



Blood Collection Officer (BCO)

About the International Testing Agency

The ITA is an international organisation constituted as an independent not-for-profit foundation under Swiss Law. It is based in Lausanne, Switzerland and provides anti-doping services to International sports Federations (IFs), Major Event Organisers (MEOs) and Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs) that wish to delegate their anti-doping programmes to a body that implements high quality anti-doping programs with increased transparency and independence. The ITA operates in full compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code.

ITA Blood Collection Officer

Blood Collection Officers (BCOs) are professionally trained, qualified and experienced phlebotomists. BCOs are required to collect blood samples in accordance with WADA's International Standard for Testing and Investigations (ISTI). This involves collaborating with a Doping Control Officer on testing missions to collect blood samples from athletes and ensuring the correct aftercare procedures are conducted.

The BCO may also be requested to fulfil the duties of a Chaperone including: notification of athletes selected for an anti-doping test, chaperoning of selected athletes, witnessing urine sample provision and the completion of administration duties in accordance with the ITA policies and procedures relating to testing.

The BCO is at the forefront of the anti-doping program carried out by the ITA on behalf of International Federations and Major Event Organisers and plays an important role in protecting the rights of athletes to compete in doping-free sport.

BCOs registered on the list of ITA BCOs are independent contractor who receive offers for testing athletes on a mission-by-mission basis according to ITA needs.

Key tasks

- The BCO shall assist the DCO in all aspects related to the blood sample collection session.
- Collaborating with a Doping Control Officer to undertake testing missions for athletes in the out-of-competition setting, which often involves visiting the athlete's home or training facility.
- Attending sport competition events to undertake blood testing missions in the in-competition setting.
- Undertaking blood sample collection duties as part of the International Testing Agency's anti-doping program in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code provisions and guidelines set down by the International Testing Agency.
- Ensuring the integrity of the blood sample collection.
- Accurately and adequately completing the procedures and administration duties associated with the role of BCO, including report and notes writing.
- Contributing to the development or improvement of procedures for BCOs

If the BCO also acts as a Chaperone, the BCO will be responsible for:

- Completing notification and chaperoning duties as part of the ITA's anti-doping program in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code provisions and guidelines set down by the International Testing Agency.
- Supporting the Doping Control Officer through the testing procedure.
- Directly observing and witnessing urine sample provision.
- Assisting with maintaining the security and forward chain of delivery of sample.
- Writing comprehensive and legible reports when required.
- Undertake training where required as provided by the International Testing Agency.

Professional skills

- Professionally trained, qualified and experienced phlebotomist – evidence of qualification from a recognised medical education institution or university and proof of local registration or certification will be required on application.
- Legally allowed to practice phlebotomy in your country of residence – proof of any national licence or registration is required on application
- Completion of first aid training and certification and able to deliver first aid if required.

Personal skills

- English written and oral communication skills are essential, other languages are an asset.
- Sensitivity, understanding and calmness under pressure.
- Ability to interact in a professional manner with athletes and their support personnel, coaches, and other doping control team members.
- Strong sense of discretion, confidentiality and handling of sensitive and confidential data.
- Strong organisational and administrative skills with attention to detail, ability to set and manage priorities.
- Interest in sport, with a sensitivity to sports ethics and the issue of drugs and doping in sport
- Be willing and able to travel
- Have a flexible schedule of availability, assignments are on demand

Conflicts of interest

- The BCO must inform the ITA of any possible conflicts of interest relating to particular sports, sport federations, individual athletes, or sporting teams.

Compensation: Daily allowances plus expenses