



The Connection

October 2015

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Meet the new ASCLS Region V President



Dear ASCLS Region V Colleagues,

Even though I have been an ASCLS member for many years, I think it would be appropriate to provide you with a brief introduction because we have so many new members. I began my career in ASCLS as a state student forum representative and have served as the Region V student forum representative, SD State President, as well as served on the Region V Presidents Council. In addition, I have remained active at all levels in ASCLS including state committees, and Region V Meeting. In addition to speaking at the Regional Meeting, I have been a featured speaker at numerous ASCLS and CLEC national meetings as well as in SD, Iowa and Nebraska and most recently ASCLS-WI 2015. I have participated in workshops in Washington DC regarding the future of laboratory professionals and Inter-professional Health Care. As recognized in SD as a respected laboratory professional, I was asked to be a speaker at the SD Infectious Disease Conference this fall that includes nurses, infection control practitioners and physicians. I have been very active at the National Level in ASCLS, with my most recent participation as the ASCLS Bylaws chair. Previous positions include the ASCLS Awards Committee, Coordinator of the Scientific Assemblies and National Molecular SA Chair.

As the immediate president in South Dakota my campaign was to increase membership and support the society's members, focusing on mentoring and bringing upcoming professionals whether they are students, seasoned or new into the society. Each year that I served as the president of ASCLS-SD the state membership increased. I am proud to say we were able to reach one of, if not the highest membership in our State Societies History, of **201 Members**. I am very proud of the Board of Directors, Committees and the General Membership for this kind of support for our profession and our society.

In addition, this year I was able to work with the Student/New Professional Committee in SD to establish the first ever Travel Grant program. We are happy to say we will be sending 3 students and our New Professional to the National Meeting in Atlanta.

Another first for South Dakota!

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ASCLS has been my rock, my network and has brought me many wonderful friends, colleagues and mentors. As a result I have been rewarded in more ways than I can possibly express in this short document, from scholarships when I was a student, to publications and awards for my work, as well as recognition in professional achievement by ASCLS. I am always humbled by these honors, but know that no awards would have been possible without the support, leadership and amazing network of colleagues and friends developed over the past 23 years....

As the new Region V Director my goals are centered on my personal core values, simple and straight forward:

1. Keep the communication open and provide the state organizations and members with information and updates;
2. Promote the Region as a united group that includes all states and offers leadership, networking and continuing education opportunities to the membership.
3. To embrace organizational change, goals and needs of each state and their members to advance initiatives and ideas that will sustain the future of the laboratory professionals.
4. And to diligently work to full fill my duties that support and respond to ASCLS, the membership and the profession at all levels.

Despite my lengthy membership and involvement in ASCLS, this position is challenging and I have been working to identify the needs of the states and memberships, while transitioning into the duties of a National Board Member. As leaders in Region V and within the laboratory profession, my hope is that we can work together to create a culture of diversity, integration and collaboration with integrity, transparency and credibility to each other, to the our patient's, employers and the profession.

Please feel free to email me with thoughts, ideas or questions! Our organization is only as strong as our membership!

Thank you for your continued Support!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Patricia Velle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "P" and a flourish at the end.

patille@live.com

HOW DO YOU PROMOTE YOUR PROFESSION

ASCLS-ND would like to help you promote the profession. We want to be a resource for you to go to whether it be articles in our newsletters or links on our webpage. But first... we need your help! We want to know, how do YOU promote the profession? Do you go to high schools? Does your lab sponsor a blood drive? We want to hear YOUR ideas so we can share them back with our members.

To thank you for sharing your ideas, we will draw one winner whose lab will get a surprise for Lab Week! So send your ideas to asclsnd@gmail.com or directly to me nicolehager88@hotmail.com by March 1st! Your ideas will be shared in an upcoming newsletter and our website.

Stay tuned for more on Promotion of the Profession...

SEND COUPONS TO:
SHARON REISTAD
7340 37TH Ave SE
Minot, ND 58701

1/2 Price State Meeting Registration

Be entered to win the drawing when you renew your membership by February 1, 2016

Your name _____

ASCLS Member ID _____

I renewed my membership on _____

FREE State Meeting Registration!

Be entered to win the drawing when you renew you membership by December 1, 2015

Your name _____

ASCLS Member

ID _____

I renewed my membership on



You and Me and IQCP

By Elaine Ramstad MT(ASCP)

IQCP is not a word, much less a four letter word, but it strikes terror into the hearts of clinical laboratorians. Some even suggest the letter “P” stands for panic! The biggest challenge is the time it takes to write the IQCPs. However, since they must be in place by January 1, 2016, the timeline will probably be what is frightening.

While we have supposedly known about this for two years, the resources have been slow in coming. I’m slowly receiving manufacturer’s risk management templates as they are developed, and the deadline is only three months away! A recent survey showed that over 30% of laboratories have more than eleven IQCPs to write before December 31st.

The IQCP workbook published by CDC and CMS was only available in May of 2015.

The ASM resource webpage is great! When I began working on IQCP, there were several excellent examples. Now there are 29 items listed; I just discovered it was updated September 10th when I started writing this article! Trust me, this is a great place to go for information; it’s my personal favorite. (The web address is listed at the end.)

An IQCP is simply an Individual Quality Control Plan. CMS no longer accepts that we simply do what the manufacturer recommends. They want us to run two levels of quality control material daily.

The chemists and hematologists are probably hard pressed to find assays that do not require that. However, there are some point of care devices and a significant amount of microbiology and immunology testing that only have requirements of e.g. positive and negative controls and parallel testing on receipt of each lot/shipment – not daily.

In our lab, we test our Vitek susceptibility cards weekly. That consists of twenty cards and the price of the cards averages about \$5.50 each. We currently spend \$110 on QC for the Vitek each week. This new CLIA regulation would make us spend \$110 each day – seven days a week – for a total of \$770 per week -- \$40,150 per year! Ouch!

However, if we write an Individualized Quality Control Plan explaining why what we do now works, we can continue to perform QC the way we are! THIS is why we want to write IQCPs.

The IQCP has three parts:

The Risk Assessment (pre-analytical, analytical and post-analytical)

- Specimen
- Environment
- Reagent
- Test system
- Testing personnel

The Quality Control Plan

The Quality Assessment

You probably have everything you need, you just need to pull it together.

The focus of this article is simply a tale of my experiences, and some suggestions for resources. What I wish I could show you, was how often this article has changed over the last month as I’ve been writing it! Or perhaps you CAN tell; I’m feeling like it’s beginning to become scattered! Just today, some of my observations about the testing portion were shattered after I listened to a webinar by Alere.

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Nicole Lemieux
ASCLS-ND President

Region V Fall Symposium

The Region V Fall Symposium was held at the beautiful Arrowwood Resort in Alexandria, MN on October 1st and 2nd. I really enjoy this meeting because it's quick (Thursday afternoon and Friday morning) and the drive is gorgeous! Next year the drive will be a little different, though. The last few years the meeting has been in Alexandria, a somewhat central location for the entire region. Next year we have voted to start the rotation of the meeting again. Lucky for us, it will be in Fargo next October! 2017 will be in South Dakota followed by either Minnesota or Wisconsin in 2018.

The Region V Leadership Academy is a central part of the Region V Fall Symposium. This fall they graduated their second class which included our very own editor, Sharon Reistad. Rebecca Ram is our student for 2015-2016 and I'm very excited for her to begin this journey! The Leadership Academy committee is made up of two members from each state. Dawn Michelson is leaving, while Alice Hawley is coming on the committee to join Stacy Askvig. The committee position is a two year position, with one position opening every year. Leadership Academy is an amazing opportunity: either to grow your own knowledge or to help nurture students to become leaders.

I was very pleasantly surprised at the North Dakota attendees at the meeting. I talked with a few ladies who are actually from Montana, but work in western North Dakota and also some ladies from Belcourt. One of my absolute favorite things to see at meetings are students and I'd like to thank Sanford Fargo for bringing all their students. It was great to see all the North Dakota attendees!

Many of you are aware that as of this summer we have a new Region V Director, Pat Tille. Part of Pat's duties include appointing new regional representatives. Currently the region is in need of a new Secretary/Treasurer (starting by the end of the year). Also the region is looking for anyone who would be interested in helping out with the Region V website. Looking ahead to next summer, Pat will be looking to appoint the following reps: Membership, PAC, GAC, New Professional, and Leadership Development. If you are interested in any of these positions, please, send me an email! I can get you more information or pass your name along to Pat.

One last thing to note, there are some changes to the dates of the national meeting. First, the meeting was bumped back a week (the Democratic National Convention is the week the ASCLS National Meeting normally is in Philadelphia) and now it's been announced that the days are also switched around. Instead of a Tuesday-Saturday meeting, this meeting will begin on a Sunday and finish on Thursday afternoon. The Advanced Management Institute will not be held on separate days, but instead interspersed with the National Meeting sessions. With the change of days, ASCLS will better be able to work with AACC and take advantage of more of what the AACC convention has to offer. I hope you'll consider attending the meeting in Philadelphia August!



Sharon Reistad
ND President Elect

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY-AN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

By Sharon Reistad-MT (ASCP)

In June of 2014 I received an email about the Region V leadership academy. I had no idea what it was about but after reading the e-mail I went to my boss and told her I would be interested. She approved my application and I sent it in. That was the start of a very interesting and educational year.

We kicked off the leadership academy at the Region V symposium in Alexandria MN in October of 2014. When I went I had it in my head that it would be this 2 day event and I would be done. Not the case. I was informed that it was a 1 year commitment. After adjusting to that bit of news I decided that I could do it. I met my new co-students Jennifer Keimig from SD and Erin Weyers from Minnesota. After a few classes we got together and were asked to come up with a “project” to work on. Something that would help ASCLS. After a great brainstorming session we came up with something we all thought would be great. Now we just needed to convince our respective state societies. Unfortunately not all of the states were on board. So over phone conferences we came up with another plan. When we met at a retreat in Fargo in May 2015 one of my classmates just wasn't on board. So back to the drawing board. By the end of the retreat we had another plan. This one we could not change because we had to present at the Region V symposium in Oct. Between e-mails, phone conferences and the resignation of one of our classmates we got the project done. We presented our project at the 2015 Region V symposium in Alexandria MN.

Leadership academy is a one year class designed to teach leadership skills. It consisted of classes at the Region V symposium leadership kick-off event, a retreat mid-way through and the presentation of the project at the symposium the following year. My classmates and I also read and critique a leadership book of our choice and had 2 phone lectures on leadership along with the project we choose to do.

The Region V Leadership Academy is only 2 years old (I was in the 2nd graduating class) but the national one has been graduating out leaders for quite a while.

Region V leadership Academy was a wonderful learning experience and I would encourage all of you to apply. For more information on Region V Leadership Academy visit: www.ascls-sd.org/tri-state-leadership-academy or for information on the National Leadership Academy visit: www.ascls.org/ascls-leadership/ascls-academy



Jennifer Keimig and Sharon Reistad
Presenting their project at Region V
Symposium

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY CURRICULUM & TIME INVOLVEMENT

TIME COMMITMENT INFORMATION

- 2 ASCLS Region V meetings (2 days each)
- 1 mid-year retreat (1 day)
- 2 conference calls (preparation and reading for the call)
- Read and complete summary report for two leadership books
- Group class project and presentation at second Region V meeting
- Serve on a State Meeting or Region V Symposium committee

CURRICULUM TOPICS (NOTE: Curriculum may vary dependent on content assessment of the Academy Committee, previous Academy classes and availability of speakers or materials)

- ASCLA 101/History of ASCLS
- Leadership Styles
- Communication Styles
- Team Building
- Organization Skills
- Time Management
- Successful Meeting Skills
- Goal Setting
- Strategic, Planning
- Advocacy
- Member Recruitment

Group Project General Information:

One of the Region V Tri-State Leadership Academy curriculum assignments includes working on a group project during the year. This project should further the goals of **ASCLS** at the state, regional or national level, should be able to be completed within this year, and should have a “product” that can be presented at the final meeting of the leadership Academy year (Region V Tri-State meeting held in Alexandria MN). Students are asked to think about issues that are facing ASCLS and its members and how we can use our combined team effort to address them.

Incoming Leadership Academy students will be requested to suggest at least two projects that they feel would benefit ASCLS and that they would be interested in pursuing during the year. For ideas, students are encouraged to visit with ASCLS state leaders and other ASCLS members about possible exciting and worthwhile project topics.

For more information on how to apply go to: www.ascls-sd.org, click on ascls-sd board, documents, links at top of page. Scroll down to ASCLS Region V Tri-State Leadership academy

REGION V TRI-STATE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

MISSION:

The ASCLS Region V Tri-State Leadership Academy will provide guidance, education and resources at a regional level to prepare ASCLS members for leadership roles in ASCLS, within the profession and the workplace.

GOALS:

1. Provide a structured regional Leadership Academy that will prepare our members to become future leaders in ASCLS and within the profession of Medical laboratory Science
2. Identify members with potential to become leaders in ASCLS and invest in their growth and development
3. Provide the leadership Academy participants with resources, skills and knowledge to prepare them and allow them to succeed in leadership roles

BENEFITS TO PARTICIPANTS:

1. Gain confidence to step into leadership roles
2. Enhance personal and professional knowledge and skills to be successful
3. Have opportunities to be mentored by and learn from ASCLS leaders
4. Broaden professional network of friends and peers within ASCLS
5. Acquire experience to identify and successfully achieve goals

BENEFITS TO ASCLS:

1. Develop strong leaders that generate excitement, enthusiasm and commitment to the organization
2. Shape the future of the organization and the profession at large
3. Increase passion for ASCLS locally, regionally, and nationally
4. Increase the pool of future leaders at all levels of the organization

CURRICULUM SUMMARY

The following topics will be covered during the 12-month Leadership Academy:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| History of ASCLS | Professional Advocacy |
| Leadership and Communication Styles | Recruitment Strategies |
| Goals and Strategic Planning | Leadership Book Discussions |
| Organization Skills/Time Management | Group teambuilding projects |
| Conflict Management | Participation in meetings |
| Conducting Successful Meetings | |

PACE™ continuing education credits will be awarded for each session completed

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One day in July I sat down to a computer screen with several websites to check out, and two power point presentations that a coworker had listened to....but they were no longer available to access free of charge.

I pulled out the GeneXpert MRSA Assay example that the Cepheid Corporation had provided and started working through the sample Risk Assessments. I noticed the CLIA workbook defined the risks and addressed them. However, they did not address the Frequency of Occurrence and Severity of Harm. Several weeks later, after the July 28th CAP revisions were published, I had to add columns to quantitate and grade the risks. Even though the IQCP workbook does not have a specific column for this, the North Dakota CLIA program has informed me that a risk assessment must include an evaluation of the frequency and impact.

You will work together with your manufacturer on this Risk Assessment section of the IQCP. Contact your manufacturers and most of them will send you their risk assessment template examples. (I say most, as the foreign owned companies are not providing assistance with American IQCP Risk Assessments.) You will simply tweak the manufacturer's Risk Assessment to fit your lab.

The manufacturer's Risk Assessment will list every possible situation that could cause erroneous results to be reported.

- Will a power bump cause an erroneous results, and will you be able to detect it?
- Will the machine report a result?
- Will an internal control fail?
- Or will you actually be able to report an erroneous result.
- What errors will the internal control detect?
- What errors will the external QC detect?
- What error codes display to prevent reporting an erroneous result?

The methodology section will have you asking questions like:

- What happens if an incorrect dilution is used?
- What happens if a step is missed?

You cannot eliminate risk – you can simply minimize it. To quote James H. Nichols, Ph.D.: There is no “perfect” laboratory device, otherwise we would all be using it! Any device can and will fail under the right conditions.

I discovered the answer to preventing many risks were: Training. Initial competency. Six month competency. Annual competency. Standard Operating Procedure. I used those solutions frequently!

How do you know reagents haven't degraded, either in transit or in storage? Positive and negative QC, internal controls, parallel testing, 30 day QC, proficiency testing...

I learned it was okay to use the same answer repeatedly, because it was true! We already have much in place to minimize risk already.

Currently, I'm leaving the Frequency of Occurrence and Severity of Harm columns blank in the Risk Assessment. Our Quality Assurance and Safety Officer and my supervisor use Occurrence reports and other documentation to objectively address the risk while I continue to write the next Risk Assessments of our IQCPs. Again, examples of this and templates of this can be found both in the CLIA workbook and in the many examples on the ASM website. I've noticed the templates used in examples have evolved since July. Pick one that works for you and modify it.

It was easy to state our current Quality Control Plan. I simply cut and pasted from our Standard Operating Procedures into the IQCP! I listed what CLIA required, and referred to the appropriate CAP checklists.

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My supervisor used the data from Occurrence Reports to address any out of range incidents, and has determined that our current QC Plan demonstrates no further need to perform more internal or external QC levels on the first IQCPs we have finished.

The Quality Assessment monitoring includes a combination of the following, along with the frequency they will be monitored.

SOP

Department/Lab Quality Program

Specimen collection/acceptability guidelines

Patient issue logs

Maintenance logs

Job aids

QC forms/logs

Staff training

Competency assessment

Proficient testing results

QC/Instrument Function checks

Unexpected errors

Complaints

Daily results review

QC Failure and Corrective Action Plan

One thing we had not been tracking, was clinician complaints. If a physician called asking why he was getting what he imagined to be e.g. an abnormally high number of positive *C. difficile* toxins, it was addressed, but it wasn't filed and documented – whether his perception was true or not. We will now begin that and we admit, it is a good idea.

One IQCP that I read from another institution monitored turn-around-time on sensitivities. If it took over five days from the collection date to report a sensitivity, it was documented. None of the reasons given were the fault of Vitek, nor did it indicate that performing QC more frequently would solve the TAT issue, but it did shed light on other issues that needed to be addressed.

After the Quality Assessment is documented and defended, the laboratory director signs off on the IQCP!

We haven't managed to start on media IQCPs yet, so I can't write about that, but there are examples on my favorite ASM IQCP resource page.

The August 2015 issue of MLO has an article on IQCP starting on page 6. There is a great flowchart simplifying if and when you need to write an IQCP.

Also in that article, Andy Quintenz gives good advice to not "let the details or remote possibilities bog you down...focus on daily practices and types of hazards that could reasonably occur." He suggests letting disaster plans cover short staffing, loss of power and natural disasters, not your IQCP.

James O. Westgard, PhD and Sten Westgard, MS have an opinionated article on IQCP in their August 2015 online publication Westgard QC. (www.westgard.com/iqc-panic.htm)

Here are my recommendations for great and necessary resources:

Developing An IQCP: A Step-by-step Guide is found here: <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/CLIA/Downloads/IQCP-Workbook.pdf>
<https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Outreach/NPC/Downloads/2015-07-15-Clinical-Labs-Presentation.pdf>
<http://clinmicro.asm.org/index.php/lab-management/laboratory-management/445-iqcp-iqc> (The above page was updated September 10, 2015 and has a plethora of microbiology information.)

I can't do anything about the time crunch we are all under, but I do hope that sharing my experiences and resources with you will decrease some angst about writing all these IQCPs and help save you some time finding the resources that you need.

Good luck!

P.S. Seven weeks out from the deadline, I just listened to the CAP IQCP Webinar from October 22nd, and there are now two required forms. Did I not tell you that this was an ever changing landscape? The forms are:

1. List of Individualized Quality Control Plans
2. Individualized Quality Control Plan Summary

Forms may be downloaded from the CAP website (cap.org) through e-LAB Solution Suite under CAP Accreditation Forms and Instructions.

I will warn you that my CAP log in didn't allow me to access the webinar or the forms! I was able to access them through my manager's CAP log in. I contacted CAP to ask what I needed to do to access them, and they haven't replied.

ASCLS REGION V TRI-STATE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY CANDIDATE APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Admission to the ASCLS Region V Tri-State Leadership Academy will be through a competitive application process. Candidates must agree to a commitment of personal time and effort over 12 months in addition to a financial commitment for travel expenses to attend Leadership Academy described if accepted into the Leadership Academy.

Candidates selected will be required to certify their intention to commit to:

- ⇒ Attending the two required fall ASCLS Region V Tri-State 2-Day Symposiums that have predetermined scheduled Leadership Academy class sessions
- ⇒ Attending the 1-day scheduled leadership Academy retreat. The retreat will be held at a location to be determined and convenient for the participants
- ⇒ Attending all scheduled class conference calls. 2-5 conference calls will be scheduled throughout the year and each will last approximately 90 minutes. Pre and post-assignments for the conference calls are also required
- ⇒ Time commitment: The time necessary for successful completion of the program requirements

While there is no charge to participate in the Region V Tri-State Leadership Academy program for members from Minnesota, Sough Dakota and North Dakota, travel and meeting registration costs should be considered when applying. Fees for participants outside the Region V Tri-State Collaborative will be assessed a registration fee of \$120.00.

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Candidate Eligibility:

Candidate must be an ASCLS Professional member (Professional 1, Professional 2 or First Year Professional) in good standing at the time the Leadership Academy begins and the following year of class graduation. Individuals may self-nominate or be nominated by any current ASCLS member. ASCLS Student Members may apply for the Leadership Academy if they will be renewing a First Year Professional during the ASCLS annual renewal cycle prior to the Leadership Academy class begin date.

Applications:

Applications will be considered complete once all application documents have been received:

1. Complete Applicant Form (including all sections and essay questions)
2. Two (2) completed recommendation forms and letters of recommendation

Recommendation Forms and Letters:

Candidates are required to submit two (2) recommendation forms and letters of recommendation with their applications. The recommendation form is included with the application form. References should come from individuals who have held or currently hold leadership roles in ASCLS, their communities, workplaces, and/or other volunteer organizations, and can speak knowledgeably about the applicants experience, strength, weaknesses and potential as a leader.

Application Instructions:

The application form, responses to essay questions, recommendation forms and letters of recommendation are to be submitted in one electronic application packet. If necessary, references/recommendations can be sent separately by individuals completing the forms. Forms coming directly from references should be sent to Deb Rodahl at drodahl@outlook.com. Candidates are responsible, however for ensuring that these items reach ASCLS Region V Tri-State leadership Academy Committee by the application deadline below. Forms received after the due date will cause the entire application package to be ruled ineligible.

In order for your application to be considered, ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy committee must receive all completed materials by the application deadline of **June 1** of current application year. Incomplete applications or applications received after this date will not be considered.

If possible, all materials should be gathered into one complete package and emailed to Deb Rodahl at drodahl@outlook.com.

If you have any questions, please contact Deb Rodahl at drodahl@outlook.com. Receipt of complete applications will be acknowledged by email. All applicants will be notified of their acceptance status no later than **July 10** of current application year.

ASCLS MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE INFORMATION

ASCLS now offers two different membership packages: a Laboratory Managers Package that offers reduced rates for your entire lab and a Educators Package that offers reduced rates for students and faculty!

Laboratory Managers Package Rates and Info

ASCLS wants to make taking care of your employees' professional and continuing education needs easier! As one of our valued members in laboratory administration, we are offering a special discounted dues package that would give all of your scientific staff Professional 1 status as new or renewing ASCLS members if joining in a group of 10 or more (see rates below).*

Rates: (payment must be received in one check-personal or institutional checks are accepted)

- 10-24 employees \$750 (one free registration to an ASCLS national meeting)
- 25-74 employees \$2,250 (two free registrations to an ASCLS national meeting)
- 75-150 employees \$5,000 (three free registrations to an ASCLS national meeting)
- 151-250 employees \$8,750 (four free registrations to an ASCLS national meeting)
- 251-500 employees \$16,500 (five free registrations to an ASCLS national meeting)
- 500+ employees \$22,000 (six free registrations to an ASCLS national meeting)

Educators Package Rates and Info

As one of our valued members in clinical laboratory science education, we are offering a special discounted dues package that would give all of your faculty Professional 1 status as new or renewing ASCLS members and all of your students ASCLS membership if joining in a group (see rates below).*

For Hospital based programs: Take advantage of this offer and extend the rates to your clinical instructors and your academic affiliates' liaison.

For University/College based Programs: Thank your clinical affiliates with this access to free CE for the professionals who teach your students.

***Rates (names must be submitted on special form and payment must be received in one check-personal or institutional checks accepted):**

- For programs with 2 – 15 students: \$5 per student and \$48 per faculty/clinical preceptor and one free registration to an ASCLS national meeting

- For programs with 16 – 50 students: \$5 per student and \$48 per faculty/clinical preceptor and two free registrations to an ASCLS national meeting
- For programs with 51 or more students: \$5 per student and \$48 per faculty/clinical preceptor and three free registrations to an ASCLS national meeting

****State dues will be invoiced with your membership package at a rate of \$5 per person for both packages. This will allow you to take advantage of local continuing education and networking opportunities at member rates!**

Benefits

This membership package entitles you and your institution to:

- **FREE** registration(s) to an ASCLS national meeting - the Annual Meeting and Clinical Lab Expo, Legislative Symposium or the Clinical Laboratory Educators' Conference (CLEC) - to use as you wish (number of **FREE** registrations varies by number of employees). This is a potential savings of \$1,200 or more!
- **FREE** downloads of your employees' completed continuing education (CE) to the Board of Certification (BOC). ASCLS will keep track of any CE earned by your staff with CE Organizer. We will send the information to BOC for the member's certification maintenance.
- A 15% discount on all Medical Laboratory Professionals Week items.

For one fee, every staff member will have:

- Electronic access to the journal and newsletter; one hard copy would be mailed to a designated person for posting/sharing.
- Access to all ASCLS continuing education offerings and programs for FREE or deep discounts.

This includes:

- FOCUS articles in the journal - FREE
- All online CE that ASCLS offers - FREE
- CE offered by ASCLS collaborating partners like MediaLab, DNA MedCafe, etc.

If you have further questions or concerns, please contact us:

<http://ascls.org/component/content/article/2-uncategorised/218-membership-package>

By phone at 571-748-3770

By email ascls@ascls.org