



Commissioner's Corner September 2023

QUESTION: What is the appropriate timeline for semiannual and annual competency evaluations in the first year of testing?

ANSWER: The timeline for semiannual and annual competency evaluation begins when the testing personnel's training is completed, and they begin testing patient specimens. This applies independently to each assay/methodology performed. For example, a technologist finishes training for antibody screening in January, the first competency evaluation for antibody screening would be due in July, and the second would be due by the following January. When that same technologist completes training for Flow Crossmatching in March, the first competency evaluation would be due in September, and the second the following March. Subsequent competency evaluations for this technologist would only need to be done once annually after this.

Updated guidance for these standards will be released in the future, pending approval.