

Education Committee Medical Laboratory Technologists Board

Consultation Forum with Registrants

14 February 2026
10:00am – 1:00pm

Today's Objective

Gather Feedback from MLT Registrants

Seek input and **opinions** from MLT registrants regarding their perspectives on the proposal for implementing a mandatory Continuing Professional Development (CPD) scheme to ensure that it is practical, subject to approval of MLT Board and Allied Health Professions Council.

House Rules

1. Time Allocation:

Given the 3-hour duration and many participants, each participant is allotted a maximum of 2 minutes for remarks and questions to ensure equitable contribution and efficient use of time.

2. Speaking Procedure & Conduct (In Person Participants):

- ▶ Participants who wish to speak should raise your hand (in person and via Zoom) and wait to be recognized by the Chairman.
- ▶ Before speaking, participants must state their **full name** and **registration number** (e.g., “Chan Tai Man – MT100000”).

3. Zoom Entry and Identification and Video (Online Participants):

3.1 Display Name Requirement

- ▶ Online participants must join the Zoom meeting using the display name format: **Full Name – Registration Number** (e.g., “Chan Tai Man – MT100000”)
- ▶ Any participant who changes or hides their registered name during the consultation may be removed from the session.

3.2 Video Requirement When Speaking

- ▶ To indicate a desire to speak, online participants must:
- ▶ Use the “Raise Hand” feature in Zoom; and
- ▶ Turn on your camera so that video is visible while addressing the forum.

4. Respectful Engagement:

The Chairman will oversee the meeting, ensuring adherence to time limits and these rules with support from the Secretariat. If any participant is found of any disrespectful behavior, he/she will be asked to leave the forum (for inperson participant) or be removed from the session (for online participant).

5. Priority for Remarks and Questions

The following order of priority shall apply to the selection of questions and remarks:

- ▶ In-person participants and online participants will be selected in an approximate ratio of 3:1 (three in-person participants for every one online participants);
- ▶ Questions received through the Zoom chat box shall be considered only after in-person and online remarks, and only if time permits.

6. Minimizing Distractions:

All electronic devices, including mobile phones, must be silenced and turned off.

7. Recording Disclaimer:

The consultation will be recorded on Zoom by the Secretariat for administrative purposes. By joining and remaining in the forum, participants are deemed to have been notified of, and to consent to, such recording. The recording will be kept and handled in accordance with applicable privacy and data protection requirements.

Common Questions in mind



- ▶ **Why do I need to have CPD as an MLT?**
- ▶ **How many CPD points do I need to have, and by when?**
- ▶ **How can I obtain CPD points?**
- ▶ **How can I track the progress and report my CPD points?**
- ▶ **Can I be exempted from the mandatory CPD scheme?**
- ▶ **What will happen if I cannot fulfill CPD points by the end of practising certificate renewal?**

Q. Why do I need CPD as an MLT?

▶ Policy Intent

Through CPD, MLT registrants will be able to **keep pace with rapid advances** in MLT profession in terms of **knowledge, skills and practical experience for the provision of professional service.**

▶ Direction of Allied Health Professions Council

- The Council accepted the recommendation of Report of Strategic Review on Healthcare Manpower Planning and Professional Development of 2017, and instructed all Boards to work out its implementation proposal of CPD.
- OP Board, PT Board, OT Board and RG Board have implemented mandatory CPD.
- MLT Board has been working on the details of turning the voluntary CPD to mandatory in the past few years.

▶ Legal Requirement

The legislative amendments to the Allied Health Professions Ordinance, Cap. 359 has stipulated that **the Board must not issue a practising certificate to the person unless the board is satisfied that the person has complied with the requirement regarding CPD** determined by the Council as applicable to the person.
(s.16 of Cap. 359)

CPD Assessment Cycle and Points Requirement

- ▶ The **validity period of the practicing certificate** has been changed from one year (HK\$435) to **three years** (HK\$540) under the Amendment Bills of Supplementary Medical Professions Ordinance, which was passed in July 2025.
- ▶ A CPD cycle spans **three calendar years**. The mandatory CPD scheme will run on a **three-year cycle, commencing on 1 July of the first year and ending on 30 June of the fourth year**. All registered MLT, regardless of their registration status (i.e., which part of the Register they are listed in) or whether they reside in Hong Kong or overseas, are required to attain **45 CPD points** within each three-year cycle

Q. How many CPD points do I need to have, and by when?

CPD point requirements in 3-year cycle

Group	End Date of Practising Certificate	Start Date of Practising Certificate	CPD Points required by end date of Practising Certificate	Approximate Duration for obtaining CPD points	Annual Requirement
A1	30.6.2028	Between 25.7.2025 and 31.12.2025	45 Points	> 2.5 Years	- 25.7.2025 – 30.6.2026: 0 pt - 1.7.2026 – 30.6.2027 : 5 pts - 1.7.2027 – 30.6.2028 : 5 pts
A2	30.6.2028	Between 1.1.2026 and 30.6.2026	30 Points	2.0 – 2.5 Years	- 1.1.2026 – 30.6.2026 : 0 pt - 1.7.2026 – 30.6.2027 : 5 pts - 1.7.2027 – 30.6.2028 : 5 pts
B1	30.6.2029	Between 1.7.2026 and 31.12.2026	45 Points	> 2.5 Years	- 1.7.2026 – 30.6.2027 : 5 pts - 1.7.2027 – 30.6.2028 : 5 pts - 1.7.2028 – 30.6.2029 : 5 pts
B2	30.6.2029	Between 1.1.2027 and 30.6.2027	30 Points	2.0 – 2.5 Years	- 1.1.2027 – 30.6.2027 : 0 pt - 1.7.2027 – 30.6.2028 : 5 pts - 1.7.2028 – 30.6.2029 : 5 pts

- To comply with the purpose of continuing development of MLTs' individual professional and educational skills, **annual requirement of 5 CPD points** will be set to encourage registrants to engage in CPD activities throughout the 3-year cycle.

Q. How could I obtain CPD points?

- ▶ Category 1: Attending CPD activities – No maximum points
- ▶ Category 2: Public Presentation, Publication and Other Activities related to MLT professions – Max 21 points per cycle
- ▶ Category 3: Self study – Max 15 points per cycle

Scope of CPD Activities & Allocation of Points (Category 1)

Being an attendee in an accredited CPD programme/activity* (relevant to the MLT profession)

- APP activities/Pre-approved programmes:
1 credit point per hour (60 minutes) and 0.5 credit point per half an hour (30 minutes);
6 credit points maximum per day (12 credit points maximum per single module/ programme)
- Post-qualification(s)#
(e.g. diploma/ postgraduate diploma/ master's degree, etc):
1 credit point per lesson^ (No maximum credit point for Post-qualification(s))
- Training course(s)/workshop(s) (e.g. assessor training courses, etc) with proof of participation:
6 credit points maximum per day (12 credit points maximum)
- Online course(s) with assessment(s) and/or proof of participation (e.g. ASCP, WHO, USCDC, etc.):
1 credit point per course

To facilitate registrants to identify accredited CPD programme/ activity, the following will also be uploaded on MLT Board website in mid of 2026 :-

- ▶ List of pre-approved programmes
- ▶ List of activities organized by 25 Accredited Programme Providers (APPs)
- ▶ List of CPD programmes not being provided by APPs

Note*: Applicable to both onsite and online mode.

Note#: The definition of MLT relevant post-qualification(s) is in accordance with the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (HKQF).

Note^: Lesson refers to practical, tutorial, lecture and seminar.

Category 1 – List of pre-approved programmes

List of MLT pre-approved programmes recommended by APPs
(updated as at 27 January 2026)

Programmes				
	<u>Date</u>	<u>Title of Programme</u>	<u>Organiser / Certificate Issuer</u>	<u>Duration</u>
	(Date/ Frequency)	(Conference/ Workshop/ Symposium/ Scientific Meeting/ Seminar)	(in full name)	(if applicable) (e.g. half day / 1 day / 2 days / 5 hours)
MLT-related Programmes organised by International Medical Organisers or Reputable Local or by the HKSAR Government				
1.	Annual	AABB Meeting	Association for the Advancement of Blood & Biotherapies (AABB)	4 days
2.	Annual	AACB Annual Scientific Conference	Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemistry (AACB), Australia and New Zealand	2-4 days
3.	Annual	American Association of Diagnostics and Laboratory Medicine (ADLM/AACC) Annual Conference	American Association of Diagnostics and Laboratory Medicine (ADLM, formally called AACC), USA	3-4 days
4.	Annual / Biennial	AAMLS	Asia Association of Medical Laboratory Scientists (AAMLS)	3 days
5.	Annual	Adia Pacific Forum of Medical Laboratory Science	Taiwan Association of Medical Technologists (TAMT), Taiwan	2 days
6.	Biennial	Chinese Laboratory Medicine Conference	HKIMLS & Organizations from Mainland China, Macau and Taipei	2.5 Days
7.	4 times/ year*	Cytopathology Microscopy Quality Assurance Programme ** * College of Pathology CME-accredited activity	Hong Kong Institute of Medical Laboratory Science Quality Assurance Programme Ltd.	1 hour

8.	Annual	Cord Blood Connect (organized by AABB and Cord Blood Association) as a component of AABB Meeting	AABB and Cord Blood Association	4 days
9.	Annual	Conference	Microbiology Society (UK)	/
10.	Annual	Conference	International Convention of Forensic Medicine & Sciences	/
11.	Annual	European Congress of Pathology	European Society of Pathology	/
12.	Annual	European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases ESCMID Global Congress	European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases	5 days
13.	Annual	European Society for Clinical Cells Analysis (ESCCA) Conference	International Society for Cell & Gene Therapy (ISCT)	4 days
14.	At least Annual (next event Annual Blood 2026 conference 18-21 Oct 2026)	Events organized by the Australia and New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion	Australia and New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion	4 days for next event
15.	Bi-Annual	Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Conference	Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine (CSLM), Shenzhen	1-2 days
16.	3 times per year	HKSMI Scientific Meeting	The Hong Kong Society for Microbiology and Infection	1hour-1.5 hour
17.	Annual	International Conference of Chinese Rheumatologists (ICCR)	The Hong Kong Society of Rheumatology	2 days
18.	Annual	International Society for Cell & Gene Therapy (ISCT) Scientific Annual Meeting	International Society for Cell & Gene Therapy (ISCT)	4 days

Category 1 – List of pre-approved programmes

19.	Annual / Biennial	IFCC WorldLab Congress	International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC)	4 days
20.	Usually twice per year (next event: ISBT Kuala Lumpur International Congress – 20-24 June 2026)	ISBT Regional/ International Congress	International Society of Blood Transfusion	4 to 5 days
21.	Once every two to three years	International Symposium on Antimicrobial Agents and Resistance (ISAAR)	Asia Pacific Foundation For Infectious Diseases (APFID)	3 days
22.	Annual	IBMS Congress	Institute of Biomedical Sciences (IBMS) UK	2-3 days
23.	Annual	LABCON	Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS), Canada	2-3 days
24.	Annual	MLPAO Annual Lab Summit	Medical Laboratory Professional Association of Ontario (MLPAO)	1-2 days
25.	Annual	Microbiome Summit	InnoHK Microbiota I Center (MagIC) Ltd	1 day
26.	At least Annual (next event: 52 nd Annual Meeting of the EBMT 22-25 March 2026)	Publications and events organized by EBMT (https://www.ebmt.org/)	EBMT	4 days for next event
27.	Annual	RCPA AACB Chemical Pathology Course	Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia and Australasian Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine	/
28.	Bi-Annual (usually in spring and fall)	Scientific Meeting	International Academy of Pathology – Hong Kong Division	/

29.	Region- specific	Scientific Meetings	International Academy of Pathology (All divisions)	/
30.	Annual	Scientific Meeting	American Association of Cancer Research	/
31.	Annual	Scientific Meeting	American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology(AAAAI)	/
32.	Annual	TLSM Annual Scientific Conference	Taiwan Society of Laboratory Medicine (TLSM), Taiwan	2-3 days
33.	Annual	Taiwan Advanced Medical Technology Association (TAMTA) Annual Scientific Conference	Taiwan Advanced Medical Technology Association (TAMTA)	2-4 Days
34.	Annual / Biennial	World Congress of Biomedical Laboratory Science	International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science (IFBLS)	4 days
35.	Biennial	YGO Laboratory Medicine Conference	HKIMLS & Organizations from Macau and Guangdong	1 – 1.5 days
36.	12-14, June 2026	15 th International Symposium on Antimicrobial Agents and Resistance cum HKSMI Annual Scientific meetings	The Hong Kong Society for Microbiology and Infection; The Hong Kong Society for Infectious Diseases	3 days
37.	7-9, Dec 2026	34 th International Congress of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy	Organizing Committee of the 34 th International Congress of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (ICC)	3 days
38.	Annual / Biennial	醫師協會檢驗醫師分會年會	深圳市醫師協會檢驗醫師分會	2 days

List of Accredited Programme Providers (APPs)

1. Department of Health Technology and Informatics, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
2. Department of Anatomical & Cellular Pathology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
3. Public Health Laboratory Services Branch, Centre for Health Protection, Department of Health
4. Department of Pathology, University of Hong Kong
5. Division of Health and Applied Sciences, School of Professional and Continuing Education, University of Hong Kong
6. The Hong Kong College of Pathologists
7. Hong Kong Institute of Medical Laboratory Sciences
8. Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital
9. Hong Kong Society for Molecular Diagnostic Sciences
10. Hong Kong Society of Cytology
11. Hospital Authority
12. Institute of Biomedical Sciences (Hong Kong Branch)
13. Department of Chemical Pathology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
14. Hong Kong Association of Medical Laboratories Ltd
15. Hong Kong Society of Clinical Chemistry
16. Hong Kong Society of Haematology
17. Department of Microbiology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
18. Hong Kong Society for Microbiology and Infection
19. Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service
20. Department of Microbiology, The University of Hong Kong
21. Carol Yu Centre for Infection, The University of Hong Kong
22. Medical Lab Science Division, School of Medical & Health Science, Tung Wah College
23. Pathology Service, CUHK Medical Centre
24. CityU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory
25. Department of Biomedical Sciences, City University of Hong Kong

CPD points v.s. Duration

Duration (Minutes)	CPD Points (MLS-relevant activities)
0 – 29	0
30 – 44	0.5
45 – 60	1
61 – 74	1
75 – 90	1.5
91 – 104	1.5
105 – 120	2

Scope of CPD Activities & Allocation of Points (Category 2)

(2) Public Presentation, Publication and Other Activities (relevant to the MLT profession)	21 credit points per cycle	Being a speaker, presenter, panelist, moderator, and teacher/trainer/demonstrator in a CPD programme/activity (Remarks: only for activities outside of the full-time employment duties of the registrant)	3 credit points per hour (60 minutes) or activity (whichever is greater)
		Being an author giving a poster/abstract/oral presentation in symposium and conference	Key author(s) ¹ : 2 credit points per presentation co-author: 1 credit point per presentation
		Being an author / of peer-reviewed article	Key author(s): 5 credit points per article Co-author: 3 credit points per article
		Being an author/editor of a book or book chapter relevant to biomedical sciences	Key author(s)/editor: 5 credit points per book or book chapter (one-off) Co- author/editor: 2 credit points per book or book chapter (one-off)

		Being an author of articles in a newsletter/newspaper/magazine, etc	Key author: 2 credit points per article with a minimum of 200 words Co-author: 1 credit point per article with a minimum of 200 words
		Being an examiner/clinical assessor/supervisor of a project or dissertation in an academic programme	Key examiner/clinical assessor/supervisor : 3 credit points per project Co-supervisor: 1 credit point per project
		Being an editor(s) ² /reviewer of peer-reviewed journals	Editor: 5 credit point per appointment Reviewer: 2 credit points per journal
		Being a technical assessor in accrediting medical laboratories/MLS programmes	6 credit points per day and 3 credit points per half day (12 credit points maximum per accreditation event)

¹ Key author(s) refer to sole author, first author, co-first author, correspondence author and co- correspondence author.

² Editor(s) refer to chief editor and guest editor.

Scope of CPD Activities & Allocation of Points (Category 3)

- ▶ **Self-study**
- ▶ **Pre-approved journals**

<https://www.smp-council.org.hk/mlt/file/pdf/List%20of%20pre-approved%20Journals.pdf>

(3) Self-study	15 credit points per cycle	Reading journals or educational materials from “List of Accredited Journals/Educational Materials” published within the preceding five years.	1 credit per full article/review with a 100 – 200 word summary (in Chinese or English)
----------------	----------------------------	---	--

List of MLT pre-approved journals recommended by APPs

(updated as at 30 December 2025)

Journals

No.	Title of Journal	Online Link (if any)
1.	Acta Cytologica	https://karger.com/acy
2.	American Journal of Clinical Pathology	https://academic.oup.com/ajcp
3.	Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine	https://www.archivesofpathology.org
4.	Biomarker Research	https://link.springer.com/journal/40364
5.	Blood Transfusion	https://www.bloodtransfusion.it/bt
6.	British Journal of Biomedical Science	https://www.frontierspartnerships.org/journals/british-journal-of-biomedical-science
7.	British Medical Journal (BMJ)	https://www.bmj.com/
8.	Cancer Cytopathology	https://acsjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/19346638
9.	Cytopathology	https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/13652303
10.	Cytojournal	https://cytojournal.com/
11.	Clinical Chemistry	https://academic.oup.com/clinchem
12.	Clinica Chimica Acta	https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/clinica-chimica-acta
13.	Clinical Biochemistry	https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/clinical-biochemistry
14.	Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (CCLM)	https://www.degruyterbrill.com/journal/key/cclm/html
15.	Clinical Infectious Diseases	https://academic.oup.com/cid

Transition and Carry-Over of CPD Points

- ▶ To facilitate a smooth transition and to recognize ongoing commitment to professional development, **CPD points attained during the period starting 1 July 2025 will be eligible for carry-over into the upcoming CPD cycle, tentatively scheduled to commence on 1 July 2026.**

Q. How can I track the progress and report my CPD points?

- ▶ Registrants will be required to submit their CPD attainment every three years on the same occasion when they renew their practising certificate.
- ▶ The **Record Sheet of CPD Programs/Activities** attended **will be** available on the MLT Board website. A table will be provided setting out the CPD years, in which MLT registrants may record the CPD points obtained under Activity Categories 1 to 3.
- ▶ MLT registrants are required to keep a record by themselves for **at least 6 years**, along with supporting evidence (e.g. certificates, letters, documents of attendance, or summary of self-study), as proof of having accumulated the required CPD points for the cycle.
- ▶ The MLT Board may conduct **random check** to verify the CPD points reported by registrants.

Q. Can I be exempted from the Mandatory CPD Scheme?

- ◆ Exemption may be granted if you -
 - ▶ **could be certified to have a medical condition or other circumstances** which the Board considers as acceptable reasons for exemptions from CPD (e.g. Prolonged Illness and Permanent Disability)
- ◆ A registrant should submit application of exemption to the MLT Board for consideration on a case-by-case basis.

Q. What will happen if I cannot fulfill CPD points by the end of practising certificate renewal?

(i) Non-compliance That is Remediable

- ▶ A MLT must have achieved **not less than two-thirds** of the required number of points for a cycle.

(ii) Non-compliance That Is Not Remediable

- ▶ A MLT who has obtained **less than two-thirds** of the required number of points for a cycle **without acceptable reasons**, no practicing certificates will be issued.

Remediable Programme

Various remediable scenarios and the corresponding additional requirement

If a registrant achieves at least two-thirds of the required CPD points for a cycle but fails to attain a minimum of 5 CPD points in each year of that cycle, they are required to obtain the remaining points, along with an additional 5 CPD points for each year's deficiency as an additional requirement.

CPD points attained in the 1 st Year	CPD points attained in the 2 nd Year	CPD points attained in the 3 rd Year	Additional CPD points required in the next cycle
10	10	10	15 (remaining pts)
30	15	0	5 (additional pts)
20	10	0	15 (remaining pts) +5 (additional pts)
0	0	60	10 (additional pts)
30	0	0	15 (remaining pts) +10 (additional pts)

- ▶ The remaining CPD points shall be obtained through participation in Category 1 CPD activities.
- ▶ The remedial programme shall be completed within the next cycle, as this shall be the final opportunity and no further extension will be granted.
- ▶ The MLT who has failed to make remedy prescribed by the Board for the deficiency without acceptable reasons may then be regarded as a case of noncompliance that is not remediable.
- ▶ False reporting may constitute a criminal offence and may result in criminal liability.

Thank You