

TPD: Membership in a Professional Association

Professional association defined

Professional associations are comprised of individuals with similar educational backgrounds and interests.

The associations sponsor annual meetings, local conferences, seminars, and special courses designed to enhance a practitioner's performance.

The associations offer an opportunity to network with other professionals and to promote personal development by providing information, personal contacts and technical support.

Recognized professional associations

Professional associations currently recognized by the laboratory include but are not limited to

- American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS)
 - American Board of Criminalistics (ABC)
 - American Chemical Society (ACS)
 - American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD)
 - Association of Firearm & Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE)
 - Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers (AFQAM)
 - California Association of Crime Laboratory Directors (CACLD)
 - California Association of Criminalists (CAC)
 - California Association of Toxicologists (CAT)
 - California Homicide Investigators Association (CHIA)
 - International Association for Chemical Testing (IACT)
 - Northwestern Association of Forensic Scientists (NWAFS)
 - Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT)
 - Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists (SWAFS).
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Association membership

Employees of the laboratory are encouraged to participate in professional associations and technical working groups which promote the timely exchange of information among peers.

Annual dues

The laboratory will pay the annual dues for one professional association membership for each laboratory employee.
