



TCEQ Laboratory Accreditation Program Update

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What's New in the Accreditation Program?

1. New Staff
2. Accredited Laboratory Numbers
3. New processes due to COVID

New Staff

July 2021: New Program Manager-D. Jody Koehler

October 2021: New Team Lead-Isaac Vela

December 2021: New Assessor-Daniel Cromwell

May 2022: New Assessors-TBA

Updated Accreditation Numbers

We currently accredit 249 environmental laboratories.

We have seen this number go down more recently due to laboratories consolidating or closing.

Has COVID Changed Our Operations?

Yes!

1. We work remotely 93% of the time.
2. We have implemented performing portions of assessments remotely.
3. All laboratory accreditation documents need to be submitted electronically.
4. Labs will receive their accreditation certificates and scopes electronically. Hard copies will not be mailed.

How Does This Impact Your Laboratory?

1. Any laboratories that are closing due to COVID-19 need to notify the TCEQ LAP as soon as possible.
2. We continue to evaluate situations where a laboratory is unable to fulfill any requirements in the standard due to disruptions from COVID-19 on a case-by-case basis.
3. Submit all laboratory accreditation payments to the TCEQ revenue section at the following address.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Cashier's Cage
P.O. Box 13088, MC-214
Austin, TX 78711-3088

How Does This Impact Your Laboratory?

1. We do not have immediate access to our office phones so there may be a delay in our return call. Please use email to contact us for the quickest response.
2. If you do not know the email address of someone you are trying to reach, please use this address as it is monitored daily:
labprgrms@tceq.Texas.gov

Where Do We Go From Here?

1. Looking at implementing an electronic checklist for our assessments. This enables us to move to a more paperless system.
2. Working on a remote assessment SOP to see if we can perform more of the assessment via remote avenues. This allows us to save on travel dollars.
3. Creating a web-based training for corrective action responses for our laboratories to avoid multiple reviews of corrective action responses.

Questions?

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