

BIOSAFETY CABINET FIELD CERTIFICATION – BASIC ACCREDITATION PROGRAM



WHAT IS THE BASIC ACCREDITATION PROGRAM?

The basic accreditation program was created in 2017 for individuals who field certify biosafety cabinets (BSCs) outside of North America. The goal of the program is to encourage and assist with the development of a BSC maintenance infrastructure in under-resourced countries to address public health and safety concerns.

WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE BASIC ACCREDITATION PROGRAM?

The basic accreditation program is offered to individuals living and working outside of North America. Through the use of loaned or donated test equipment and maximizing the use of in-country resources, the costs associated with the basic accreditation program are kept to a minimum. Individuals living outside of North America may also apply for accreditation under our enhanced accreditation program. Enhanced accreditation is recommended for certifiers who test Type B BSCs on a regular basis.

HOW TO BECOME ACCREDITED

The basic accreditation program includes both objective written and practical evaluations of a candidate's aptitude. Approved NSF personnel will travel to the country in which training is taking place to offer the accreditation examinations, provided that a minimum number of accreditation candidates attend the test session.

The written examination* is provided in the language of the host country. It addresses not only NSF/ANSI 49, but other biosafety cabinet standards such as EN 12469 and the Chinese YY-0569 standard. There are no questions related to Type B BSCs. Design elements such as dampers are not assumed.

Topics for the practical examination include:

- > **Downflow velocity**
- > **Inflow velocity (secondary, constricted access)**
- > **Inflow velocity (secondary, exhaust velocity)**
- > **HEPA filter leak – scan (particle counter acceptable)**
- > **Site installation assessment**
- > **Smoke patterns**



Individuals who pass both the written and practical examinations may use the NSF basic biosafety cabinet field certifier accreditation mark.

*requires a passing score of 80% or higher

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