

Selecting an Accredited Laboratory



It does not take a genius to select a quality laboratory!

A good number of state rules require the use of state accredited laboratories. Selecting one by price alone is not always the best way. As they say:

“You get what you pay for!”

Several easy steps will help you avoid pit falls when selecting a laboratory.

- For convenience, you may want to choose a laboratory located close to your facility.
- Ask the Laboratory about their current Accreditation Certificate.
- Check for the expiration date. Certificates are renewed on an annual basis, September 1 to August 31 of each year.
- Be sure to specify if you are looking for a Drinking Water laboratory or a General Water Quality Laboratory (Wastewater, Sludge).
- Check the certificate for the parameters that you wish them to perform.
- Ask if you do not see the specific parameter that you need.
- An accredited laboratory will have the following documents that you may ask to review if you have concerns.
 - A Quality Assurance Plan
 - Results for Proficiency Testing Samples
 - A copy of the most recent DEQ lab inspection
- If results for any sample are outside your expectation, ask for specifics. Have the laboratory send you a quality data packet on the specific result. The DEQ will be glad to help interpret the packet.

The Laboratory Accreditation will be on this GIS Map and Data Viewer: <http://maps.scigis.com/deq%5Fwq/>

COMING SOON!

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