

Institute of Biomedical Science
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Chief Executive
David Wells
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Dear members,

The Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS), as the approved Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) education provider for four routes to registration as a biomedical scientist, is required to ask about criminal convictions as part of the admission to its HCPC approved programmes of study. These programmes include the IBMS Certificate of Competence (registration training portfolio) and the IBMS Certificate of Competence by Equivalence (Biomedical Scientist) programmes. This HCPC mandatory requirement applies to all its regulated professions, irrespective of whether the individual registrant roles involve patient contact.

As part of the application and admission process for the IBMS Certificate of Competence and IBMS Certificate of Competence by Equivalence (Biomedical Scientist), the training officer or training manager must ensure that all applicants for these programmes have undertaken a basic Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check in England, Northern Ireland and Wales, or standard disclosure level in Scotland. The only exception to this would be if an employee has unsupervised patient contact. In this case, the completion of an enhanced DBS check will be a matter between the employee and employer.

All applicants must confirm with their training officer and/or training manager that a basic DBS check has been completed but please note that a copy of the DBS result should not be sent to the IBMS. As part of the admission process, the applicant will also be required to sign off the self-declaration statement on the application form: "I understand that failure to disclose full information or any deliberate misrepresentation of information can be a serious matter and will invalidate my application. I understand the need for criminal conviction assessment and, to the best of my knowledge, there is no barrier to prevent me from being eligible to register once I have met the HCPC standards of proficiency."

After the Registration Training Portfolio has been completed and verified successfully and the IBMS Certificate of Competence or IBMS Certificate of Competence by Equivalence (Biomedical Scientist) has been issued, the HCPC will require only a self-declaration form at the point of registration as a biomedical scientist.

Yours sincerely,

David Wells MSc FIBMS CSci Hon DSc FRCPATH (Hon)
Chief Executive