



IL ELAP Update to Accredited Labs: November 18, 2025

This note is intended to provide an update to all Illinois (Primary) labs accredited by the Illinois Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (IL ELAP).

1. Adding new methods to your laboratory's scope:

- IEPA LAU will work with your laboratory to get new methods requiring on-site assessments scheduled as soon as possible. (Any new technologies that have not been assessed previously require an on-site assessment).
- Please reach out to us if you need information on if an analyte can be accredited for your laboratory.
- IEPA LAU requires the following items submitted before an onsite date can be discussed:
 - i. SOP for the new method.
 - ii. MDL's
 - iii. Analysts IDOCs and continuing DOCs if applicable
 - iv. Data packet/test report examples
 - v. Two passing PTs (per 2016 TNI Standards, passing includes being 7 days apart from closing of one to opening of the second).

2. Changes from the Standard Methods 23rd and 24th Edition

- If your laboratory is updating to the newest version of the method, i.e. go from 23rd to 24th Edition of Standard Methods, make certain to read the Sampling and Quality Control opening sections (example the 3010 and 3020 sections in Standard Methods). There may be slight changes here that are not seen in the method themselves.

3. Accreditation for new parameters

- Due to the increasing public concern or publicity of Harmful Algae Blooms, we wanted to notify our laboratories that we are accrediting HABs. We are including this under "Organic [Matrix]" fee which would be \$1000.00 per matrix accredited (NPW and DW).
- 1,4 – Dioxane regulation requirements passed earlier this year (March 21, 2025) and will impose state-only 1,4-Dioxane MCLs by June 30th 2030. The public health reference level of 35 ug/L will be referenced until June 30, 2026, which the agency will have 2 years to propose a new MCL for 1,4-Dioxane. We are also accrediting 1,4-Dioxane to any interested laboratories under an "Organic [Matrix]" fee.
- Please reach out to your Laboratories' LAU contact or epa.lau@illinois.gov for any questions regarding this request/update.

4. Method Update Rules (MUR)

- The current Federal MUR22 is still waiting to be promulgated. This update includes the removal of some 24th edition standard methods but mainly the addition of methods **EPA 1621** – Organic Fluorine by CIC, **EPA 1628** – PCBs by congener by GC-MS, **EPA 1633A** – PFAS by LC-MSMS (non-procedural updates), and some preservation clarification to title 40 eCFR 136. There are many changes proposed by MUR22 and these are just some examples. TNI does have a Webex training on the updates, if interested.
<https://eds.nelacinstitute.org/CourseDetails?iid=308>
- <https://www.epa.gov/cwa-methods/methods-update-rules#proposal-mur22>
- Once the MUR 22 is published in the 40 CFR, we can start the process of having it updated in our Illinois Register. Until then, we can accredit EPA 1633, but not the “A” version. It takes close to 6 months to get the update through the legislature and published. Sorry for the delay.

5. Most Common Nonconformities seen on assessments.

- Using portions of one method and mixing with another similar method. This is not allowed, even if more stringent requirements are being used.
- Not Documenting the software and the specific version being used for analytical instruments.
- The temperature probe on the pH meter not being calibrated for temperature in addition to not being appropriately labelled per V1M2 5.5.8.
- Laboratories reporting data below the lowest calibration standard without flagging or qualification.
- Flashpoint, ISE, and titration data is not being bracketed by an ending CCC/CCV standard.

6. TNI Forum on Environmental Accreditation—Boston, MA

- January 12-16, 2026, will be the TNI Forum on Environmental Accreditation at the Hyatt Regency in Boston MA.
- Please reach out to one of the IEPA LAU if you would like us to gather information on a new technology or emerging area of accreditation.
- The TNI Forum has the preliminary agenda posted on the TNI web site.
- The presentations will also be available online with the virtual registration during the conference and recordings of the sessions available for several month after the symposium.

7. Chemistry Module of TNI Standards

- TNI has a link on the home page to the far-right side requesting comments on the Draft Standard V1M4-2025 Rev 3.0, General Requirements for Laboratories Performing Environmental Analyses, Quality Systems for Chemical Testing. This comment period is open to the public and the time has been extended until the end of November. Feel free to add any comments if you feel lead following the link provided by TNI.
- <https://nelac-institute.org/news.php?id=5737>

8. Measurement Traceability

Suitable ways to obtain traceability of measurement results. Accredited laboratories can achieve traceability by using certified reference materials obtained from competent providers accredited

to ISO 17034 standards, calibrations to the SI units (such as for NIST-traceable weight in grams and temperature in Celsius / Kelvin degrees), and standardizations of secondary standards with primary standards. Additionally, the TNI standard related to measurement traceability is V1, M2, 5.6.

9. IEPA LAU Updates

- The IEPA LAU has moved to the brand new sparkling clean Headquarters for IEPA.
- pH hold time has been a topic we are talking with IEPA LUST group.
- We are working on getting a TNI 2016 Standards Refresher/Information WebEx and hope to get that to our labs at the start of 2026. Let us know if you had specific topics you would like our group to cover. Please reach out to epa.lau@illinois.gov or your laboratory contact for topics you'd like discussed.

10. Survey

Please feel free to take the anonymous survey to let us know how we are doing:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WWDDHLM>

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Please recommend any topics for our Laboratory Communication Newsletter. Chances are if you have a question about something, someone else does, too.

EPA.LAU@illinois.gov

Did you know...

- **In the early 1900s, wild turkeys were on the brink of extinction, with only about 200,000 left.** Through conservation efforts over the past century, with funds derived from the Pittman-Robertson Act, and thanks to sportsmen and women, there are approximately 6.5 million wild birds in the United States today, according to the National Wild Turkey Federation.

[Wild Facts About Wild Turkeys | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service](#)

