



BODY ALTERING AESTHETICS (BAA)

Certifications Handbook

Innovated by the National BAA
Competency Program





BAA - CORE FEDERATION CONTACT INFORMATION

The BAA-CORE Federation is the representative body for certified professionals in Body Altering Aesthetics and the CSL Therapy field. This handbook covers all of the information on the Federation's competency program, certification exams, and professional certifications. If you have any questions after reviewing the handbook, please contact the Certification Team at:

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BAA-CORE FEDERATION MEMBERS

The National Body Altering Aesthetics (NBAA) Competency Program is governed by the BAA-CORE Federation (BCF). The BCF is a nonprofit that has established all policies related to the program including eligibility requirements, exam content expectations (body of knowledge), certifying parameters, and renewal requirements. Exam development was led by the Commission of Aesthetic Health Safety (CAHS) and finalized by the BCF. All BCF directors are iMedic, POI, and FCT Praxis certified.

VISIONS OF STANDARDIZATION

Visions of Standardization for Convalescence Synergistic Lymphatics (CSL Therapy) centers on unifying clinical expectations, terminology, post-surgical bodywork and nonsurgical contouring bioengineering trauma remodeling across the Body Altering Aesthetics industry. As a method that bridges aesthetic outcomes with physiological healing, CSL Therapy demands consistent protocols and defined scopes to protect both providers and clients. Standardization ensures that early intervention, tissue behavior monitoring, and manual or device-assisted lymphatic techniques are not left to guesswork or misinformation, but instead align with a system rooted in safety, measurable outcomes, and inter-provider accountability.

THE CORE FEDERATION

The CORE Federation functions as the central governing and professional advocacy entity within the BAA industry. It advances national standardization through jurisprudence alignment, legal advocacy, research development, and scope-of-practice protection, while representing its members in legislative, medical, and public arenas. The Federation safeguards the credibility, safety, and future of the emerging BAA field.

COMMITTEES

The Federation is supported by six standing committees, each overseeing a key aspect of the Body Altering Aesthetics field. The Disciplinary Committee investigates misconduct and upholds professional accountability, while the Examiners Committee and Certification Committee develop and assess board certification processes. The

CORE Committee ensures alignment between clinical standards and regulatory goals, the CAHS Committee advances health and safety data through collaborative research, and the Advisory Committee offers strategic insight from cross-industry leaders to guide emerging policy and member protections. Upon successfully passing board certification, newly certified members may be invited to join a committee to contribute to governance, development, and oversight within the CORE Federation.

CBAA MEMBERS

Board Certified Body Altering Aesthetics (CBAA) members have demonstrated advanced knowledge, ethical practice, and verified competency in the specialized care of post-surgical and non-surgical aesthetic clients. Their certification reflects a commitment to standardized protocols, client safety, and ongoing contributions to the regulation and growth of the BAA industry. After passing their national board exams, certified Body Altering Aesthetics members gain voting rights within the Federation, may host educational seminars, and become eligible to participate in approved fellowships. They are also granted the authority to recommend updates to the Codex Clinical Benchmarks as well as terms for the annual Lexicon Dictionary, contributing directly to the evolution of industry standards.

MBMA

Members of the Better Medicine Association gain access to exclusive training opportunities, discounts on industry-related services and products, and curated clinical research to support their work in Body Altering Aesthetics. The association is designed to back BAA professionals with resources that strengthen both their practice and business.





ABOUT CERTIFICATIONS

This handbook contains all the policies and procedures of BCF's board certifications and professional Praxis certifications within the National Competency program.

Certification serves as a visible acknowledgment of your demonstrated mastery of core security principles and skills essential to the best practice of trauma remodeling management.

However, not all certifications are equal. To truly set yourself apart, you need a certification that encourages professional growth. One that is widely recognized as the standard for professionalism, competency, and bridges the allowances/limitations gaps of existing regulatory boards. You need a BCF board certification.

Through BCF your employer, surgeons, clients, and colleagues will instantly recognize you as the "best of the best." Earning a BCF certification is a milestone accomplishment that will help you reach your career goals.

All those applying to take a BCF certification exam must agree to comply with the information contained in this manual. This handbook was updated 19 June 2025 and supersedes all previous versions.

LICENSE VS CERTIFICATIONS VS CERTIFICATES

People are often unclear about the difference between a professional designations. All three programs promote the professional development of industry experts, but there are significant distinctions.

Licenses are issued by individual states and are tied to legal permission to practice within that state's jurisdiction. As Body Altering Aesthetics legislation develops state by state, certified professionals will become eligible to apply for licensure once the laws are in place.

Professional certification (such as the iMedic, POI, BBC, FCT, and SDM) is the voluntary process by which an organization grants a time-limited recognition and use of a credential to an individual

after verifying that the individual has met predetermined and standardized criteria, usually through eligibility requirements and an exam. Most professional certification programs require that certificants recertify their designation after a set amount of time to ensure they remain current and knowledgeable in the industry.

A certificate program is a training program on a specialized topic for which participants receive a certificate after completing the course. Some certificate programs require attendees to pass an assessment of some kind to verify they've learned what the class was teaching. Many certificate programs will provide a "certificate of completion" at the end of the course.

CSL Therapy offers a number of accredited certificate programs, many of which can be used to acquire Continuing Professional Education (CPE) reqs that applicants must prepare for BCF's certification programs or used to recertify your designation.

PROTECTING YOUR LICENSES

Board Certifications help licensed professionals protect their licensure by teaching them how to legally and accurately navigate their existing scope of practice. They provide updated clinical knowledge, reduce liability risks, and prepare professionals to align with current and emerging standards. This added layer of credentialing strengthens both individual practice and public trust.

WHY CHOOSE BAA CERTIFICATIONS

- Elevate your professional stature and peer recognition
- Gain a competitive edge in job placement or advancement within your private practice
- Realize deep personal satisfaction and professional achievement
- Broaden your knowledge base
- Keep updated on best practices
- Achieve global recognition as a highly motivated expert in your field



- BCF board-certified practitioners are leaders, willing mentors, and trusted strategic partners, serving both their organizations and the profession.
- Today, body contouring professionals from 5 countries proudly maintain their BCF board certifications.

ACCREDITATIONS

The CSL Therapy Organization, home of the BCF Board and professional certifications, is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Schools, WASC, and the American Council of Body Altering Aesthetics. It is also a member of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence.



TRADEMARK PROTECTED

All certification exams are developed by a Board of Examiners and are protected under trademark law. Each exam has been independently reviewed and validated by a third-party psychometrician to ensure fairness, accuracy, and industry relevance.

ONLY CERTIFICATIONS BACKED BY A BOARD OF PROFESSIONALS

Our certifications are the only ones in the Body Altering Aesthetics field backed by a formal Board of professionals as well as a Governing Bureau. This ensures every designation is grounded in real clinical expertise, not just course completion.

IS MBMA MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED?

Yes, MBMA membership is required during your first year of certification. After that, it becomes optional—but non-members lose their voting & doctrine submission rights within the Federation. Becoming a member before taking your board exam gives you immediate access to discounts on exam fees, study materials, and other certification-related resources. Join early and you'll see the benefits right away, especially as you continue your professional development.

BAA CERTIFICATIONS

STANDARDS OF CARE

Our Standards of Care were developed to bring consistency, safety, and clinical accountability to the Body Altering Aesthetics field. They guide certified practitioners in delivering evidence-informed treatments that respect both the body's healing process and the client's long-term outcomes.

CODEX OF CLINICAL BENCHMARKS

The Codex of Clinical Benchmarks* is the gold standard reference for timing, technique, and data collection in the Body Altering Aesthetics field. It outlines precise, niche-specific guidelines that drive research, inform policy makers, provide concurrent standards of care, generate certification exam material, and safe clinical decision-making for BAA treatments.

* Note: Updates may be recommended by certified MBMA members

BAA BOARD CERTIFICATIONS

Advanced credentials for professionals practicing within the CSL Therapy field of Body Altering Aesthetics. Each certification is modality-specific and verifies a practitioner's expertise. They must be maintained and renewed.

- Incisional Medic (iMedic)
- PostOp-Induration Clinician (POI)
- Body Bioengineering Contourist (BBC)

The certification for iMedics program is designed for those who have demonstrated competency in all areas of Incisional Sciences and Technology for trauma remodeling clients Day 1-7

The certification for Clinicians program is designed for those who have demonstrated competency in all areas of PostOp-Induration Sciences and Technology for trauma remodeling clients Day 8-Week 8.

The certification for Body Bioengineering Contourists program is designed for those who have demonstrated competency in all areas of POBC (8+ weeks) + NSBC Bioengineering Sciences and Technology for aesthetic remodeling clients.

PRAXIS CERTIFICATIONS

Professional designations that do not require



renewal but must be maintained through ongoing compliance with regulations and ethical standards. They recognize verified competency while holding practitioners accountable to current practice guidelines.

- Faja Compression Therapy (FCT)
- Seroma Drainage Management (SDM)
- Incisional Medicine for Office Staff (iMed-OS)

The certification for Faja Compression Therapy (FCT) program is a specialized credential that validates a professional's ability to guide clients safely and effectively in the selection, application, progression, and troubleshooting of compression garments after body altering procedures.

The certification for Seroma Drainage Management (SDM 1 & 2) program is a clinical credential that trains and qualifies professionals to recognize, evaluate, and non-clinically manage post-surgical fluid accumulations using safe, scope-aligned techniques that support healing and reduce complication risks (SDM1). The advanced clinical variation of this certification teaches qualified professionals how to safely and hygienically manage seromas with aspiration, following strict protocol and sterilization procedures (SDM2).

The certification for Incisional Medicine for Office Staff (iMed-OS) program is a nonclinical credential designed to educate front desk, coordinators, and support staff on the phases of healing, types of incisional care, and how to properly guide clients on timelines, appointments, and red flags without offering liability riddled feedback.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL APPLICANTS

The following sections outline the eligibility requirements and body of knowledge for each BCF certification program. In addition to the specific eligibility requirements below, all applicants must:

- Age: Be 18 years of age or older
- Education: Have at least a high school diploma or equivalent
- Completed Application: Submit a full and completed application for review
- Not have been convicted of any felony criminal offense that would reflect negatively on the BAA profession, CSL, or the certification

program.

- Applicants must not have any active license suspensions from other regulatory boards.
- Sign and agree to abide by the BCF Certification Code of Professional Responsibility.
- Agree to abide by the policies of the BCF Certification programs as described in this handbook and the BCF Recertification Guide.

BCF certification exams are experienced-based. Experience is defined as having been trained and personally engaged in body altering aesthetics as a primary duty. This includes:

- a. Experience as a practitioner delivering services within the body altering aesthetics field, including post-surgical or nonsurgical bodywork, client care coordination, or direct support in recovery, education, or outcome optimization.
- b. Experience with businesses, clinics, recovery houses, educational organizations, or consulting firms that offer products or services related to post-surgical healing, compression systems, therapeutic interventions, or body contouring—provided the individual's responsibilities directly relate to the design, delivery, evaluation, or education of recovery or aesthetic outcome protocols.
- c. Experience as a full-time educator or trainer in a body altering aesthetics program, provided their coursework and responsibilities focus primarily on knowledge and skills tied to the clinical support, healing, and recovery sciences related to body altering procedures.



ABOUT BCF EXAMS

BAA BOARD CERTIFICATION IN INCISIONAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

iMedic Board Certification in Incisional Sciences and Technology trauma remodeling fundamentals

CSL Therapy launched the iMedic Board Certification in Incisional Sciences and Technology program has become the gold standard among surgeons and private surgical practices featuring ROGA Medical Group iMed-Series training and ROGA Safe PostOp Facility Accreditation.

Credentials from the Incisional Lymphatic Certification exam (ICLEX) provides demonstrable proof of knowledge and management skills in ten key domains of security— including dermal trauma response, drain support, sterile manual palpation, and the safe handling of unoccluded incisions within the first 7 days of healing.

Earning an iMedic Board Certification provides independent confirmation of your ability to assume Incisional protocol development responsibilities, tissue discernment, and effectively manage acute fluid behavior concerns.

ICLEX ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Along with BCF eligibility requirements, ICLEX applicants must also meet the following prerequisites:

- **CSL Precis:** Submit a certificate of completion from the industry fundamental intro course
- **Lymphatic System Course:** Submit a certificate from a course that teaches about the lymphatic system, completed within the last 10 years

ICLEX BODY OF KNOWLEDGE

To be awarded the iMedic designation, a candidate must pass a comprehensive examination consisting of approximately 100 multiple-choice questions. The candidate will select one answer from the available choices offered. In total, there are 100 “live,” scorable questions. Knowledge in ten major areas (domains) is tested.

The importance of each domain, and the tasks, knowledge, and skills within it, determines the specifications of the ICLEX examination. Each domain will have approximately 10 questions, and the order of questions will be randomized. Every ICLEX exam will differ in both sequence and content, with questions pulled from a secure National Exam databank to ensure fairness, variation, and comprehensive assessment of clinical readiness.

DOMAINS

1. Homeostatic return, trauma remodeling, and wound repair
2. Compression Therapy
3. Lymph nodes & Edema Fluctuations
4. Nutrition & Ambulation
5. Signs of Distress
6. Hygiene and Sanitation: Infection Prevention
7. Incisional Standards of Care
8. Reading Client Body Presentation
9. Protocol Treatment Development
10. Device Integration based on Kinetic Application

COMPETENCIES + TASKS

- Recognize normal vs. abnormal skin and tissue presentations post-surgery
- Understand surgical anatomy, incision types, and connective tissue behavior across healing phases
- Apply biomechanical principles to movement, positioning, and wound tension management
- Comprehend inflammation, edema, and fluid reabsorption and their impact on healing
- Identify contraindications and complications such as hematomas or infection
- Follow infection control protocols including PPE, sanitation, and wound hygiene
- Prepare treatment spaces (clinical and in-home) to meet safety standards



- Use barriers, safe disposal procedures, and emollients appropriately
- Perform fluid management, tissue assessment, and compression techniques effectively
- Adjust techniques and device settings based on real-time tissue response
- Understand the trauma remodeling continuum and know when to transition care
- Integrate manual techniques with principles like breathing, nutrition, and pressure control
- Conduct structured intakes and document clearly using SOAP or clinical-style notes
- Track swelling, drain output, and infection risks through consistent observation and records
- Build or revise treatment protocols based on clinical findings
- Stay within nonmedical scope, using correct terminology, consent forms, and waivers
- Escalate care or communicate with surgical teams when needed
- Explain treatments and red flags using trauma-informed, scope-appropriate language
- Educate clients on compression, movement, and home-care without overpromising outcomes

BAA BOARD CERTIFICATION IN POSTOP-INDURATION SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

POI Clinician Board Certification in PostOp-Induration Sciences and Technology trauma remodeling fundamentals

CSL Therapy launched the POI Board Certification in PostOp-Induration Sciences and Technology program in 2024, as a part of the organization's National Body Altering Aesthetic Competency initiative to promote professional development and ensure safer, more informed interventions during the earliest phases of post-surgical healing.

The Postop-Induration Lymphatic Certification exam (POLEX) will assess a clinician's ability to identify,

interpret, and intervene in evolving tissue behavior, fluid stagnation, and inflammatory rebounds within the trauma remodeling phase—while developing intentional, phase-appropriate treatment plans that help clients achieve their aesthetic goals as tissue gradually returns to homeostasis.

POLEX ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Along with BCF eligibility requirements, POLEX applicants must also meet the following prerequisites:

- **CSL Precis:** Submit a certificate of completion from the industry fundamental intro course
- **Lymphatic System Course:** Submit a certificate from a course that teaches about the lymphatic system, completed within the last 10 years

POLEX BODY OF KNOWLEDGE

To be awarded the POI designation, a candidate must pass a comprehensive examination consisting of approximately 100 multiple-choice questions. The candidate will select one answer from the available choices offered. In total, there are 100 “live,” scorable questions. Knowledge in ten major areas (domains) is tested.

The importance of each domain, and the tasks, competencies, and skills within it, determines the specifications of the POLEX examination. Each domain will have approximately 10 questions, and the order of questions will be randomized. Every POLEX exam will differ in both sequence and content, with questions pulled from a secure National Exam databank to ensure fairness, variation, and comprehensive assessment of clinical readiness.

DOMAINS

1. Homeostatic return, trauma remodeling, and wound repair
2. Compression Therapy
3. Lymph nodes & Edema Fluctuations
4. Nutrition & Ambulation
5. Anatomy & Physiology
6. Hygiene and Sanitation: Infection Prevention
7. Nomenclature & PostOp-Indur Standards of Care



8. Reading Client Body Presentation
9. Protocol Treatment Development
10. Device Integration based on Kinetic Application

COMPETENCIES + TASKS

- Identify anatomical structures (skin, fascia, lymphatics, joints) impacted by post-surgical trauma
- Recognize trauma responses including inflammation, edema, necrosis, and tissue remodeling
- Interpret movement patterns and their effect on fluid dynamics and tissue stress
- Assess how nutrition, supplements, and lifestyle affect healing and inflammation
- Understand procedural trauma zones, common aesthetic surgeries, and when modifications or referrals are needed
- Identify recovery timelines, complications, and anatomical distortions post-surgery
- Select and adjust manual techniques based on trauma stage, tissue feedback, and client sensitivity
- Use tools, devices, and compression safely within professional scope
- Maintain ergonomic posture and proper client positioning during treatments
- Visually assess and document tissue presentation, output, and red flags using standardized formats
- Track client progress across sessions and escalate care when appropriate
- Communicate plans, risks, and aftercare in trauma-conscious, client-appropriate language
- Maintain boundaries, informed consent, and emotional safety through verbal and nonverbal cues
- Operate within legal scope, applying regional regulations, consent laws, and liability standards
- Demonstrate ethical marketing, accurate documentation, and compliance with operational protocols
- Implement correct disinfection practices,

PPE use, and wound-adjacent precautions

- Prevent cross-contamination and maintain a clean, safe treatment environment
- Perform drain care, wound handling, and safe fluid disposal procedures
- Evaluate and adjust compression based on trauma phase, swelling, and client feedback
- Educate clients on safe faja use, garment transitions, and warning signs of misuse
- Recognize the risks of improper compression and emollient application

BAA BOARD CERTIFICATION IN BODY BIOENGINEERING & CONTOURING SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

Body Bioengineering Contouring Board Certification in Bioengineering Sciences and Technology aesthetic remodeling fundamentals

CSL Therapy introduced the Body Bioengineering Contouring Board Certification in 2025 to address the complex biomechanical and physiological changes during the advanced stages of post-surgical and nonsurgical tissue remodeling. This certification equips professionals with the knowledge and skills to manage both PostOp Body Contouring (POBC) and Nonsurgical Body Contouring (NSBC) modalities, ensuring they are well-versed in the low-level aesthetic remodeling needs of diverse clients.

The Body/Bioengineering Contouring Lymphatic exam (BCLEX) evaluates a clinician's ability to assess tissue texture, edema fluctuations, and skin integrity in real time, adjusting treatment techniques and modality synergies accordingly. Certified professionals demonstrate expertise in designing precise, adaptive treatment plans that optimize aesthetic results while supporting ongoing tissue homeostasis and structural balance.

BCLEX ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Along with BCF eligibility requirements, BCLEX applicants must also meet the following prerequisites:

- **CSL Precis:** Submit a certificate of completion from the industry fundamental intro course
- **Lymphatic System Course:** Submit a



certificate from a course that teaches about the lymphatic system, completed within the last 10 years

BCLEX BODY OF KNOWLEDGE

To be awarded the POI designation, a candidate must pass a comprehensive examination consisting of approximately 100 multiple-choice questions. The candidate will select one answer from the available choices offered. In total, there are 100 “live,” scorable questions. Knowledge in twenty major areas (domains) is tested.

The importance of each domain, and the tasks, competencies, and skills within it, determines the specifications of the BCLEX examination. Each domain will have approximately 5 questions, and the order of questions will be randomized. Every BCLEX exam will differ in both sequence and content, with questions pulled from a secure National Exam databank to ensure fairness, variation, and comprehensive assessment of clinical readiness.

DOMAINS

1. Homeostatic return, trauma remodeling, and skin repair
2. Compression Therapy
3. Lymph nodes & Edema Fluctuations
4. Nutrition & Ambulation
5. Anatomy & Physiology
6. Hygiene and Sanitation: Infection Prevention
7. Nomenclature & Body Contouring Standards of Care
8. Reading Client Body Presentation
9. Protocol Treatment Development
10. Directional terms
11. Device Integration based on Kinetic Application
12. Adipose breakdown & metabolic science
13. Science of Nonsurgical Modalities
14. Indications, Contraindications, Complications, & Risk Screening
15. Scope of Practice & Legal Boundaries
16. Client Communication & Ethics
17. POBC
18. Emollients & lubricants
19. Vendor Literacy
20. Aesthetics History & Cultural Bias Awareness

COMPETENCIES + TASKS

- Identify structural and functional components of fat, fascia, lymph, and connective tissue
- Apply kinetic bioengineering principles to body contouring techniques
- Evaluate emollient choices and nutritional factors affecting tissue remodeling
- Interpret vascular flow's influence on skin health and sculpting outcomes
- Assess fat behavior, skin elasticity, and cellulite distribution across body zones
- Identify stages of body transformation and modify treatment based on tissue evolution
- Evaluate real-time tissue behavior to guide safe, phase-appropriate intervention
- Determine client eligibility and align treatments with post-surgical or nonsurgical profiles
- Educate clients on realistic outcomes, aesthetic goals, and lifestyle modifications
- Identify and manage early signs of post-contouring complications using safety protocols
- Demonstrate compliance with safety standards, contraindications, and scope limitations
- Differentiate between POBC and NSBC methods and apply based on healing stage and tissue feedback
- Integrate compression, lymphatic, and kinetic tools to support low-level sculpting and collagen support
- Adjust techniques for symmetry, skin retraction, and optimal remodeling
- Recognize emotional responses to body change and signs of body dysmorphia
- Support clients with neutral language, clear boundaries, and referrals when needed
- Operate within legal scope, demonstrating



ethical marketing, consent, and documentation

- Understand device classifications and maintain accurate professional representation
- Design individualized at-home care plans using nutrition, hydration, and compression
- Apply lymphatic stimulation strategies to aid detoxification and fat metabolism
- Create compliant client packages and communicate the value of long-term self-care

BAA PRAXIS CERTIFICATION IN POST PLASTIC SURGERY FAJA COMPRESSION THERAPY

Faja Compression Therapy Praxis Professional Certification

The Faja Compression Therapy Praxis Professional Certification was developed to address a critical and often overlooked issue in body altering aesthetics: the misuse of traditional lymphedema-based compression principles on post-surgical clients with temporarily compromised lymphatic physiology. Unlike chronic lymphatic diseases such as lymphedema (variant 3), or healthy innate systems (variant 1), post-plastic surgery clients present with a distinct and temporary state (variant 2) characterized by high transection of lymphatic vessels, trauma from tumescent infiltration, and unique fluid dynamics during healing. This certification prepares providers to recognize these differences and respond appropriately, avoiding the risks of applying compression practices that were never designed for this population.

Candidates are trained to understand mmHg ranges, garment architecture, and the stages of safe faja progression based on real-time tissue behavior, not generic timelines. It teaches how to guide clients through accessory use (foams, boards, extenders), spot red flags like over-compression, trapped fluid, or garment-related necrosis, and make informed garment recommendations based on presentation. Providers emerge with a deep grasp of trauma remodeling physiology, aesthetic compression theory, and how to strategically use compression as a therapeutic, remodeling-guided practice—not a cosmetic afterthought. This certification ensures that professionals are no longer guessing, but instead clinically guiding compression with purpose.

PROGRAM COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

Candidates must first complete a prerequisite compression therapy course that specifically focuses on fajas and post-surgical body compression. This foundational course must demonstrate a clear understanding of compression garment stages, mmHg ranges, accessory usage, and the physiological considerations unique to clients recovering from plastic surgery.

The certification exam consists of 50 multiple choice questions, with approximately 5 randomized questions pulled from each of the 10 domains in the National databank. These questions are designed to assess both theoretical knowledge and clinical decision-making across key areas of compression therapy, ensuring certified professionals can safely guide and support clients through post-operative garment use.

DOMAINS

1. mmHG & pressure gradients
2. Dermal healing responses
3. Trauma remodeling
4. Compression types
5. Reading a garment
6. Lymphatic structure
7. Fajas and accessories
8. Faja installations
9. Professional recommendations
10. Nonsurgical compression

COMPETENCIES + TASKS

- Assess ideal compression ranges based on trauma remodeling phase and skin integrity
- Identify pressure discrepancies and recommend garment adjustments to maintain therapeutic gradients
- Interpret dermal cues to distinguish normal vs. adverse skin responses and adjust compression safely
- Educate clients on expected skin changes, red flags, and compression-related risks
- Identify signs of fibrosis, scar formation, or disrupted remodeling
- Differentiate between garment stages,



types, and their intended functions

- Select fajas and accessories based on surgical procedure, anatomy, and body goals
- Measure clients accurately and interpret garment design (tags, seams, closures) for correct fit
- Detect poor garment function and address issues like rolling, bunching, or material discomfort
- Install clients into garments properly and teach safe donning, removal, and hygiene practices
- Develop individualized compression plans with wear schedules and transition guidance
- Know when to refer to licensed providers for complications outside compression management
- Recommend compression for nonsurgical body contouring or wellness and set realistic outcomes

BAA PRAXIS CERTIFICATION IN SEROMA DRAINAGE & MANAGEMENT 1 & 2*

The BAA Praxis Certification in Seroma Drainage & Management 1 & 2 was developed in direct response to the rising number of clients experiencing unresolved post-surgical fluid buildup, often leading to worsening complications. Without timely intervention, seromas can escalate—causing excessive swelling, infection, compromised skin integrity, prolonged discomfort, and even permanent aesthetic distortion. In many cases, what could have been managed early in a professional setting ended up requiring ER visits or occupying hospital beds, overwhelming healthcare systems and frustrating patients.

This dual-varied track certification ensures professionals are trained appropriately for the scope they operate within. Version 1 offers a nonclinical certification for qualified bodywork and aesthetic professionals to recognize, monitor, and manage early-stage fluid buildup using non-invasive methods and appropriate referral protocols. Version 2 certifies eligible healthcare professionals to perform clinical aspiration under sterile technique, with training in risk mitigation, tissue preservation, and post-aspiration care. This tiered program helps address a critical care gap from week 1-12 postOp while reducing complications and improving

outcomes across the body altering aesthetics industry.

PROGRAM COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

Candidates must first complete a prerequisite educational training program that covers the foundational domain fundamentals necessary for nonclinical seroma management. It prepares students for the knowledge assessed on the certification exam and ensures ethical, scope-aligned care practices for professionals without clinical licensure.

The Version 2 certification, which includes clinical aspiration techniques, is currently restricted to licensed healthcare professionals with a nursing degree or higher, due to the invasive nature of the procedure and associated liability.

The nonclinical certification exam consists of 40 multiple choice questions, with approximately 5 randomized questions pulled from each of the 10 domains in the National databank; the clinical version consists of 45. The exam evaluates both theoretical understanding and practical reasoning across the seroma care continuum, confirming that certified individuals are competent to recognize, manage, or escalate fluid-related complications appropriately.

DOMAINS

1. Core Seroma Definitions & Anatomy
2. Seroma Etiology & Pathophysiology
3. Non-Clinical Management & Prevention Strategies
4. Aspiration: Preparation & Safety Protocols
5. Aspiration: Technique & Execution
6. Complications & Troubleshooting During Aspiration*
7. Seroma Progression & Advanced Complications
8. Professional Assessment & Sensation
9. Ethics, Scope of Practice & Client Support

COMPETENCIES + TASKS

- Identify defining characteristics of seromas and distinguish them from other fluid accumulations (hematoma, abscess, cyst).
- Recognize skin and connective tissue layers



where seromas typically form and their fluid content (e.g., T-interstitium).

- Locate anatomical regions prone to seroma formation following surgery.
- Determine seroma location and characteristics through palpation and visual assessment.
- Identify key causes of seroma formation (e.g., surgical technique, poor compression, drain removal timing).
- Explain how inflammation and lymphatic disruption contribute to seroma development.
- Assess how gravity, tissue shearing, and surgical trauma influence fluid pooling.
- Educate clients on behavioral and post-surgical risk factors that increase seroma likelihood.
- Recommend appropriate compression garments and accessories for prevention and nonclinical support.
- Demonstrate and guide clients on gentle, non-invasive lymphatic techniques for early seromas.
- Educate clients on movement, breathing, and posture that support fluid resolution and reduce risk.
- Apply infection control procedures, including skin antisepsis and PPE use.
- Demonstrate proper setup and sanitation in home or clinical settings for aspiration.*
- Follow biohazard disposal procedures for sharps and fluid waste per local guidelines.*
- Identify optimal aspiration entry points and needle selection based on seroma size and viscosity.*
- Insert and maintain needle positioning safely within the cavity.*
- Position clients to maximize gravitational flow during fluid drainage.*
- Recognize challenges such as thickened fluid, slow drainage, and tissue irritation during aspiration.*
- Adjust tools or technique to manage difficult aspirations safely.*
- Identify risks of reaccumulation and long-term complications like scar tissue.
- Differentiate between normal post-op tissue changes and pathological fluid buildup—detecting signs of encapsulation, infection, or seromas that require surgical or clinical referral.
- Educate clients on warning signs and when escalation is necessary.
- Perform palpation techniques to assess fluid characteristics and tissue health.
- Interpret client feedback (e.g., pressure, warmth, discomfort) during evaluation.
- Position clients appropriately for both safety and accurate assessment.
- Operate within certified scope of practice and understand legal/ethical limitations.
- Maintain complete documentation, obtain informed consent, and respect client confidentiality.

BAA PRAXIS CERTIFICATION IN INCISIONAL MEDICINE FOR OFFICE STAFF

A specialized credential designed to equip front-line healthcare assistants with both the theoretical knowledge and practical competencies required to support minor surgical and incision-related procedures in outpatient or office settings. Through this program, participants gain a foundational understanding of aseptic practice, perioperative protocols, patient preparation and consent procedures, incision care, wound management strategies, and post-procedure monitoring. The curriculum also emphasizes critical infection control principles, proper handling and disposal of instruments, and clear communication with both patients and clinical team members.

Achieving the BAA Praxis Certification demonstrates to employers and supervising clinicians that office staff are not only proficient in routine administrative duties, but also capable of safely assisting with minor operative procedures—like skin biopsies, incision-and-drainage of abscesses, or suture removal—under appropriate supervision. This certification strengthens the quality of patient care in ambulatory environments by reducing procedure times, enhancing patient comfort and safety, and supporting regulatory compliance. For medical offices looking to optimize workflow, increase patient throughput, and uphold rigorous standards



of clinical care, this certification represents a significant asset in the professional development of office-based clinical support staff.

PROGRAM COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

To receive the BAA Praxis Certification in Incisional Medicine for Office Staff, candidates must first complete the CSL Precis, a short foundational course introducing key concepts in Body Altering Aesthetics and Incisional Sciences. Following this, they must successfully complete the CSL Therapy iMed-OS Training Course, which provides detailed instruction on incision care, sterile support techniques, post-procedure safety, and the structured communication systems used in outpatient surgical environments. Both components must be completed in full to sit for the exam and earn this certifying designation.

DOMAINS

1. Clinical Documentation & Legal Communication
2. Operational & Workflow Management
3. Compression Sciences & Faja Application
4. Surgical Literacy for Support Staff
5. Client Journey & Emotional Intelligence
6. Lymphatic System & Recovery Readiness
7. Nonclinical Emergency Awareness & Escalation
8. PostOp Directive Literacy & Protocol Alignment
9. Ethics, Confidentiality & Liability Reduction
10. Client & Patient Education Delivery

COMPETENCIES + TASKS

- Accurately document client interactions, surgeon instructions, and incidents using neutral, professional language
- Demonstrate legal awareness in documentation
- Manage and audit client forms regularly
- Organize daily/weekly task workflow
- Recommend and organize fajas, accessories, and compression stages based on procedure type and recovery stage
- Identify signs of sensitive skin,

complications, or faja misuse and escalate concerns appropriately

- Differentiate between normal healing complaints and signs of medical urgency
- Display working knowledge of cosmetic surgery procedures, their limitations, and realistic healing timelines
- Recognize red flags in post-op presentations and know when to escalate concerns to medical staff
- Clarify misinformation using clinical guidance without overstepping scope
- Support client education before and after surgery using simple, accurate language
- Navigate facility-specific PostOp Directives and bodywork timelines using clinically approved phrasing and client-friendly visuals
- Understand the basics of the lymphatic system and its role in post-surgical recovery without offering medical advice
- Communicate post-op bodywork schedules and differences between MLD and induration protocols
- Maintain facility safety through hygiene habits, confidentiality, and wound awareness within the admin scope
- Communicate with clients in emotionally intense moments without validating misinformation or triggering liability—while maintaining trust and support

TAKING REMOTE PROCTORED EXAMS

BCF exams can be taken online from the comfort of your home. Once registered, you'll be set up with a secure exam account with our third party proctoring partners. While every exam covers the same material, the order of questions is randomized for each candidate. All exams are proctored live by humans and monitored by AI, with screen recording and real-time surveillance to ensure exam security.

There are specific technical requirements you must meet to take the exam remotely.

DUE TO FIREWALL SECURITIES, IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU DO NOT TAKE A REMOTE PROCTORED EXAM ON A COMPANY COMPUTER.

Be sure to review the Technical Requirements, FAQs,



and “Know Before You Test” guide before your exam day.

Common technical issues that may interfere with your exam include:

- Poor internet connection or bandwidth interruptions
- Webcam or microphone not functioning
- Failure to provide acceptable ID to the proctor
- Loss of connectivity or equipment failure that prevents exam completion

If you begin your remote exam and are unable to finish, it will count as your first of three allowed attempts. You will still have two additional chances to retake the exam within your one-year eligibility period.

APPLYING FOR THE EXAMS

The certification application must be filled out online. Once your application has been reviewed and approved, you will receive an authorization to test email with instructions on how to schedule your exam. Please allow approximately up to two weeks for your application to be reviewed (although it is likely to be processed in less time). Make sure the name you submit on your application EXACTLY matches the name on your valid, government issued photo ID. If they do not match, you will not be permitted to take the exam.

If you would like to be certified in more than one modality, you have to fill out a separate application for each designation; and sit for each exam separately. Only one exam may be taken per day.

COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

To begin the certification process, applicants must complete the online application form in full. This includes selecting the desired certification track, providing accurate contact information, and answering brief eligibility questions. Once submitted, applicants will receive next steps and login credentials to access their testing account.

SUBMISSION OF REQUIRED CERTIFICATES

Applicants are required to upload proof of completion for any prerequisites, such as lymphatic training or Precis certificates [if applicable]. These documents must be submitted directly through the

CSL portal during the application process before exam scheduling can proceed. These materials will be verified before you will be allowed to schedule your exam.

DEADLINE REMINDERS

BCF will send periodic reminders about deadlines (e.g., scheduling an exam, requests for additional information/materials); however, meeting and adhering to deadlines are ultimately the responsibility of the applicant. BCF cannot guarantee that you have received and/or read any correspondence. If all required materials are not submitted and approved, and the exam is not completed within one year of registration, the applicant will be required to reapply and pay the registration fee again.

Please make sure your contact information—especially your email address—is current in your online account. Also, make sure to whitelist emails from certifications@bodyalteringaesthetics.com

APPLICATION FEES

BCF exams are offered through ExamOnline’s Pro-Proctor platform, which allows you to take the exam at your home.

The BCF Board of Directors has approved the following fee schedule. To receive the member discount, please become an [MBMA member](#) **BEFORE** submitting your certification application.

FEES FOR THE BOARD & PRAXIS CERTIFICATIONS: (Updated 6 June 2025):

FEES FOR ICLEX, POLEX, BCLEX

MBMA Member: \$295
Non-member: \$444

FEES FOR PRAXIS EXAMS

MBMA Member: \$395
Non-member: \$695

Note: All fees include a nonrefundable processing fee of \$60. (Updated 6 June 2025)

BCF study materials, which are recommended but not required, must be purchased separately.



REFUNDS

If your application is cancelled or denied for any reason, you will receive a refund of your fee minus a \$60 nonrefundable processing fee. (Updated 6 June 2025)

No refunds will be issued 90 days after the application approval date. (Updated 1 October 2024)

RETESTING

Candidates may only take the exam up to three times in their one-year eligibility period. In addition, there must be 30 days between each testing date. Those who fail the exam three times, or whose eligibility period ends, may reapply by submitting a new certification application. (Updated 6 January 2025)

Candidates paying the retesting fee will receive an exam retake authorization email from BCF after the retake eligibility is in ExamOnline's scheduling system.

Once the exam retake authorization email has been received, a new exam appointment can be made.

Retest fees are nonrefundable.

RETEST FEES

(Updated 6 January 2025):

BOARD CERTIFICATIONS

MBMA members and nonmembers: \$225

PRAXIS CERTIFICATIONS

MBMA members and nonmembers: \$325

BOARD CERTIFICATION TRI-ANNUAL RENEWAL FEE: \$100

FEE ADJUSTMENT GUIDELINES

BCF certification and recertification fees shall be evaluated every two years.

Fee evaluation shall include consideration of vendor contracts, United States inflation rates, and other operational costs. Fee adjustments shall attempt to more fully recover certification and recertification operating costs, maintain or improve application processing and customer service metrics, while

minimizing impact on candidates and certificants. (Updated 1 October 2024)

INCEPTION PERIOD CREDIT

Applicants who paid the \$25 grandfathering application fee before June 2025 will receive that amount as a credit toward their exam registration fee. A unique credit code will be emailed and texted to all eligible early registrants. This credit is valid through June 2027.

APPROVAL NOTICE FROM BAA-CORE FEDERATION

If you are approved to take a BCF certification exam, an authorization to test email will be emailed to you. This letter will include:

- Your eligibility information, which you'll need to schedule your exam date
- Instructions for scheduling your exam
- Studying suggestions

You have one year and up to three attempts from the date of authorization to test email to take and pass your exam before you must reapply by submitting a new certification application. (Updated 6 January 2025)

Remember the name on your IDs must exactly match the name on your authorization to test email.

APPEALING A DECISION

An appeal procedure is available to any individual who has applied for a BCF certification and wants to contest any adverse decision. This policy applies only to the procedural aspects of the credentialing process. Those areas not subject to appeal are further identified under the section heading "General Principles Relating to Appeals" at the end of this section. BCF, its Board of Directors, CSL Therapy Governing Bureau, and the disciplinary committee maintain the right to deny any applicant the opportunity to sit for a BCF exam under their discretion; BCF certifications are private certifications and not mandatory to be extended to any persons.

Any individual who does not file a written request for an appeal within the required time limit shall waive the right to appeal. Submitting an appeal will not result in any discriminatory actions against the appellant.



Throughout the certification process, individuals may appeal certain decisions made by BCF. Examples of appeals include:

- Decisions regarding eligibility
- Eligibility time limits
- CPE interpretations
- Criminal convictions
- Unauthorized use
- Previous infractions, investigations, or suspensions (with CSL Therapy or other regulatory boards)

To appeal a decision regarding your certification, the following is required:

- Appeals must be submitted within 30 days of an applicant receiving notification of an adverse decision, with day one as the date of the applicant's notification email.
- A letter must be submitted explaining actions being appealed to certifications@bodyalteringaesthetics.org.

Appeals must be addressed to the BCF Certification Committee: Relations Division.

Appeals must identify the adverse decision being appealed and state the reasons for the appeal. Any new or additional information for consideration should be included in the letter.

BCF CERTIFICANT RELATIONS APPEAL PROCESS

Once the written appeal has been received, the Certification Relations Team will log the appeal in the appropriate database.

The appeal will be evaluated by the Certification Director for compliance with BCF appeal submission policies.

The appeal and related materials will be forwarded to the BCF Certification Committee— Relations Division for a decision; they meet quarterly. The committee will make its best effort to make a decision within 90 days of receipt of the appeal. BCF may have this decision reviewed by legal counsel prior to being sent to appellant.

The appeal decision will be recorded and logged into the appeals tracking spreadsheet and in the appellant's online record.

Whenever possible, the appellant will receive progress reports of the process and will be notified in writing of the decision of the BCF Certification Committee— Relations Division and the reasons for that decision within 30 days of the review.

The committee's decisions are final and may not be appealed.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES RELATING TO APPEALS

Appeals will be considered for hardships as outlined in the BCF Extension Policies.

- Appeals will be considered if the appellant feels BCF staff made an error in the application review.
- BCF eligibility requirements as well as the other policies of the certification program cannot be appealed.
- The passing score of the exam cannot be appealed.



TAKING YOUR EXAM

SCHEDULING YOUR EXAM

After you receive your authorization to test email from BCF, you will go to the ExamOnline website to schedule your exam.

You will have the option to schedule the exam through ExamOnline's remote proctored ProProctor platform using your own computer (company-owned computers are not recommended). Please make sure you can meet these technical requirements.

BCF exams are offered year-round. You will not be able to schedule your exam until you have been approved to take the exam and have received the authorization to test email.

MAKING YOUR EXAM APPOINTMENT

Your exam appointment can be scheduled online. You will be asked for:

- Your BCF ID, which can be found on your authorization to test email
- The first four letters of your last (sur) name

TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR CANDIDATES WITH DISABILITIES AND OTHER SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

All BCF programs comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and are non-discriminatory. If specific testing arrangements are needed due to a disability condition, candidates may request special accommodations by checking the "Disabled/Special Access Required" on the online application and explaining the accommodation needed in the text box provided when completing their application. Special testing accommodations must be approved by BCF prior to scheduling your exam. You will be required to provide documentation before BCF can approve your request. Requests are reviewed and approved on a case-by-case basis.

EXTENSION POLICIES

BCF does not grant extensions due to job demands, company budgets, employment status, personal finances, changes in marital status, changes in mailing address, and other personal or professional reasons. Extensions may be granted if there is a severe hardship such as a major medical

emergency in the immediate family, a natural disaster, or active military duty and deployment into a remote or hazardous area, or in certain circumstances, such as childbirth, adoption, or acceptance of a child in foster care. The applicant or certificant is required to provide documentation of extenuating circumstances (e.g., doctor's note or other appropriate proof of circumstance). Military personnel will need to verify their deployment status by submitting a copy of official deployment orders. This does not apply to individuals who are military contractors. Severe hardship must be documented and verifiable. BCF certification candidates and certificants who wish to utilize an extension should contact the BCF certification team no later than 60 days before eligibility end date or certification end date. Certificant extensions will only be considered if, at time of extension request, the certificant has completed 50% or more of the required CPE credits for their current certification cycle.

In times of crises that affect many people at one time (e.g., pandemic, national emergencies, natural disasters), extension policies may be modified in the short term. All affected by the crisis will be notified of the policy changes. (Updated 20 February 2024)

CANCELLATION POLICY

Note: Due to frequent cancellations and short notification rescheduling, ExamOnline has indicated that there may be inadequate accommodation capacity. Managing the process of scheduling and rescheduling appointments is critical to ensure that all candidates can obtain a testing appointment on the date and time requested.

To provide a first-choice experience for all candidates, ExamOnline may charge a reschedule/cancellation fee directly. This fee may be assessed if the candidate reschedules or cancels online.

If a candidate reschedules or cancels:

- 31 or more days before the scheduled test day, there is no charge.
- Four to 30 days before the scheduled test day, there may be a fee of \$62.50 per reschedule.
- Candidates cannot reschedule three or less



days before their scheduled testing date.

All rescheduling or cancellation fees are to be made directly through ExamOnline.

If a candidate is a “no show” and does not adhere to the above procedures, the full candidate testing fee is forfeited. You may schedule a new exam and pay the retest fee. ExamOnline makes NO exceptions to this rule.

“NO SHOWS”

If you fail to cancel or reschedule your exam and you do not take the exam on the scheduled day, you will be considered a “no show” and all testing fees will be forfeited. BCF understands that emergencies do happen. If you do not appear for your exam for any of the following reasons, you will have 14 days from your scheduled appointment day to provide the documentation below and reschedule your exam:

DEATH IN THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY

- Death certificate or doctor’s note, which must be signed by a licensed physician or mortician and include contact information

SERIOUS INJURY OR DISABLING INJURY (TO YOURSELF OR IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER)

Doctor’s note, with date of medical visit. The documentation:

- Should explain that the onset of the illness or injury was 24 hours before the exam
- Must be signed by a licensed physician and include contact information
- Does not need to include details of the illness or emergency, but the doctor should indicate that the condition prevented the candidate from testing

COURT APPEARANCE OR JURY DUTY

- Court or jury summons or subpoena, which must include date and your name

MILITARY DUTY

- Duty letter, which must include date and your name

BCF reserves the right to request additional evidence to support your reason for failing

to appear. If BCF and ExamOnline accept the explanation, you will be permitted to schedule a new appointment within your eligibility period without paying the rescheduling fee.

ON THE EXAM DAY

Even though you will be taking your exam through remote proctoring, you will be required to follow specific check-in procedures.

CHECK-IN FOR REMOTE PROCTORED EXAMS

Candidates testing with a remote proctored exam should make sure to allow 15 minutes to prepare your testing environment. Due to increased security protocols, we strongly recommend NOT taking the exam on a company-owned computer.

Check-in for remote proctored exams is a two-step process:

STEP ONE—CHECKING YOUR IDENTIFICATION

Image Capture—Using software, you will take and capture a picture of your face.

ID Capture—Next, you will capture a photo of your ID (see Check-in ID Requirements for acceptable ID). For those taking the exam remotely, you will only need one form of ID.

Checklist—You will review the checklist on screen to ensure you are ready to launch the exam.

STEP TWO—MEET YOUR EXAMONLINE PROCTORING AGENT

Candidate Detail Confirmation—You will have a video chat with the agent to confirm your personal information.

360 Environmental Check—Using your webcam, you will show the agent a 360-degree scan of your room and your workstation. You’ll need a medium/large hand-held mirror so the Readiness Agent can see your computer, if your computer does not have an external webcam. NOTE: DO NOT HAVE YOUR LAPTOP HOOKED TO A DOCKING STATION.

Candidate Person Check—Your Readiness Agent will ask you to stand up to do a scan of your person.

This scan will include—but is not limited to—conducting a sleeve, pocket, and glasses check. Additionally, you will be asked to turn all pockets



inside out. NOTE: EMPTY YOUR POCKETS BEFORE STARTING THE CHECK-IN PROCESS.

CHECK-IN ID REQUIREMENTS

You must have the following items, or you will not be allowed to take the exam:

One form of identification is required which must be a valid, government-issued photo ID (such as a passport, driver's license, employee ID card, or state ID card). (Social Security cards and military IDs are not an acceptable form of identification.)

Only your first and last/surname on your approval letter from BCF and identifications must match EXACTLY or you may NOT be permitted to test. This includes abbreviated or hyphenated names.

ExamOnline Confirmation Email and Number (from the email you get from ExamOnline when you schedule your exam).

If you are testing outside your country of citizenship, you must present a valid passport. If you are testing in your country of citizenship, you may present a passport, driver's license, or national ID.

Expired IDs and military IDs will not be accepted.

If you fail to bring/have the proper identification, you will not be allowed to take the exam and will forfeit the exam fee.

DURING THE EXAM

Once you have completed the check-in process, you will be assigned to a remote proctor. (Note: this may be the same as your check-in agent)

YOUR REMOTE SETTING MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

- Testing location must be indoors (walled), well lit, and free from background noise and disruptions.
- No third party may be present in the room or enter the room for the duration of the exam. If this occurs, your exam will be terminated and/or your results invalidated.
- Your workstation and surrounding area must be free of pens, paper, electronic devices, etc.
- Two tissues are permitted at the workstation

but must be inspected by the proctor prior to the start of the exam.

- Eating, drinking (except water), and smoking are not permitted during the exam. If you wish to have water during your exam appointment, it must be in a clear container with a lid/cap. No labels or other decorations are permitted on the bottle. Your water bottle may be inspected as part of the check-in process.

TEST-TAKING TIPS

- Relax! Reducing physical stress will help you be more alert.
- Find the right work pace. Don't rush or go too slowly. Find a pace that is comfortable.
- Follow the directions and work carefully.
- Read all the options for each question before marking the answer.
- Skip difficult questions. You can mark questions to come back to later. If you're still not sure, make an informed guess.
- Both unanswered questions and wrong answers are counted as wrong responses. Your score is based on the total number of correct responses.
- Keep an eye on the exam timer (on your screen). If you do not submit your exam before your time is over, the exam will automatically shut off when the time runs out.

HOW ARE THE EXAMS STRUCTURED?

All BCF certification exams are multiple choice. You will be provided four-five possible answers, only one of which will be correct. Following are the number of exam items (questions) per exam and the maximum time you are permitted to complete and submit the exam:

- Board Certification Exams (ICLEX, POLEX, BCLEX) – 100 "live" (scored). Two hours.
- Faja Compression Therapy Praxis Exam– 50 "live" (scored). One hour & fifteen minutes.
- Seroma Drainage & Management 1 & 2 Praxis Exam— 40/45 "live" (scored). Two hours.
- iMed-OS Praxis Exam– 50 "live" (scored). Two hours.



There will be a timer on your computer screen showing how much time you have left. Please make sure that you have answered all the items. Any unanswered items will be marked incorrect.

SCORING THE EXAM

All BCF exams use the “scaled score” method to determine the passing point of each exam. Before a question is presented on the exam, it is pretested. This allows BCF’s psychometricians to weigh the performance of each question and its level of difficulty.

Individual questions are given a weighted/scaled score based on level of difficulty. A scaled score is a transformed raw exam score (the number of exam questions answered correctly). To interpret any exam score, a uniform frame of reference is required. Scaled scores provide that frame of reference and indicate the same level of performance regardless of the specific exam version taken. A scaled score transforms a raw exam score (the number of exam questions answered correctly) into a consistent and standardized scale. BCF scaled scores are based on the standard adopted by BCF regarding the level of knowledge necessary to pass the exams.

A scaled score of at least 250 is required to pass BCF examinations. A scaled score is neither the number of questions you answered correctly nor the percentage of questions you answered correctly.

The passing score was established via a systematic procedure (standard setting) that employed the judgment of a representative group of BCF-certified professionals with the assistance of exam development experts. This group of subject matter experts recommended a standard to the BCF PCB for what a minimally competent security professional needs to know about the tested content to obtain a passing score. Each item on the computer-based test is electronically scored using a verified key or correct response option. Electronic scoring reduces scoring errors and therefore it is virtually impossible for your exam score to be incorrect (Updated 20 February 2024).

STUDYING FOR THE EXAM

BCF certification exams are experience-based. Therefore, the more hands-on experience you have related to the body of knowledge, the more successful you’ll be on the exam. Everybody has a different studying preference: Some like to study

by themselves, and others prefer a group study approach.

BCF does not require any one method of studying but we do offer the following recommendations.

Start with the body of knowledge. Read each domain carefully and make an honest assessment of your own experience. This will help you decide where you need to concentrate your studying efforts.

- If you need help, use the BCF Self-Assessment guide for ICLEX, POLEX, BCLEX, and Praxis Exams.
- BCF also offers Reference Sets for each certification. Our item writers and reviewers use these same materials to reference the correct answers on our exams.*
- BCF offers many virtual study opportunities for each exam. Visit our Education section of the bodyalteringaesthetics.com website for more information.*
- Many BCF Chapters offer study groups.

* BCF does not guarantee success on the exams because you study using BCF preparatory materials.

EXAM PREPARATION RESOURCES

BCF offers a number of resources to help you study for your board certification (costs are not included in the application fees). Candidates are encouraged to refer to the following reference materials as they are preparing for the ICLEX, POLEX, BCLEX, or Praxis examinations. After carefully reviewing the domains of study and identifying individual learning needs, candidates may use additional references and study opportunities as necessary

STUDY TOOLS

BCF offers both in-person and online review courses to help you prepare for your exam. Many BCF Chapters also offer study groups (if they’ve been started in your area). Look up if there’s a BCF Chapter in your area for more information (or consider starting your one).

Neither the Professional BAA Certification Board nor BCF Certification staff have any involvement in the BCF BAA review courses. Review course instructors have no access to actual exam questions.



I PASSED THE EXAM, NOW WHAT?

Upon successful completion of the examination, you will receive a certificate bearing your name, certification cycle beginning and ending dates, and certification number. You will receive a Decree of Proclamation from the Governing Bureau with an official Seal, and a lapel pin for your pinning ceremony. Please allow at least four weeks to receive your CBAA materials.

Also, you will receive an email from Credly (BCF's digital credentialing partner) with the subject line "You've earned a badge from BCF International." The message will provide an invitation and instructions to claim your digital badge(s) and certificate(s). Please allow a minimum of two weeks to receive your digital credentials.

Wear your new designation proudly! Add your designation to your email signatures, business cards, and social media accounts!

Along with your new certified status, you may now participate in one of the BCF Committees.

PINNING CEREMONY

Each year, candidates who successfully pass their BCF exam are honored in a formal pinning ceremony—an event akin to a white coat ceremony in traditional medical professions. As part of their induction into the year's Certified Body Altering Aesthetics Program, they ceremonially receive the emblematic metal pin signifying board certification. Candidates who have joined the Members of Better Medicine Association (MBMA) and purchased their official lab coat are presented with their deep burgundy coats embroidered with the MBMA member patch, marking their transition from student to certified professional.

The dark red of these coats carries weight. It symbolizes the sacrifice, the blood, sweat, and tears poured into mastering this evolving field. It honors the loss and triumph of those who came before—pioneers who made it possible to stand at this moment. But more than that, the burgundy coat and pin together represent a promise: to uphold excellence in every client interaction and to responsibly shape every future under their care.

The annual ceremony not only recognizes individual achievement but cements a collective standard for the Body Altering Aesthetics industry. More information on the next upcoming pinning

ceremony can be found at : bodyalteringaesthetics.com/pinning.

RECERTIFICATION

All those who hold an BCF certification must recertify every three years by earning Continuing Professional Education credits (CPEs). Recertification tells your colleagues, peers, and employer that you are committed to staying current in the security profession. For more information on recertification requirements, please download the Recertification Guide from the BCF webpage.



POLICIES

BCF CERTIFICANT POLICIES

Certified Body Altering Aesthetics members are expected to adhere to all policies, standards, and requirements that govern their certification. Ongoing compliance is required to maintain active certification status and uphold the integrity of the profession.

STATEMENT OF IMPARTIALITY

The BCF Professional Certification Board (PCB) and certification staff understand the importance of impartiality and conflicts in the management of certification activities. When undertaking dealings with members and nonmembers, all involved in the certification process will maintain a high level of ethical conduct and avoid conflicts of interest in connection with the performance of their duties.

There shall be an avoidance of any actions and/or commitments that might create the appearance of:

- Using positions for personal gain
- Giving improper preferential treatment
- Impeding efficiency
- Losing independence or impartiality
- Adversely affecting the confidence of BCF constituents in the integrity of certification operations.

The PCB and certification staff will ensure that in their dealings with constituents, they are and will remain impartial and confidential.

ANTI-SELF SERVING

The BAA-CORE Federation does not exist to serve the personal or professional interests of any individual, brand, or training provider. Its certification processes are designed to strengthen public safety, protect clients from unqualified care, and build a structured, enforceable standard across the Body Altering Aesthetics industry—not to promote or elevate any single group.

The goals of certification—industry-wide accountability, safer outcomes for the public, fewer complications, and long-term protection for practitioners—are not possible if the process were

self-serving. These objectives require unbiased evaluation, transparent policies, and decisions made in the interest of clients and the future of the field.

To protect those goals and ensure certification remains a public safety measure—not a tool for personal gain—the Federation:

- Requires applicants to meet national baseline standards before applying, regardless of where they trained.
- Holds quarterly open forums where concerns from clients, professionals, and educators are recorded and addressed.
- Separates training providers from exam development teams to prevent influence or bias.
- Publishes all protocol changes and benchmark updates for public comment before adoption.
- Collects anonymous data on complications and consumer outcomes to shape policy, not profit.
- Prohibits any member of the Certification Committee from marketing or endorsing programs related to exam content.
- Maintains an independent disciplinary review board to protect the public from unsafe or unethical practitioners.

Without these safeguards, the certification would risk becoming a brand badge rather than a tool of protection, and the integrity of the field would suffer.

BAA CERTIFICATION CODE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

(Updated 20 February 2024) In addition to the BCF International Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct, all BCF board-certified security professionals and those applying for an BCF designation must adhere to the

Code of Professional Responsibility, agreeing to:

- Perform professional duties in accordance with the law and the highest moral principles. Noncompliance includes any acts



or omissions amounting to unprofessional conduct and deemed prejudicial to an BCF designation.

- Observe the precepts of truthfulness, honesty, and integrity.
- Be faithful, competent, and diligent in discharging their professional duties.
- Safeguard confidential and privileged information and exercise due care to prevent its improper disclosure.
- Not maliciously injure the professional reputation or practice of colleagues, clients, or employees.

In addition, any act deemed prejudicial to the certification may result in denial of approval to take the certification examination or disciplinary action by the PCB, up to and including revocation of certification.

Such acts may include, but are not limited to:

- Providing false or misleading statements or information when applying to take the certification examination or to recertify.
- Any act or omission that violates the provisions of the BCF Certification Code of Professional Responsibility.
- Any act that is the proper basis for suspension or revocation of a professional license.
- Any act or omission that violates the PCB Disciplinary Rules and Procedures.
- Failure to cooperate with the PCB's Certificant Relations Committee in performance of its duties in investigating any allegation against an applicant or current BCF certificant.
- Making any false or misleading statements to the PCB regarding an applicant or current certificant.

Per ACBAA ISO 8001 Standards, if your BCF certification is revoked, you may be asked to return your certificate.

ATTESTATION OF CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTIFICATION

All those applying for an BCF exam will sign the following attestation on the application.

By my signature, I attest that the information I submit herein or in any required accompanying or subsequent documentation is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that persons who apply for certification as a iMedic, POI Clinician, Body Bioengineering Contouring, or Faja Compression Therapy, Seroma Drainage Management 1 &/or 2, or iMed-OS are subject to BCF International's eligibility requirements for certification, recertification, and to the BCF Certification Code of Professional Responsibility, as required by the BCF Board Certification handbook and the Board Recertification Guide. Additionally, examination candidates are not permitted to utilize another individual, company, and/or artificial intelligence (AI) during examination administration; this includes, but is not limited to, any form of proxy tester, natural language processing, predictive analysis, generative AI, open AI, etc.

I understand that in order to maintain my certification, I must recertify every three years by reporting a specified number of Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits, in accordance with BCF policy and procedures for submitting such reports.

I understand that CPE credits may be earned through education programs and courses and other activities, and that all CPEs must conform to the requirements specified in BCF International's Recertification Guide. I further understand that from time to time BCF International may amend its requirements, policies, and procedures including initial certification, recertification, and the Code of Professional Responsibility.

I also understand that I may be subject to an audit at any time and that BCF International reserves the right to take action for failure to comply with the audit procedures.

While holding a BCF certification, I agree to notify BCF in writing immediately if I fail to comply with any of the requirements for gaining or maintaining certification or recertification, such as, but not only limited to, no longer being in the profession, no longer holding Lifetime Retired status due to returning to non-industry employment, failing to earn the number of CPE credits needed to maintain certification or to be recertified, or having been disciplined— including suspension, expulsion, or loss of the credential— as a result of having been found in violation of the Code of Professional



Responsibility.

I also agree to notify BCF in writing of any email, mailing address, or name change(s) within 30 days after the change becomes effective.

If requested to do so, BCF may verify my certification status.

I attest that I have completed all certification and/or recertification requirements as outlined by the BCF Board Certification handbook or the Board Recertification Guide, as appropriate. (Updated 20 June 2025)

REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATION

Certifications are subject to revocation for any of the following causes:

- The certified individual shall not have been eligible to receive such certification, irrespective of whether or not the facts were known to, or could have been ascertained by, the PCB at the time of issuance of such certification; or
- The certified individual shall have made any misstatement of fact in the application for such certification or any other statement or representation, connected with the application for certification; or
- The certified individual has been found to have engaged in unethical practices or has been convicted of a felony.

No certification shall be revoked unless the following procedures are followed:

- A copy of the charges against the certified individual and the information concerning the event or events from which such charges have arisen is sent by registered mail to the individual. Such notice shall state that no action will be taken against the certified individual until after a hearing unless the individual fails to request a hearing or offer a defense within 15 days.
- The certified individual is given at least 15 days to prepare a defense.
- A hearing is held on such charges, before a designated panel, at which time the person is given a full opportunity to be heard in his or her own defense, including the right to be represented by counsel, the right to cross-examine witnesses appearing, and to

examine documents material to said charges. Accommodation support will be provided to eligible individuals.

- The panel shall initially determine whether or not the individual's certification should be revoked. The initial determination of the panel, including all evidence submitted at the hearing, shall be reviewed. Upon review, the PCB may affirm, reverse, modify, or remand the original determination of the panel.
- If the initial determination of the panel is to revoke the certification of the individual, and if a majority of the PCB, in an official session, affirms the panel's determination that the individual is not eligible for continued certification, then a notice will be issued. If your certification is revoked, you may be asked to return your certificate and cease using the designation.

LIFETIME DESIGNATION

Board Certified iMedics, POI Clinicians, or Body Bioengineering Contourists may be considered for Lifetime Certification designation, if the individual meets the following criteria:

- The candidate must be in good standing (e.g., status is "current" and not "lapsed" or "expired").
- The candidate must have held the certification for 12 consecutive years without a lapse.
- The candidate must be currently retired from any form of BAA bodywork/CSL field practice, or receiving compensation from hands-on practice, as defined by the applicable certification exam domain.
- The candidate must have paid the recertification fee for the current term.

Lifetime designees in good standing are subject to the same conditions of other certificants except that recertification will not be required and recertification fees will not be charged.

If a Lifetime Certificant returns to professional practice after the end of the last term of their regular certification, they must submit a recertification application demonstrating the successful completion of 60 CPEs within the previous three-year period, or they must retake and successfully pass the appropriate certification exam. Although Lifetime Certificants are automatically eligible to sit for the exam of their prior certification,



without the need to submit additional supporting materials, they must submit an application. Application fees apply.

If granted a Lifetime Certification, a new certificate with the new designation will be sent. To display this new designation, the certificant will use the following:

iMedic – Life Certified (Retired), POI Clinician – Life Certified (Retired), or Body Bioengineering Contourist/BBC– Life Certified (Retired). One cannot use the designation without these qualifying descriptions.

Per ACBAA ISO 8001 Standards, BCF reserves the right to revoke any Lifetime Certification should it be discovered that the certificant is no longer retired. If a Lifetime Certification is revoked, the Lifetime certificate must be returned to BCF.

To apply for Lifetime Certification, please complete and submit the application at certifications@bodyalteringaesthetics.com. There is a \$100 fee to apply.

RELEASE OF CANDIDATE AND CERTIFICANT RESPONSIBILITY

Board Certified professionals will be posted in the provider database in accordance with public right-to-know policies and industry-standard transparency laws that allow clients to verify credentials, certification status, and disciplinary history. Certification status will be announced upon confirmation.

Release to third parties of confidential information of BCF candidates and certificants is prohibited unless BCF obtains signed permission from the candidate or certificant to do so or BCF is compelled to do so by law. Consent to release information must include to whom the candidate or certificant information can be released and the information that can be released. Information cannot be released if the law prohibits this release.

BAA CERTIFICATES

All certificates related to the NBAA Competency Program designations are the sole property of BAA-CORE Federation. The certificate may only be displayed during the time period for which the credential is valid. Certificates remain the

property of the BAA-CORE Federation and must be returned to BCF, if requested. The formerly certified individual should immediately cease from using the BCF, BAA, or CSL Therapy designations and remove them from all printed, electronic, or other forms of communications.

THIRD PARTY INTERVENTION

The Professional Certification Board (PCB) sets the policies of the BCF certification programs. There is an appropriate and required “wall” between BCF certification activities and the CSL Therapy Global Board, BCF staff, and BCF’s CEO. Only the PCB can adjudicate certification matters.

Because BCF certification programs are accredited by ACBAA to the ISO 8001 Standard, involving third parties to try to change a decision made by the PCB is against ACBAA accreditation requirements and doing so jeopardizes BCF accreditation status as an industry certification body. In addition, BCF strives to apply our policies consistently in order to be fair to all. Allowing special “rules” to some is simply not fair to the 10,000+ certificants who do follow the policies. Finally, due to confidentiality requirements, the PCB and the Certification Team can only communicate directly with the certificant; they cannot share information with third parties.

FILING A COMPLAINT

Complaints regarding the eligibility requirements, test scheduling, policies, and procedures of the BCF certification program, certification personnel, or another certificant may be filed in writing per the instructions in Section III: Process for filing a complaint. The confidentiality of both the complainer as well as the person to whom the complaint is lodged are protected by BCF confidentiality agreements.

The complaint must contain sufficient objective evidence to substantiate the complaint. All complaints will be reviewed by the Certification Director and/or members of the PCB Certificant Relations Committee.

Whenever possible, BCF will make progress reports to both the person submitting the complaint and to the person to whom the complaint is lodged. Receipt of the complaint will be sent to the person submitting the complaint. An internal investigation will be taken by BCF to review the situation. Due to the nature of the complaint and the investigation,



the complaint may be referred to legal counsel or escalated to other regulatory bodies. When the investigation has been concluded, the results of the complaint investigation will be made public on our webpage.

ABOUT OUR TESTING PARTNER

ExamOnline is an independent testing company currently under contract with BCF and CSL Therapy to administer the BCF certification exams. Experts at ExamOnline work closely with BCF and the PCB to provide exam experiences that accurately evaluate a candidate's knowledge of the security profession. ExamOnline scores the exam, sends the results to BCF, and stores exam records. BCF staff and the PCB oversee ExamOnline's activities related to BAA certifications to ensure that all aspects of the exam process meet certification standards.