What are AABB standards?

* The AABB standards are a collections of requirements and recommendations that provide a basis for the Accreditation Program of AABB

How do you tell if the standard is a requirement or a recommendation?

* Requirements within the collection of AABB standards use the term “***shall***”, which indicates that the statement is mandatory.
* Rarely, the term “***may***” is used, which indicates that the standard is not required.

Who prepares the AABB standards?

* The most recent set of standards were prepared by the Blood Banks and Transfusion Services Standards Committee (BB/TS SC) and the Standards Program Committee of AABB.
* Standards are created every two years
* The most recent (31st edition) became effective 4/1/2018
* You have access to review these standards on the J:/ drive.

What is the goal of the BB/TS Standards?

* To maintain and enhance the quality and safety services provided by blood banks and transfusion services and to provide a basis for the Accreditation Program of AABB
* These standards provide the backbone to many of the procedures that we operate under.

With that in mind, let’s talk about a few standards that you may already be familiar with

**1.1 Executive Management**

The BB/TS ***shall*** have a defined executive management. Executive management ***shall*** have:

* Responsibility and authority for the blood bank’s or transfusion service’s operations.
* The authority to establish or make changes to the blood bank’s or transfusion service’s quality system.
* The responsibility for compliance with these *BB/TS Standards* and applicable laws and regulations
* Participation in management review of quality system.

**1.1.1 Medical Director Qualifications and Responsibilities**

* The BB/TS ***shall*** have a medical director who is a licensed physician and qualified by education, training, and/or experience. The medical director ***shall*** have responsibility and authority for all medical and technical policies, processes, and procedures—including those that pertain to laboratory personnel and test performance—and for the consultative and support services that relate to the care and safety of donors and/or transfusion recipients. The medical director ***may*** delegate these responsibilities to another qualified physician; however, the medical director ***shall*** retain ultimate responsibility for medical director duties

**1.2 Quality System**

* A quality system ***shall*** be defined, documented, implemented, and maintained. All personnel ***shall*** be trained in its application.

**1.2.1 Quality Representative**

* The quality system ***shall*** be under the supervision of a designated person who reports to executive management.

**1.2.2 Management Reviews**

* Management ***shall*** assess the effectiveness of the quality system through assessments and scheduled management reviews.