

# GUIDELINE FOR SUPPORT OF BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING TECHNICIANS

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## PREAMBLE

This document provides some strategies, guidelines, and sources of information to support Biomedical Engineering Technicians (BMETS) in their daily work. These suggestions are by no means all inclusive, but provide a starting point for Clinical Engineers to help BMETS advance in their career.

## QUALIFICATIONS

No special qualifications required to utilize these support guidelines.

## GUIDELINES

Career paths: There are many paths a BMET can take as they advance in their career. Additionally, these paths may not be restrictive. It's not unusual for a BMET to work in one area for several years, then become intrigued by a separate specialty and wish to explore that. This curiosity must be encouraged.

### **Certification:**

Attaining certification in a certain field of work confirms that the certified individual has met a standard of qualifications set by a governing body. These governing groups also ensure that the certified individual is up-to-date with continuing education. The biggest advantage to pursue certification is the universal validation of credentials and access to a community of individuals in the field. Certification also demonstrates to employers a significant commitment to career.

The Board of Examiners for Biomedical Equipment Technicians, operating under the direction of the United States Certification Commission (USCC) and the ICC, maintains the certification programs for the following specialties in the Clinical Engineering field:

- Certified Biomedical Engineering Technician
- Certified Radiology Equipment Specialist
- Certified Laboratory Equipment Specialist

More information on certification can be found at the following website:

<http://www.aami.org/certification/>

## Resources

This is a sample list of sources of professional technical support for Biomedical Engineering Technicians

- Professional Organizations:
  - American College of Clinical Engineers (ACCE)
  - Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI)
  - Medical Equipment & Technology Association (META)
- Professional Publications
  - Journal of Clinical Engineering

- 24x7 magazine
  - BI&T magazine (an AAMI publication)
- Local Professional Societies
  - Network with colleagues in other institutions
- Email Distribution Lists/Blogs: These lists are not always a credible source, and the technician has to be careful of the information found here, however these lists are great for anecdotal evidence and well kept industry secrets.
  - Biomedtalk listserv: <http://bmetsonline.org/>
  - Biomed blogs
- Manufacturer's websites
  - Often, manufacturers will have great introductory/background technical information available for public use in addition to product specific information.
  - Also, look at non-medical and component manufacturers for basics in subsystems and components (switching power supplies, etc.)
- Biomedical Engineering Technical Training Programs
  - Cincinnati State Technical College (Ohio)
  - Linn State Technical College (Missouri)
  - Sort Course in Biomedical Instrumentation and Physiology (Milwaukee)
  - Radiological Services Training Institute (RSTI)
  - Ditech

## **REFERENCES**

[www.aami.org](http://www.aami.org)

[www.accenet.org](http://www.accenet.org)

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