



Commissioner's Corner September 2024

Question: I would like to obtain accreditation for Transfusion Support, for my laboratory. What do we need to do to qualify?

Answer: Many laboratories perform testing that is related to transfusion support. To officially obtain accreditation, the lab must meet the following: (language copied from the ARB Operations Manual):

For Transfusion Support, the laboratory must

1. Laboratories must provide HLA typing, antibody screening/identification for patients (HLA/ Platelet/ or Granulocyte antibody testing for patients)
2. Provide interpretive notes on results of testing
- 3. Make recommendations for selection of donors for platelet or granulocyte transfusion**
4. If any tests are outsourced, the referring laboratory must document the review and interpretation of the results.
5. If any tests are outsourced, both laboratories must be accredited by ASHI or an equivalent Accrediting Organization. For laboratories that use ASHI for CLIA purposes, laboratories used for outsourced testing must also be CLIA certified.

Paying particular attention to #3 above, it is this item that disqualifies most labs from obtaining Transfusion Support accreditation.