Technical Bulletin- SLCP Full Alignment with APSCA

Requirements for eligibility and status maintenance– released **June 20, 2024**

These APSCA related requirements supersede any other lesser requirements contained in other SLCP documents, including but not limited to QA Manual, VB Requirements, Helpdesk. Becoming an APSCA member or maintaining good standing with APSCA does not guarantee approval or continued approval by SLCP.

First deadline for APSCA Full Alignment - <u>June 30th</u> - is approaching per the <u>last full alignment bulletin</u> that was issued on February 16th.

Dear VB Representatives,

This technical bulletin is a reminder that the first deadline of the APSCA full alignment roadmap, June 30th, 2024, is approaching. Please take the necessary actions to comply.

Existing VBs who wish to continue with SLCP
By July 1st, 2024, you must either already be an existing full member or have applied to APSCA and have paid the $6,000 non-refundable APSCA application fee.
Failure to meet the above requirements will result in immediate deactivation starting from July 1st, 2024.
For APSCA non-member VBs, use [this form](https://airtable.com/app9kl9TukGdymxMV/pag3DWosr8nLZEaHG/form) to communicate your intent before June 30th to avoid deactivation if you plan on applying for membership-
https://airtable.com/app9kl9TukGdymxMV/pag3DWosr8nLZEaHG/form

<u>**Please ensure adherence to our requirements to avoid deactivation.**</u>

Existing Verifiers who wish to continue with SLCP
By July 1st, 2024, you must have ASCA or CSCA APSCA status in good standing and <u>be linked to an SLCP approved Verifier Body</u> that meets any of the following criteria:

- APSCA Provisional Member Firm,
- APSCA Full Member Firm,
- SLCP approved Verifier Body that has applied to become an APSCA Member Firm and has paid the APSCA application fee.
- *Note: We understand that APSCA is working on processes to better allow SLCP approved Verifiers of SLCP approved Verifier Bodies who are working through APSCA application to, at minimum, become ASCA.*

- Existing Verifiers who have ASCA/CSCA status in good standing and wish to continue with SLCP but are <u>not linked</u> to APSCA member VBs. Complete and submit the [following form](https://fs26.formsite.com/Sumerra/SLCPChangeVB/index) to transfer to an existing APSCA member/ under APSCA application VB.-
https://fs26.formsite.com/Sumerra/SLCPChangeVB/index

You must also associate your profile with SLCP within the APSCA system, so your ASCA or CSCA status is visible to SLCP (in some cases, your consent may be needed to provide your updated APSCA status information to SLCP/VOO). Please follow the from APSCA on How To: Add A Collaborative Program / Scheme Accreditation To Your APSCA Profile.

To become APSCA ASCA, which is the minimum requirement to maintain active SLCP status, Verifiers must:

1) Sign APSCA's Code of Professional Conduct
2) Pay $100 fee to APSCA.

More requirements for APSCA ASCA status are listed in the following APSCA document under point 3.: https://www.theapsca.org/resources/competency-framework-d-011/

<u>Please ensure adherence to our requirements to avoid deactivation.</u>

If you have any additional questions on this matter, do not hesitate to reach out to us through our Helpdesk.

Voluntary withdrawal - APSCA opt out

Effective July 1st, 2024, VBs without APSCA membership and/or VBs that did not pay the application fees to obtain APSCA membership will be marked as "Voluntary Withdrawal - APSCA Opt Out" on the SLCP public list.

Before June 30th, all VBs not willing to become APSCA members must:

- Complete the APSCA update form, officially advising VOO of plans to discontinue SLCP participation, including the date of their voluntary withdrawal.
- Complete the transfer form if your VB's Verifiers will be transitioning to a different SLCP approved VB that is an APSCA member/ under APSCA application. Contact the VOO if you have any questions on the transfer form.
- The non-APSCA VBs who are not willing to become members are highly encouraged to ensure that for any agreed upon verifications between the VB and facilities have Verifiers assigned in the respective accredited host systems. This activity will need to be completed prior to the deactivation date, as after that date, the VBs will no longer have access to accept or initiate any new verification related activities.

  o Notify the VOO of any pending SLCP-related verifications and other pre-/post-verification activities.
  o In case of pending SLCP verifications: Activities after June 30th, 2024, can still continue as long as non-APSCA VBs assign all Verifiers (no changes can be made) by June 30th. Starting from July 1st, Verifiers can no longer be assigned to your non-APSCA VB.

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