

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What is required to serve on the Certification Council?

- All Certification Council members must hold the CRCST credential in good standing, at least 1 each must hold the CIS, CER, and CHL certification.
- Previous experience as an examination development committee member, or Subject Matter Expert, is preferred but not required
- A minimum of 3-5 years of Sterile Processing experience is preferred, but not required

Which positions are being filled this year?

- Two (2) HSPA Certification Council Certificant Representatives: (3-year term)
- One (1) HSPA Certification Council Public Member: (2-year term)
- One (1) HSP Industry Stakeholder: (2-year term)

What is the process for running for the Council?

Members may nominate themselves to run by submitting the required application and a copy of their résumé before **October 9, 2026**. The Nominating Committee will then prepare a ballot of eligible representatives for the Certification Council to review.

Applicants will be notified if they've been elected in November, and will begin their term January 1, 2027.

What is the time and commitment required to serve on the Council?

It is important to gain support from your employer and colleagues regarding the time commitment required. There is some travel required to serve on the Council. The group meets in person at least two times per year. Members are asked to attend the Annual Conference, and attend an additional in-person meeting typically held in August. Additional projects and issues may arise throughout the year that require the Council's input.

What do members of the Council receive in return for their service?

Members of the Council receive professional and personal benefits, including:

- Chances to share their knowledge and expertise with others;
- Professional recognition that elevates their stature within the Sterile Processing community; and
- Relationships with new professional friends and colleagues and the development of lifelong mentors.

What is the deadline to submit the Certification Council application and required information?

The deadline to submit the application and résumé is October 9, 2026.

Will I incur any personal expenses as a Council member?

HSPA covers travel expenses to the summer meeting, including airfare, hotel and meals while on-site. For the spring meeting at the Annual Conference, HSPA covers registration and hotel accommodations.

What can I do to prepare for a position on the Certification Council?

Becoming involved as an examination development committee member, or Subject Matter Expert can be a great way to meet and network with other Sterile Processing professionals and develop the skills necessary to be a successful Certification Council member.

- Serve on an HSPA Committee
- Become involved in certification test development as a Subject Matter Expert
- Join and participate in other professional organizations

Who is the ideal candidate?

There is no “ideal” Council candidate. Instead, HSPA seeks a Council that includes individuals with diverse work, life, social, and educational backgrounds. This diversity facilitates well-rounded decisions that reflect the entire membership. Council members should:

- Have the ability to think strategically about certification and the Sterile Processing profession;
- Be able to make decisions that benefit the overall organization; and
- Uphold and support the validity, reliability, and fairness of HSPA's certification programs

In addition, the Nominating Committee will also consider the following while selecting candidates:

- Demonstrated understanding of the Association and willingness to support the mission and vision of the Association
- Activities/involvement with the Association and other contributions made to the Association
- Previous Subject Matter Expert (SME) and/or test development experience
- Education (including Certifications held)
- Demonstrated Sterile Processing experience
- Special skills or knowledge, particularly notable accomplishments
- Participation in other related organizations
- Any unique qualifications possessed by the applicant