

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Acting Commissioner



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Lt. Governor

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND DRINKING WATER BRANCH

DWS Circular Letter 2020-37

TO: Environmental Laboratories

FROM: Lori Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief

Handwritten signature of Lori Mathieu in blue ink, dated 2020.

DATE: May 14, 2020

SUBJECT: Environmental Laboratory Proficiency Testing Extension During the COVID-19 Pandemic

As the State of Connecticut continues to move forward during the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) is reaching out to all environmental laboratories to provide the following information.

Environmental Laboratory Proficiency Testing:

Pursuant to § 19a-36-A61 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, an environmental laboratory is required to enroll in a proficiency testing program approved DPH. Those environmental laboratories with DPH-approved proficiency testing programs are required to submit to DPH proficiency testing by July 31 of each year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, DPH has extended the date by which such environmental laboratories are required to submit proficiency testing to October 31, 2020. Any proficiency retests must be submitted to DPH within 45 days of the date on which the environmental laboratory submits the proficiency testing to DPH.

Where to Find the Latest Information for Environmental Laboratories on COVID-19:

Please refer to the [DWS COVID-19 webpage](#) for helpful information and recommended guidance for environmental laboratories, including information and guidance regarding water quality monitoring requirements, planning, consumer messaging, public water system operations, and operator certification. Please check the [DWS COVID-19 webpage](#) frequently for the most recent circular letters as this situation rapidly evolves.

For the latest information, resources, and guidance related to COVID-19, please visit the State of Connecticut's webpage at <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus> and the Center for Disease Control's (CDC) webpage at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>.

Thank you to all our environmental laboratories that are working hard to protect public health and that of their consumers during this time.

c: Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA, DPH
Mr. Steve DiMattei, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1



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