that is used on exam day
 - Two hours for the a-IPC™
 - Three hours for the CIC® & LTC-CIP®
- Understand that all exams are given with forward navigation – once you answer a question, you cannot go back to it.
- Don't memorize – understand the content!

Resources to Prepare for your Exam:

- Exam prep resources: <https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/Exam-Preparation-Resources.htm>
- Free webinar series and slides for the LTC-CIP®:
<https://blog.cbic.org/resources-to-help-you-prepare-for-the-ltc-cip/>
- APIC webinar series: <https://apic.org/ltc-resources/>
- APIC online learning system & prep courses: <https://learnipc.apic.org/ltc-cip-certification/>



CBIC cannot recommend or endorse any study guides or review courses

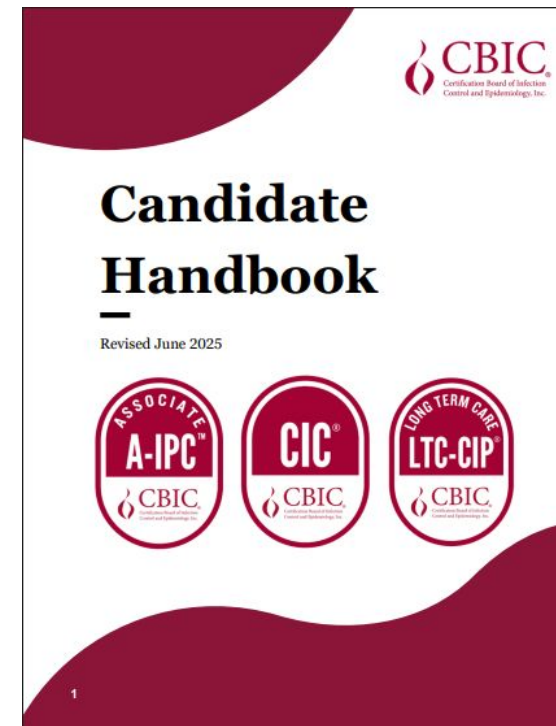
How to prepare for CBIC certification- Step 4



Review the CBIC Candidate Handbook

CBIC Candidate Handbook

- Candidates are responsible for reviewing the policies and information contained in the Candidate Handbook prior to applying for and becoming certified.
- Once a candidate has been approved to test, they are given a 90-day testing window.
- Schedule your appointment with Prometric as soon as you are approved to test. Appointments are first come first serve.
- Review the Prometric cancellation/rescheduling policy.



How to prepare for CBIC certification- Step 5



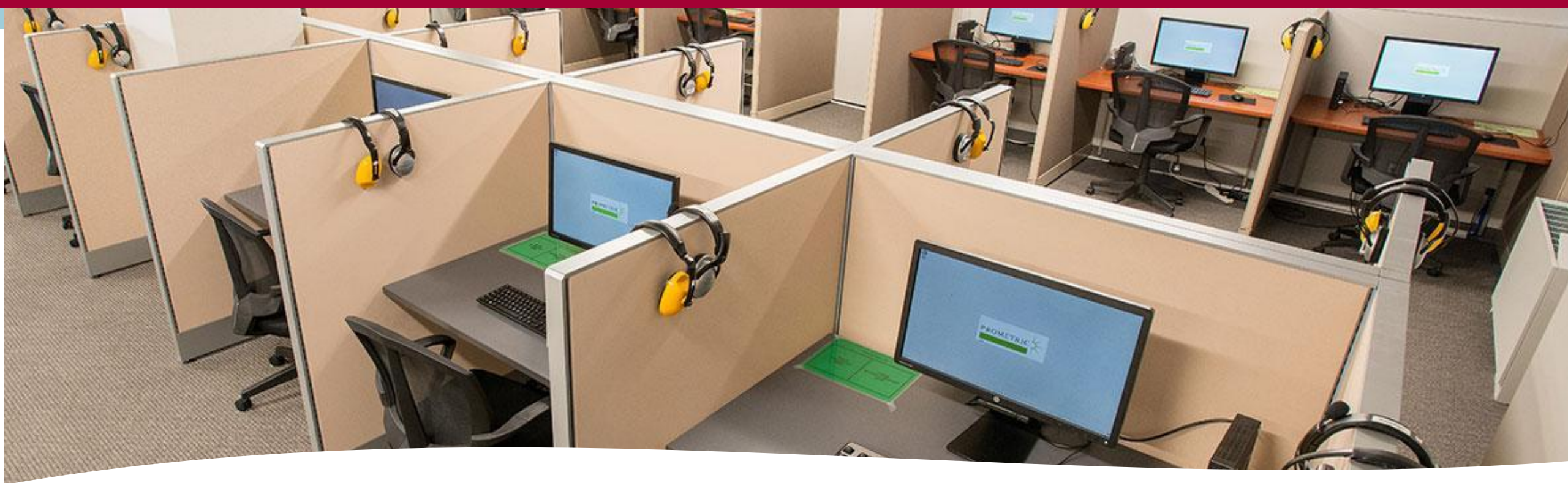
Prepare for exam day

Candidate Testing Experience

- Candidates can take the exam at a physical testing center or via Prometric's live remote proctoring option, Pro Proctor
- Testing is available 5-7 days a week depending on location



Prometric Testing Centers



- Located worldwide in 160+ countries
- Testing available 5-7 days a week during normal business hours
- Candidates are monitored throughout the exam in a secure environment

Prometric – Remote Proctoring



- Candidates can take the exam at home
- A live, remote proctor locks down the candidate's browser
- 360-degree environment check done of candidate workspace

After the Exam

- Results are available immediately after submitting the post-examination survey.
- Passing candidates will receive a Pass message. No numerical scaled score is reported to passing candidates.
- Unsuccessful candidates will receive a score and performance level description.
- Candidates are required to wait 90 days (CIC® & LTC-CIP®) between exam attempts and six months for a-IPC™ if unsuccessful.



Maintaining Certification

Understand your options &
start early

CIC[®] Recertification



CIC® Recertification Overview

CIC® certification is valid for five years from the year of successful examination

Recertification takes place every five years

Recertification can be completed via infection prevention units (IPUs) or taking the CIC® examination.

CIC® Recertification Overview - Updates

The open-book unproctored recertification examination is no longer offered.

Recertification will be obtainable through infection prevention units (IPUs) or by retaking the initial CIC® proctored examination.

Recertification by IPU's

What is an IPU?

- IPU = Infection Prevention Unit (IPU) = continuing education credits
- Can be achieved by*:
 - Presenting at conferences,
 - Authoring publications
 - Attending local or national conferences,
 - Participating in a professional organization in a position of leadership
 - And more! IPU guide available online.

*must be infection prevention related

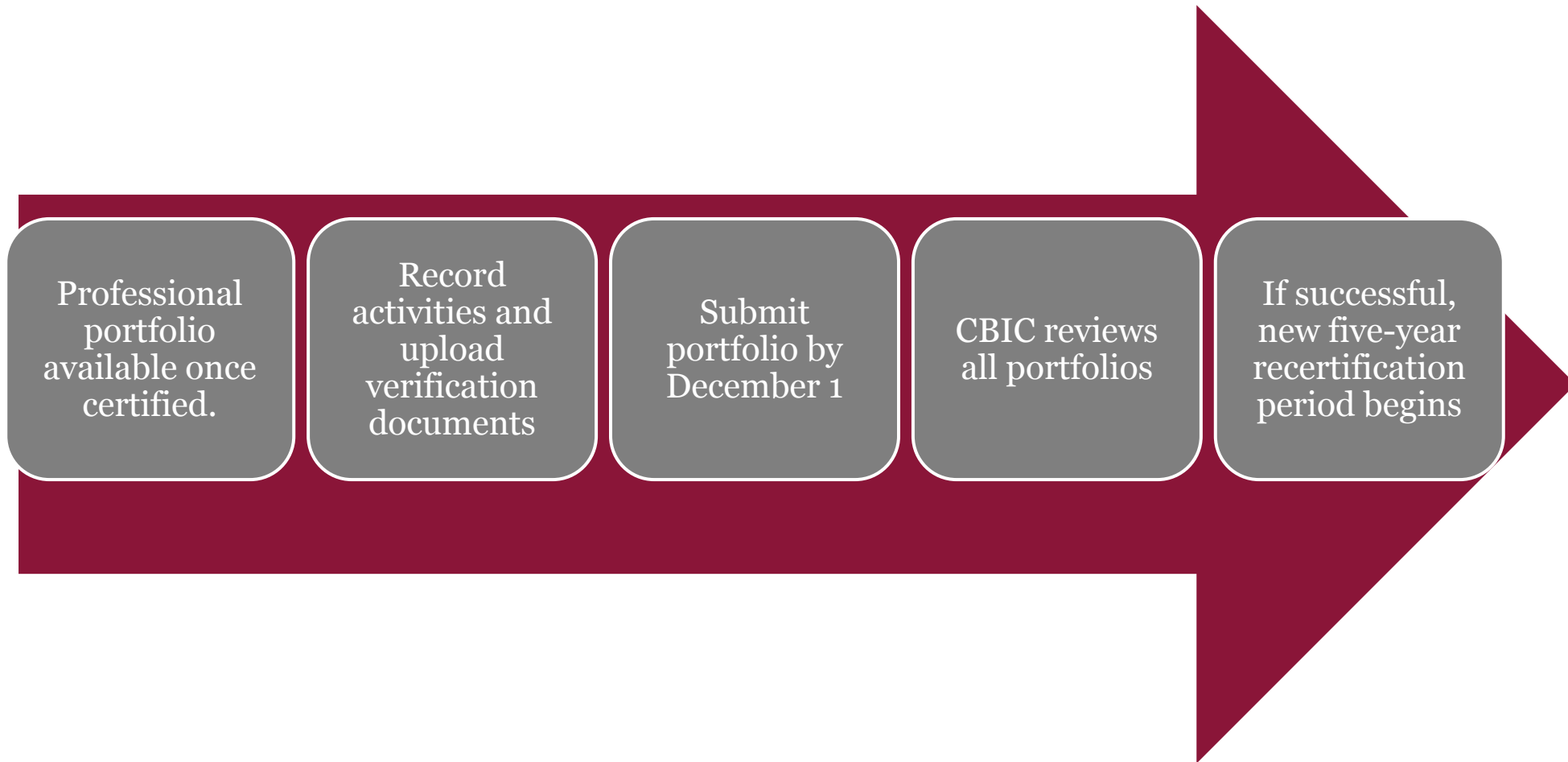
Recertification by IPU

- Candidates must submit an IPU portfolio demonstrating completion of a minimum of 40 IPU (*a-IPCs have a prorated amount through 2029*)
- IPU must be provided by a credible organization and at least 20/40 infection prevention units must be sponsored through an accredited organization or state licensing board.
- Candidates can accumulate IPU any time after their previous recertification submission date throughout their five-year recertification period
- Candidates may access IPU portfolio once certified and must submit by **December 1** of their expiration year.

Recertification by IPU

- To promote continuous learning, effective 2028, candidates must demonstrate that a portion of their IPUs have been attained in different years of the 5-year recertification cycle.
- Effective 2028, for multi-session Infection Control Courses that offer continuous education units, an IPU may be awarded for each educational session of 1 hour or more, to a maximum of 30 IPUs for the course.
- The CBIC Board **recommends** candidates earn at least two IPUs from DEI and Health Equity within healthcare as a part of the minimum required 40 IPUs. DEI and Health Equity should be self-evident in the title or learning objectives.
- CICs who showcase leadership skills via participation in a formal mentorship program through a professional organization related to infection prevention and control may now earn 3 IPUs per year of program participation.

Recertification by IPU's Timeline



Recertification by IPUs: Helpful Hints

- Submit your IPUs as you earn them!
- Don't wait until the last minute to submit your portfolio
- Reach out to staff with questions
- Once your credits have been approved, you will receive a new 5-year certification and can begin submitting IPUs for your next portfolio, due in five years.

CIC® Domains (6/8 required)

1. Identification of Infectious Disease Processes
2. Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigation
3. Preventing/Controlling the Transmission of Infectious Agents
4. Employee/Occupational Health
5. Management and Communication
6. Education and Research
7. Environment of Care
8. Cleaning, Sterilization, Disinfection, Asepsis

a-IPC™ Domains (6/8 required)

1. Processes to Identify Infectious Diseases
2. Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigation
3. Preventing/Controlling the Transmission of Infectious Agents
4. Employee/Occupational Health
5. Management and Communication of the Infection Prevention Program
6. Education and Research
7. Environment of Care
8. Cleaning, Disinfection, Sterilization of Medical Devices and Equipment

LTC-CIP Domains (7/9 required)

1. Long-Term Care Settings
2. Management and Communication of the Infection Prevention Program
3. Identification of Infectious Diseases
4. Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigation
5. Prevention and Control of Infectious and Communicable Diseases
6. Environment of Care
7. Cleaning, Disinfection, Sterilization of Medical Devices and Equipment
8. Antimicrobial Stewardship
9. Employee/Occupational Health



Certified as a CIC®
and LTC-CIP®?
Credits can be used in
both portfolios if the
IPUs are earned
within your 5-year
certification cycle.

IPUs and Chapter Activities

Does my Chapter activity count towards IPUs?

- Subject matter related to infection prevention and control, and falls within at least one of the eight domains
- Able to verify chapter member attendance or participation by providing required documentation



YES!

IPU Conversion Chart

Applicable Activities:

- Online, paper, or live format education
- Attendance at national conference IP-related sessions
- Teaching

Duration of participation/instruction	CEUs	CMEs	CNEs	IPUs
---------------------------------------	------	------	------	------

60 minutes of instruction or 1 "contact hour"	0.1	1	1	1
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IPUs Resources

- ▶▶▶ [IPUs FAQ page](#)
- ▶▶▶ [IPUs downloadable Criteria Chart](#)
- ▶▶▶ [IPUs Portfolio Manual](#)
- ▶▶▶ [Maintaining your CBIC certification through Infection Prevention Units webinar](#)



**ADVANCED
LEADERSHIP
CERTIFICATION**

IN

**INFECTION
PREVENTION**

CBIC Certification: AL-CIP™



- The Advanced Leadership Certification in Infection Prevention & Control (AL-CIP) is an assessment of knowledge, skills and abilities expected of individuals who demonstrate professional expertise, leadership and impact in the field of infection prevention and control.
- Portfolio-based assessment.
- Demonstrates leadership within infection prevention and control that has a measurable impact.
- Next application cycle: July 13-August 17, 2026

AL-CIP™ in the News

From the *American Journal of Infection Control*: Leadership experiences of infection prevention and control professionals: Findings from the Leadership Evaluation and Development for Infection Preventionists (LEAD-IP) study












- Certified IPs described a transition from task-oriented roles to **systems-level leadership**, emphasizing data use, structured improvement models, inclusive team engagement, communication, and psychological safety.
- The AL-CIP™ was seen as reinforcing **leadership identity, confidence, credibility, and career growth**, underscoring the value of targeted leadership development in strengthening IPC workforce capacity.

Leadership experiences of infection prevention and control professionals: Findings from the Leadership Evaluation and Development for Infection Preventionists (LEAD-IP) study

Ruch, Kayla E. et al.

American Journal of Infection Control, Volume 0, Issue 0

AL-CIP™ Certificants Around the World

	Country	# of AL-CIPs
	United States	132
	Canada	20
	Saudi Arabia	16
	United Arab Emirates	4
	Singapore	1
	Qatar	1
	Kenya	1
	Argentina	1
	India	1
	Ukraine	1

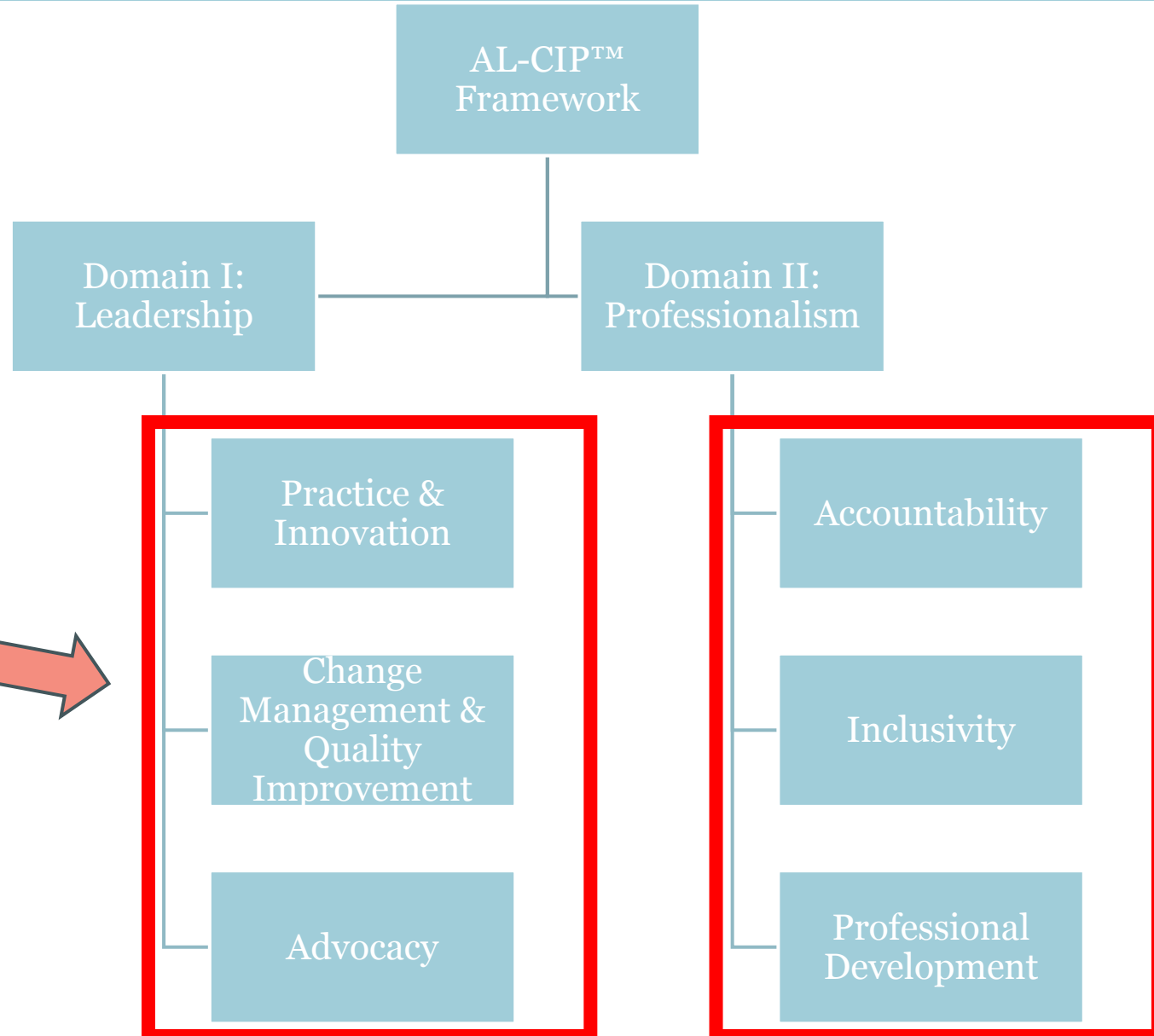
- 178 AL-CIPs worldwide
- Released in 2025



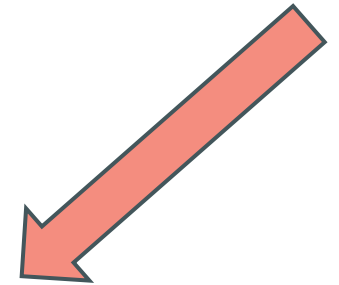
AL-CIP™ Eligibility Requirements

1. Active CIC® or LTC-CIP® certification
2. Demonstrated positive impact on the profession: Active engagement and advanced infection prevention and control practice, leadership, education, research, policy and/or advocacy for a recommended minimum of 7-10 years.

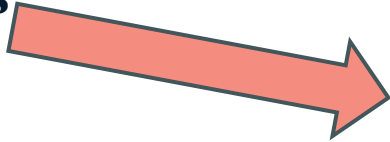
AL-CIP™ Framework



Competencies



Competencies



Examples of evidence*:

- Publications (e.g., peer and non-peer-reviewed journal article, guidelines, compendium). For this type of evidence, include a description of your role in the publication and/or your role in the activities described in the publication in your rationale.
- Presentations (e.g., chapter, regional, national, or international conferences; in-person, virtual, classroom, workshop; poster presentation). For this type of evidence, describe your role in the presentation (development, implementation, delivery, etc.) in your rationale.
- Work product (e.g., toolkits, guidance documents, strategic plan, website, practice changes). For this type of evidence, clearly describe your contribution to the work product (e.g., independent, as part of a team, activities, outcomes as a result of the product) in your rationale.

*all supporting evidence provided must be within the last ten years

Examples of evidence*:

- Program development materials (e.g., academic syllabus, website, course materials, program evaluation). For this type of evidence, describe your role in the program (e.g., original proposer, development, teaching, co-teaching, etc.) in your rationale.
- Credential / certifications relevant to leadership in IPC (e.g., Six sigma black belt, CPHQ, CPH, CEU/CPD). For this type of evidence, describe programs or outcomes that resulted from you having achieved this credential or certification, in your rationale.

*all supporting evidence provided must be within the last ten years

AL-CIP™ Resources

Visit the CBIC website to learn more:

<https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/Get-Certified/Get-Started/Advanced-Certification-in-Infection-Prevention.htm>

- Frequently asked questions
- Tips for Success Document
- Pre-recorded webinar
- Sign up for an informational session
- Read more about the framework

We asked! What does certification mean to you?



Aulin Vitus, BSN, RN, CIC

Being the infection prevention and control manager at my workplace challenged me to move out of my comfort zone and be more proactive by engaging with different stakeholders.

[READ MORE...](#)



Barmak Kusha, MPH, CIC

There has never been a better time than now to enter the field, for a variety of reasons. I advise to take the time to shadow, intern, or consult in a hospital IPC department, and experience all the aspects of the profession as much as they can...

[READ MORE...](#)



Benjamin Pagarigan, III, MD, BSMT, MHA, CIC

Being a CIC is not just letters or words that can be added after your name. It is a legacy that you can show the world that you have the knowledge and you can confidently manage any facility, any infections, any outbreak with patient safety in mind in making the world safe thru infection prevention.

[READ MORE...](#)



Azhar Aziz, CIC

Being CIC gives me more confidence, more experience and stimulation to continue my pathway and more success

[READ MORE...](#)



Benjamin Galvan, MLS(ASCP), CIC

Taking on the role of infection preventionist has given me the opportunity to challenge myself, get out of my comfort zone, and truly engage with my coworkers and colleagues throughout the hospital.

[READ MORE...](#)



Brandi Ford, CIC

I have only held my CIC certificate for a short while, but just in merely studying for the exam, I learned so much about my day-to-day work in my current position! I now have more confidence in providing and submitting information to Physicians and to Administrative levels.

[READ MORE...](#)

We asked! What does certification mean to you?

- Being a CIC® means that I have reached a level of proficiency as an IP professional where I am respected and relied on for my expertise. I take pride in being recognized for the professional practice experience and scientific knowledge base required to be an independent IP professional.
- I became CIC® certified for a few reasons. To identify any knowledge gaps while I was learning to be an IP, validate my self-training, in other words to prove to myself and others that “I knew what I knew”.
- I have worked in the senior living industry for 30 years and feel that learning and growth are essential to nursing practices. This certification adds another layer of expertise and can be applied to many different aspects of care delivery.

Celebrate your certification!

CBIC Corner: Share your certification journey with us

A well-rounded team is a strong team: A conversation with Infection Preventionist, Jill Holdsworth, CIC, FAPIC, NREMT, CRCST

September 8, 2023 / Jessica Dangles /



Infection preventionists work in various healthcare settings, including hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, and more. It should be no surprise that infection preventionists from different backgrounds bring unique perspectives, knowledge, and skills that contribute to a comprehensive understanding of infection prevention.

The Certification Board of Infection Control & Epidemiology, Inc. (CBIC®) is a multidisciplinary board with members with backgrounds in laboratory medicine, microbiology, epidemiology, nursing, public health, just to name a few. This results in diverse expertise, perspectives, and skills to collaborate on exam development, decision-

making, and strategic planning. CBIC understands that a multidisciplinary team is crucial in infection

Latest news

NAVIGATING YOUR IPU PORTFOLIO

[Exploring your CBIC profile](#)

[A well-rounded team is a strong team: A conversation with Infection Preventionist, Jill Holdsworth, CIC, FAPIC, NREMT, CRCST](#)

[Navigating Username and Password Issues with your CBIC Account](#)

[CBIC goes to Orlando!](#)



Thank you!

Contact CBIC:



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Executive Director at CBIC | Presidential
Leadership Scholar



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