



DEQ State Environmental Laboratory Services & Laboratory Accreditation



2023 ENVIRONMENTAL FEDERATION OF OKLAHOMA



Introduction

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Laboratory Accreditation Program (LAP) Improvements

- Laboratories accredited to the state program under Oklahoma Administrative Code 252:301 now will be assessed every three years instead of every two.
- The average cost of an assessment for a laboratory under this program is approximately \$1,750. By allowing an additional year between evaluations, laboratories are expected to save an average of \$300 every year.
- The larger the scope of the laboratory, the more cost savings will be experienced from this change.



Laboratory Accreditation Program (LAP) Improvements

- Proficiency test (PT) status and the impact to the laboratory's accreditation will now be evaluated and communicated continuously, rather than annually.
- This will enable the laboratory to be more informed and active regarding their accreditation status and analytical performance.



Laboratory Accreditation Program (LAP) Improvements

- Quarterly newsletters, recorded trainings, and enhanced guidance will be created and available on the website.
- Expected topics include:
 - Regulatory changes impacting approved methods and accreditation
 - Training for PT reporting requirements
 - Training for use and maintenance of control charts
 - Improved control chart templates
 - Training for pH meter calibration and maintenance
- Estimated to have the first quarterly newsletter released in the 4th Quarter of 2023 (October – December).



Laboratory Accreditation Program (LAP) Improvements

- Phone and email technical assistance requests are now directed through the entire LAP team.
- This improves response time, consistency, and thoroughness.
- Subject matter experts within the DEQ laboratory are also utilized to provide knowledge and technical expertise for technical assistance requests.
- Contact the team at LabAccreditation@deq.ok.gov or at 405-702-1000, option 5.



Laboratory Accreditation Program (LAP) Improvements

- Website will be updated to enhance ease of use and navigation to resources.
<https://www.deq.ok.gov/state-environmental-laboratory-services/laboratory-accreditation/>
- Website will include clearer instructions and guidance for initial, interim, and renewal applications.
- Estimated to be implemented by October 2023.



Laboratory Accreditation Program (LAP) – Stormwater Accreditation Program

- Research and evaluation for a laboratory accreditation program specific to stormwater permittees is in progress.
- Evaluation includes identification of funding sources and determining program needs and parameters.
- The stormwater program would be the 4th type of laboratory accreditation offered by the LAP.



OKLAHOMA
Environmental
Quality



State Environmental
Laboratory Services



State Environmental Laboratory
Services Division (SELSD)
Mobile Laboratory

- Emergency Response
- Targeted Outreach
- Recruitment



Questions?



Laboratory Accreditation Contact Information:

LabAccreditation@deq.ok.gov

405-702-1000, option 5