

Accreditation Body Mentoring

Session Topic 2

Secondary Accreditation

- State of Oklahoma does not have any reciprocity with other states
- New Hampshire grants reciprocal accreditation to laboratories as a secondary accrediting authority based on 6.2.1 of the 2003 NELAC Standards

Secondary Accreditations

- Many non-NELAP states do not recognize NELAP or have reciprocity with other states.
- State of Oklahoma does accredit laboratories out of the state of Oklahoma. In these cases, Oklahoma relies on inspection of the laboratory through the laboratory's home state accrediting authority, NELAP inspections and DEQ approved third party inspections.

Secondary Accreditation

- However some non-NELAP states, and contactors do recognize NELAP on-site assessments (inspections).
- For reciprocity, some states may require a certificate and scope of accreditation from the home state, a copy of the most recent on-site assessment with corrective actions, copies of PT results and a copy of the laboratory's quality assurance manual.

Secondary Accreditation

- The NELAP reciprocal accreditation will be based on the current accreditation held with the primary accrediting authority and the accreditation that may be offered from the secondary accrediting authority's fields of accreditation.
- A laboratory shall not be required to meet any additional proficiency testing, quality assurance or on-site assessment requirements.

Secondary Accreditation

- States whether they are NELAP or non-NELAP states shall have an application on file and fees paid associated with the accreditation, where applicable.
- So either primary or secondary accreditation have certain items in common.
- The EPA endorses reciprocity among the primacy states (EPA Certification Manual).

Secondary Accreditation

➤ Comment...

Through an organization, such as TNI, we should be able to recognize the benefits of one set of accreditation standards. They could include reduced assessment costs, reduced accreditation processing time and increased confidence in the analytical results for the participating state accreditation bodies, laboratories and contractors.