

To CLIA committee members,

I recently applied for TS (Technical Supervisor) certificate to American Board of Bioanalysis (ABB). Decision letter indicates *"The ABB Board has determined that you do not hold an earned degree from an accredited institution in a chemical, physical, biological, or clinical laboratory science"* based on evaluation of my credentials along with curriculum vitae explains my work background. My Ph.D. degree is from the Department of Bioengineering, so it was not considered for certification eligibility.

Bioengineering has a misunderstanding commonly substituted with Biomedical Engineering. Unlike Biomedical Engineering, bioengineering more focused on to improve diagnostic and therapeutic tools to be used in medicine and biology. Here are the examples from top universities' Bioengineering Departments:

UCLA Bioengineering Department Chair says:

*".....we investigate the mechanisms of biological systems and develop technologies for diagnostics and therapeutics to address clinical needs".*  
(<https://www.bioeng.ucla.edu/message-from-department-chair/>)

Stanford University Bioengineering Department's goals include:

*"To realize many new applications of bioengineering, including in diagnostics, therapeutics, and manufacturing, To become a center of entrepreneurial and translational research"* (<https://bioengineering.stanford.edu/about/department-overview>).

Top universities point out Bioengineering as a diagnostic and therapeutic research with the translational medicine aspect.

My transcripts show successfully completed 32 semester hours (minimum) in chemistry or the biological sciences which is one of the requirements for eligibility. Official transcripts were submitted to ABB directly from institutes.

Besides these above, I completed my Research Fellowship in Cleveland Clinic Urology Department (#1 in Adult Urology Hospitals, <https://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals/rankings/urology>). I was affiliated through GME and my credentials were accepted to work in Andrology Center. Also, I worked in Tulane Medical Center Department of Urology without any concern with my Bioengineering Ph.D. degree. My responsibility was running the clinical samples and conducting research projects on

semen samples. The official employment form of Urology Department approving my work definition in clinical setting was already mailed directly from institute to ABB for their consideration.

ABB Board consist of top scientist/physician evaluates the application for all kind of certifications. CLIA regulations and rules are mainstays for their decisions.

I, *Ahmet Ayaz*, hereby apply to CLIA committee for my Bioengineering Ph.D. degree to be accepted for TS (Technical Supervisor) and HCLD (High-Complexity Lab Director) certification eligibility approved by American Board of Bioanalysis (ABB).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ayaz', is positioned above the date.

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