# An International Perspective

As of February 2021, the total number of IAI certified latent print examiners stands at 956. Of that number, only twelve examiners represent countries other than the United States. These include Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, Denmark, Israel, New Zealand, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United Kingdom.



Over the years, the IAI has encouraged more of its international members to attend the annual conferences, helping to make the organization a truly international one. With this in mind and with the large number of experienced latent print examiners in countries around the world, the Latent Print Certification Board would also like to encourage more of our international members (and non-members) to apply for certification.

While latent print certification may not be mandatory in your country, the benefits of achieving board certification by an internationally recognized organization would be a great asset to your professional qualifications and an individual personal achievement that you can be proud of.

For those of you who are thinking of applying, you might like to know that one of the recent changes we have made to our certification test is ensuring that all questions related to the written part of the test are generic and relevant to all examiners regardless of where you work. This includes ensuring that language and terminology is not U.S. specific which had been a problem in the past.

You may have obvious questions such as how can I take the test when I live so far away? The easiest way would be to attend one of the IAI's annual conferences as we do provide an opportunity for applicants to take the test during the conference each year. Another way would be to arrange for an instructor or presenter who might be visiting your country to proctor your test which would mean being able to take the test closer to home. Another certified examiner can proctor the test, provided that they do not work for the same agency as you. Lastly, trusted professionals who regularly proctor tests – such as university/college professors – may be used to proctor your test.

Before you apply, it is important to read the information on this site carefully to ensure you have the requisite experience and meet the additional requirements. Additionally, there might be other logistics to consider, such as assessing your country's education or academic qualifications in comparison with the present IAI requirements. If you have any concerns and/or suggestions, please let us know.

If there is something beyond the minimum certification requirements preventing you from applying for certification, we are always willing to assist you with your application. Each application will be assessed on its own merits. Your questions may be directed to the [Secretary of the Latent Print Certification Board](#).

We look forward to hearing from you and helping you in joining the ranks of our international board certified latent print examiners.