

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON LASER CERTIFICATION (NCLC)

Serving as Secretariat for the International Laser Certification Registry (ILCR™)

<https://LaserRegistry.org>

<https://LaserCertification.org>



INFORMATION FOR GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES AND REGULATORY AGENCIES v2603

If you are seeking to verify an individual's Laser Certification credentials, you can do this for all individuals with Laser Certifications. Certifications from the National Council on Laser Certification (NCLC), who serves as the Secretariat for the International Laser Certification Registry, are automatically posted here within about 2 weeks of issuance of their Certification. Certifications issued by other recognized Laser Certification Organizations are not automatically posted but may be submitted by that individual for verification and listing, or by the issuing agency. That means that Certifications issued by groups other than the NCLC may not show up in this registry if they were not submitted for verification. They might still be valid Certifications but will need to be verified by the issuing organization. Any certifications registered with the ILCR™ can be trusted to have been authenticated and verified prior to posting in the registry. You'll find the original date of issuance and the expiration date which accommodates certification renewals.

We would encourage all regulatory authorities to utilize this secure online registry system as a sole source for a quick and reliable way to authenticate an individual's laser certification credentials. Remember that Certification is not simply training. They are separate even though training is always a prerequisite to qualify for the actual Certifications. These Laser Certifications are offered on a worldwide basis.

We accept and vet Certifications from all recognized health care laser certification organizations worldwide which currently include the NCLC (National Council on Laser Certification), BLS (Board of Laser Safety), ABLs (American Board of Laser Surgery), ALD (Academy of Laser Dentistry), and SCMHR (Society for Clinical and Medical Hair Removal).

When their information is displayed you will see the Certification(s) that they hold and will see a date beside that Certification. That is the "Valid Through" date and if that date is beyond today's current date, then their Certification is authentic, active and valid. You'll also see the original issue date. If their "valid through" date is current, then they have been properly renewed on time. The following is a summary that describes our cooperative efforts with government authorities regulating or licensing users of health care laser systems. More information on NCLC policies is in the handbook available at https://lasercertification.org/NCLC_Certification_Candidates_Handbook.pdf.

Licensing and Regulatory requirements for laser use seem to vary widely among jurisdictions both in the U.S. and internationally. Most jurisdictions have no requirements at all. We believe that a more consistent application of licensing requirements will better serve the interest of public safety, rather than widely varying requirements in different locations that have no reciprocity among them. The NCLC was formed in the year 2000 to address the issues of credentialing for laser use and is a credentialing division of the non-profit Professional Medical Education Assn formed in 1980.

Where no licensing requirements exist by government authorities (which is most places), Certifications serve as a professional credential to differentiate the holder from other providers. The American National Standard Institute Z136.3 has already recommended Certification for Medical Laser Safety Officers. We anticipate that these ANSI Standards, and other government regulatory agencies, will start requiring these Certifications for licensing of other laser users such as Certified Laser Medical Directors (CLMD™), Certified Aesthetic Laser Operators (CLO/A™), Certified Laser Hair Removal Specialists (CLHRS™) and Certified Laser Repair Technician (CLRT™), among others. Many of these are already required

by various US States and other countries for licensing purposes.

The goal of the NCLC is to provide a credible credentialing system, based on criteria from experts in the field of health care lasers, that will be used as the principle base requirement for licensing and regulation of health care laser operators in most jurisdictions worldwide. This has precedence in the U.S. with the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC). In the 1970's the NBRC was a professional credentialing organization just as the NCLC and the other agencies are now. The NBRC began cooperating with State licensing agencies back then. Now, when someone applies for their respiratory license in any U.S. State, the State simply goes online to confirm their Registry or Certification credentialing with the NBRC and then accepts the application and fees from the applicant to grant a license to practice in that State. The State imposes no other requirements other than to meet the requirements of the NBRC certifications. This is systematic, consistent and relies on criteria from a professional organization in that field. The NCLC was based exactly on the policies and procedures of the NBRC, except that it applies to laser use. The ILCR will post certifications only from groups that meet similar requirements.

The laser certification process is adjunctive to medical certification or licensing. Some States/Governments may opt to require these ILCR™ Certifications, in addition to specific additional clinical experience, as part of an application for licensing in that State. ***The NCLC, as secretariat of the ILCR™ will assist State/Governmental agencies with integrating the Laser Certification process into the agency's other licensing requirements.*** Each State's specific requirements may vary.

Interested parties may contact Gregory Absten from the NCLC to discuss ways in which to best harmonize the ILCR™ Laser Certifications with the requirements of specific health care authority agencies to best promote public safety and ease of administration on the part of the agency and applicants.

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