



**Elaine Larson, RN,
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2023 CBIC President

CBIC Celebrates 40 Years

The Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology (CBIC) is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. We look forward to seeing many of you at the APIC Annual Conference and Exposition in Orlando at our booth and at the CBIC reception. This year we will be highlighting CICs who have reached certification milestones, such as five years, and up to forty years. We will continue to spotlight certificants from around the world. I am pleased to announce we now have certificants from over 45 countries!

The year 2023 also marks the release of CBIC's revised strategic plan. Please have a look at this revised strategic by going to www.cbic.org/cbic/strategic-plan.htm on the CBIC website. Some highlights include updates to the CBIC vision and mission statements.

Vision

- A world free of infections through demonstrated professional competency.

Mission

- Provide pathways to demonstrate and maintain competence in infection prevention and control.

One of CBIC's strategic priorities includes expanded accessibility to certification for professionals responsible for infection prevention across settings. Our first action to address this strategic priority was making a change to the Associate-Infection Prevention and Control (a-IPC™) certification. The a-IPC™ was previously valid for three years and was not renewable. The a-IPC™ certification will now be valid for five years and is renewable through examination. Current a-IPC™ certificants will have their certification extended to a full five years.

Daily testing is underway for the new long-term care certification in infection prevention. Over 300 individuals were part of the beta testing in 2022. I would like to thank both the beta testers and test committee that made this exam possible. Our test committee works year-round to write and review test questions to ensure the high quality of CBIC examinations, and their work is essential.

As we head into spring, please consider the following:

- If you are not yet certified, why not? Not only is it a mark of professional distinction and accomplishment, but you will find it to be personally very gratifying.
- As a certified infection prevention and control expert, you can be an invaluable resource to support and improve the quality of the exam by volunteering to be an item writer or a future text committee member. It is an amazing experience—it's lots of work, but our item writers comment on how much they learned and enjoyed networking with colleagues. To volunteer, please check the [CBIC website at www.cbic.org/cbic/about-cbic/volunteer-opportunities.htm](http://www.cbic.org/cbic/about-cbic/volunteer-opportunities.htm) this fall and be on the lookout for an email from CBIC staff highlighting available positions.

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