

IPAC Canada Statement on Certification*

Infection Prevention and Control Canada (IPAC Canada) endorses as a core requirement for the position of Infection Prevention and Control Professional (ICP),¹ the achievement and maintenance of certification in infection prevention and control, relevant to the ICP's workplace and responsibilities, from the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology Inc. (CBIC).

The categories of certification are:

- **CIC[®]** (Certification in Infection Control), the standardized measure of the basic knowledge, skills and abilities expected of professionals working in the field of infection prevention and control, particularly in acute care settings;²
- **LTC-CIP[®]** (Long-Term Care Certification in Infection Prevention, a standardized measure of the specialized body of knowledge required for competent performance of current infection prevention and control practice in non-acute settings such as LTC, retirement homes, and assisted living facilities;³ and
- **a-IPC[®]** (Associate — Infection Prevention and Control), an entry-level certification of basic infection prevention knowledge for the novice IP and those interested in pursuing careers in IPAC. There are no eligibility requirements.⁴
- **Emeritus CIC[®] (eCIC[®]) Status** is for ICPs entering retirement who currently hold the CIC[®] credential and meet specific criteria.⁵

An ICP prepares for certification by building competencies⁶, through a combination of a recognized course(s), on the job mentoring and life-long learning. Certification should be completed between 2-5 years of assuming the roles and responsibilities of infection prevention and control, and maintained thereafter.

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References

1. IPAC Canada Definition of an ICP. Available from: <https://ipac-canada.org/definition-of-an-icp>
2. IPAC Canada Policy and Procedure Manual. Membership #8.73. ICP job description. Available from: <https://ipac-canada.org/photos/custom/pdf/8.73%20-%20Membership%20-%20ICP%20Job%20Description%20May%202019.pdf>
3. Certification Board for Infection Control (CBIC). About the CIC[®] exam: What is CIC[®]? Available from: <https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/CIC-Certification/About-the-Examination.htm>
4. CBIC. About the long-term care certification in infection prevention (LTC-CIP). Available from: <https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/Long-term-care-certification.htm>
5. CBIC: About the a-IPC exam. Available from: <https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/Get-Certified/Get-Started/a-IPC.htm>
6. CBIC: Emeritus CIC[®] (eCIC) status. Available from: <https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/My-Certification/Emeritus-CIC.htm>
7. IPAC Canada. Core competencies for infection prevention and control professionals. Updated consensus document. 2022. Available from: https://ipac-canada.org/photos/custom/pdf/IPAC_CoreCompetencies_ICPs_2022_revised.pdf