



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Bureau of Laboratories

Laboratory Accreditation Program Fee Review Report

Environmental Quality Board

April 19, 2016

Tom Wolf, Governor

John Quigley, Secretary

Regulatory Requirements

- Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Act, 27 Pa C.S. § 4104(6) – “The department shall have the following powers and duties:
Require a fee for the processing of an application for a certificate of accreditation, including the issuance, renewal, modification or other action relating to the certificate, in an amount sufficient to pay the department’s cost of implementing and administering the accreditation program.
- 25 Pa. Code § 252.204(b) – “At least every 3 years, the Department will recommend regulatory changes to the fees in this section to the EQB to address any disparity between the program income generated by the fees and program costs. The regulatory amendment will be based upon an evaluation of the accreditation program fees income and the Department’s costs of administering the accreditation program.

Program Activities

- Applications for Accreditation
- On-Site Laboratory Assessments
- Proficiency Testing Review – Accreditation Status Changes/Updates
- Evaluation of Laboratory Supervisor Qualifications
- Compliance Assistance
- Complaint Investigations
- Enforcement Activities – Denial, Suspension, Revocation, Consent Orders & Agreement, Fines & Penalties
- Regulation Development and Amendment

Revenue vs. Expenses

- 25 Pa. Code Chapter 252: Fees - § 252.204(a)
 - Promulgated January 2006
 - Updated April 2010

	FY 13-14	FY 14-15	FY 15-16*	FY 16-17*
Fee Collections	\$1,658,783.55	\$1,519,882.97	\$1,550,000.00	\$1,550,000.00
Program Costs	\$1,606,203.61	\$1,585,8688.40	\$1,675,044.00	\$1,708,545.00

*Projected Amounts

Accreditation Fee Analysis

- Factors Impacting Revenues:
 - Wage and benefit increases for program and support staff
 - Overall increases in operational expenses: rent, travel expenses, information technology, etc.
 - Reduction in secondary NELAP applications
 - Consolidation of operations within corporate laboratory locations

Summary

- Current fees are inadequate to cover the operation of the Laboratory Accreditation Program
- Fee Report presented to Laboratory Accreditation Advisory Committee (LAAC) in December 2015
- Proposed Rulemaking includes updated fee table and other necessary regulatory changes



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