



Institute of
Biomedical Science



**PROGRESS
YOUR CAREER
WITH AN IBMS
QUALIFICATION**

IBMSQualificationsJourney.com

QUALIFICATIONS TO SUPPORT ALL LEVELS OF THE PROFESSION

Whether you are just starting out,
planning your next step,
or **aiming for senior roles,**
IBMS qualifications provide the
knowledge and skills you need
to progress your career
in biomedical science.



IBMS CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Demonstrate your knowledge,
skills and laboratory training.

The IBMS Certificate of Achievement supports the training and development of biomedical science support staff, including laboratory assistants and associate practitioners.

This flexible, portfolio-based qualification enables you to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and competence expected of:

- Band 2–3 support staff (**Part I**)
- Band 4 associate practitioners (**Part II**)

Both parts provide a structured way to show that you have met standards of practice relevant to your role and discipline.

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PROGRESSION AND REGISTRATION

- **Part I** enables you to apply to become a Registered Science Technician (RSciTech) with the Science Council (*you must be an IBMS Associate*).
- **Part II** supports your progression towards more advanced practice and eligibility to apply as a Registered Scientist (RSci).

Your portfolio is completed in your workplace, signed off by your training officer or laboratory manager, and assessed locally.

The IBMS may audit portfolios to maintain standards.

Your laboratory must have IBMS Biomedical Support Staff Training Approval.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- There is no time limit to complete the qualification, but evidence must be current (*within 3 years of the declaration*).
- Candidates for Part II must be IBMS Associates and meet eligibility criteria (*including relevant experience or prior completion of Part I*).





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KEY POINTS

- Your laboratory must have IBMS Registration Training Approval.
- Evidence in your portfolio must be current (*within 3 years of verification*).
- There is no set time limit for completing the portfolio.

Your training officer will guide and assess you through the portfolio. An IBMS external verifier will review your portfolio and confirm that you have met the required standards.

IBMS CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCE

Apply for HCPC registration as a biomedical scientist.

Demonstrate the HCPC Standards of Proficiency and qualify for HCPC registration as a biomedical scientist by completing an **IBMS Registration Training Portfolio** and obtaining an IBMS Certificate of Competence.

To gain the certificate, you must:

- Hold suitable academic qualifications (*normally an IBMS Accredited degree*)
- Complete an IBMS Registration Training Portfolio in an IBMS-approved laboratory

Achieving the certificate enables you to apply for HCPC registration as a biomedical scientist — a legally protected title in the UK.

IBMS SPECIALIST DIPLOMA

Transform your career and upgrade your membership.

The IBMS Specialist Diploma is designed for HCPC-registered biomedical scientists seeking to deepen their expertise and demonstrate competence in their chosen discipline.

This professional qualification:

- Provides structured training and assessment through a portfolio of experiential learning
- Includes a presentation, laboratory tour and oral examination
- Enables you to evidence specialist knowledge, practical skills and competence at the benchmark standard for a specialist practitioner

The Specialist Diploma portfolios are issued digitally and can be completed and assessed electronically.

Specialist training usually takes 18–24 months and can be completed in a single discipline or a modular, multi-discipline format.

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Available disciplines include:

MULTI-DISCIPLINE PORTFOLIOS

- Blood Sciences
- Cell Sciences
- Infection Sciences

SINGLE DISCIPLINE PORTFOLIOS

- Andrology
- Blood Transfusion Practice
- Cellular Pathology
- Clinical Biochemistry
- Clinical Immunology
- Cervical Cytology
- Diagnostic Cytopathology
- Genomics and Molecular Pathology
- Haematology with Transfusion Practice
- Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics
- Medical Microbiology
- Point of Care Testing
- Virology

KEY BENEFITS

- Supports progression towards Band 6 roles
- Recognised by employers as evidence of specialist competence
- Enables you to upgrade to IBMS Member (MIBMS)

If you work in Rapid Onsite Evaluation (ROSE) clinics and have completed a specialist portfolio, you can apply for the IBMS ROSE Specialist Portfolio.



Enhance your expertise and take the next step in your career.

IBMS higher and expert qualifications enable you to evidence your specialist training, practical skills and knowledge in your chosen area.

KEY POINTS

Applicants must:

- be HCPC registered IBMS Member or Fellow
- meet discipline-specific post-registration experience requirements
- be based in UKAS accredited IBMS-approved laboratories

CERTIFICATES OF EXPERT PRACTICE

The IBMS Certificate of Expert Practice is delivered through structured online distance learning. They enable you to develop new expertise and demonstrate existing knowledge in key areas of practice.



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AVAILABLE IN

- Laboratory Information Technology and Clinical Informatics
- Leadership and Management
- Molecular Pathology
- Point of Care Testing
- Quality Management
- Training

These qualifications are assessed through reflective learning statements and an online examination. Tutor-led forums and peer interaction support your learning journey.

DIPLOMAS OF EXPERT PRACTICE

The IBMS Diploma of Expert Practice is an expert-level vocational qualifications in highly specialised areas assessed through a portfolio of experiential learning and a multi-component assessment (format varies by discipline).



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AVAILABLE IN

- Histological Dissection
- Immunocytochemistry
- Mohs Histological Procedures
- Diagnostic Cytopathology
- Haematology
- Ultrastructural Pathology

For information on Diplomas of Expert Practice, contact examinations@ibms.org.

IBMS HIGHER SPECIALIST DIPLOMA

Develop your career and demonstrate high levels of knowledge, skills and competence

The IBMS Higher Specialist Diploma (HSD) is designed for biomedical scientists at Band 6 or Band 7 who are looking to progress to a more advanced role, often with management responsibilities.

This professional vocational qualification is assessed through a portfolio of experiential learning and four written examinations. It enables you to demonstrate the advanced knowledge, skills and competence required for senior roles within your discipline.

Achieving the HSD makes you eligible to upgrade to IBMS Fellow (FIBMS).

"I chose to study the IBMS Higher Specialist Diploma (HSD) in Transfusion Science to build on my existing knowledge. Completing the HSD enabled me to progress to my current Advanced Biomedical Scientist role. I would recommend the HSD as a great way to progress your career."

IBMS FELLOW EMILY LLOYD

who works at the Freeman Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne as a Healthcare Science Section Leader in Haematology and Haemostasis.

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AVAILABLE DISCIPLINES

- Cellular Pathology
- Clinical Chemistry
- Cytopathology
- Haematology
- Immunology
- Leadership and Management
- Medical Microbiology
- Transfusion Science
- Virology

The HSD is a respected M-level equivalent qualification. Many laboratories value it as a practice-focused alternative to an MSc.





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AVAILABLE DISCIPLINES

- Cervical Cytology
- Diagnostic Cytopathology
- Histological Dissection
- Histopathology Reporting
- Ophthalmic Pathology

KEY FEATURES

- Assessed through a comprehensive portfolio of evidence and multi-component examinations (*written and practical*)
- Provides formal recognition of consultant-level knowledge, skills and expertise
- Supports progression to senior and consultant-level roles, with opportunities to provide expert advice, lead training, and shape services

IBMS ADVANCED SPECIALIST DIPLOMA

Demonstrate your highest level of advanced knowledge and skill.

The IBMS Advanced Specialist Diploma (ASD) is designed for senior biomedical scientists aiming to achieve consultant-level expertise. This prestigious qualification consolidates and demonstrates the highest levels of knowledge and practical competence within a specialist discipline.

These advanced vocational qualifications are an alternative to professional doctorates and are aimed at the most senior members of the profession who undertake roles commensurate with consultant-level practice.

Achieving an IBMS Advanced Specialist Diploma makes you eligible to upgrade to IBMS Fellow (FIBMS).

From entry-level to senior roles,
IBMS qualifications equip you
with the knowledge and skills
to advance your career
in biomedical science.

