

ABFT Bylaws Revision in 2024

- Throughout the document, the Board, which had previously been used to indicate the American Board of Forensic Toxicology or the Board of Directors interchangeably, was clarified to indicate solely the Board of Directors. The American Board of Forensic Toxicology is now abbreviated as the “ABFT” or the “Corporation”. Additionally, the officers’ and other titles (e.g., president, secretary, members, certificant), previously started in uppercase letters, is revised to start in lowercase letters. Requalification was changed to “recertification”. Minor editorial changes (e.g., “will” to “shall”, “at least” to “a minimum of”, “certificate” to “certification”) were also made.
- Article VI, Section 1: the Executive Committee composition changed; the chairs of Certification and Accreditation were removed and the chair of Examination Committee and the immediate past president, ex officio were added.
- Article VII, Section 3: “the authority of the Board of Directors” was removed.
- Article VII, Section 4: the provision for the Committee offices’ reappointment was added.
- Article VIII, Section 5: “Any Certificant” in the first sentence was changed to “Any diplomate or fellow”. “Analysts shall not serve on the BOD” was added.
- Article VIII, Section 7: “electronic” ballot was added as an option.
- Article X, Section 1 and Section 4: “electronic/virtual equivalent” and “electronic ballot” options were added.
- Article XII, Section 3: “The Board of Directors shall have authority to issue or cause to be issued . . .” was changed to “The BOD shall have authority to approve certification and issue or cause to be issued. . .”; “or is no longer active” was added after “until certification is revoked”; “unless said certification is revoked” was added in the last sentence.
- Article XII, Section 5: a bullet point, now (a) “A certificant fails to meet continuing education requirements” was added. The last paragraph, “Action to suspend or revoke Certification may only be taken after at least thirty (30) days advance written notice of the nature of the changes or reasons for such action has been given to the individual concerned and an opportunity for such person to be heard has been provided by the Board.”
- Previously Article XIII, Laboratory Accreditation, was removed entirely and subsequent articles were renumbered accordingly.
- Article XIII, Section 1: “recertification, or a request for reasonable accommodation” was added and “hearing on the issue(s) raised by the applicant” was removed.