



# NELAP Accreditation Body Fee Structures Comparison

Technical Assistance Committee

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## Benefits of a Review

- For Laboratories
  - To enable a quick review of which program may suit the laboratory's needs best.
- For Newly Applying NELAP Accreditation Bodies
  - To enable a review of existing fee structures and options, in order to enable benchmarking of which structure may work best for their State.





## Where to find information

- Each state Fee Structures are described in their regulations.
- Most NELAP ABs describe fee structures on web sites.
- Contact the program to ensure that the web information is up to date.
  - At least Oregon is being revised.



## NELAP AB Web Sites

California	<a href="http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ls/ELAP/default.htm">www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ls/ELAP/default.htm</a>
Florida	<a href="http://www.doh.state.fl.us/lab/EnvLabCert/WaterCert.htm">www.doh.state.fl.us/lab/EnvLabCert/WaterCert.htm</a>
Illinois	<a href="http://www.epa.state.il.us/labs/">www.epa.state.il.us/labs/</a>
Kansas	<a href="http://www.kdheks.gov/envlab/">www.kdheks.gov/envlab/</a>
Louisiana DHH	<a href="http://www.dhh.louisiana.gov/">www.dhh.louisiana.gov/</a>
Louisiana DEQ	<a href="http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2412/Default.aspx">www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2412/Default.aspx</a>
New Hampshire	<a href="http://www.des.state.nh.us/NHELAP/">www.des.state.nh.us/NHELAP/</a>
New Jersey	<a href="http://www.nj.gov/dep/oqa/">www.nj.gov/dep/oqa/</a>
New York	<a href="http://www.wadsworth.org/labcert/elap/elap.html">www.wadsworth.org/labcert/elap/elap.html</a>
Oregon	<a href="http://www.deq.state.or.us/lab/orelap/orelap.htm">www.deq.state.or.us/lab/orelap/orelap.htm</a>
Pennsylvania	<a href="http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/labs/cwp/view.asp?a=3&amp;Q=515609&amp;labsNav= ">www.depweb.state.pa.us/labs/cwp/view.asp?a=3&amp;Q=515609&amp;labsNav= </a>
Texas	<a href="http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/compliance/compliance_support/qa/lab_accred_certif.html">www.tceq.state.tx.us/compliance/compliance_support/qa/lab_accred_certif.html</a>
Utah	<a href="http://health.utah.gov/lab/labimp/labcert/envlabcert.html">health.utah.gov/lab/labimp/labcert/envlabcert.html</a>





## Rule Summary

- See additional handout



## NELAP Accreditation Body Differences

- Program Size
- Program Scope (Fields of Accreditation)
- Program Fee Structures
- Review of three mock lab fees

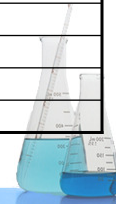




## Program Size

Accreditation Body	Total Labs*	NELAP Primary	NELAP Secondary
California	757	39	40
Florida	471	403	68
Illinois	90	51	39
Kansas	121	61	60
Louisiana DHH	31	5	22
Louisiana DEQ	209	49	69
New Hampshire	98	48	50
New Jersey	896	13	143
New York	635	433	79
Oregon	70	42	28
Pennsylvania	592	34	77
Texas	86	36	38
Utah	112	54	58

\*Total Labs may not equal the sum of NELAP primary and secondary labs when in-State only accreditation is provided by the Accreditation Body.



## Program Scope (Fields of Accreditation)

- Fields of Accreditation differ
  - LA DEQ doesn't accredit for Potable water
  - LA DHH only accredits for Potable water
  - CA, IL, KS, NH, and PA don't accredit for Air
  - NH doesn't accredit for Solid and Chemical Materials
  - Many don't accredit for WET Methods

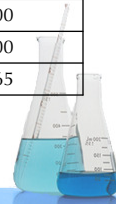




## Program Fees

AB	Minimum Fee	Maximum Fee	Mean Fee	Median Fee
California	\$3,921	\$31,005	\$11,302	\$9,515
Florida	\$500	\$9,500	\$2,464	\$1,500
Illinois	\$3,400	\$9,900	\$5,841	\$6,400
Kansas	\$500	\$10,500	n/a	n/a
Louisiana DHH	\$750	\$1800	\$907	\$1,000
Louisiana DEQ	\$594	\$1,980	n/a	\$990
New Hampshire	\$200	\$1,250	\$725	\$900
New Jersey	\$295	\$11,642	\$864	\$501
New York	\$530	\$93,666	\$5,884	\$942
Oregon	\$450	\$10,000	n/a	n/a
Pennsylvania	\$850	\$14,100	\$2,125	\$1,200
Texas	\$325	\$9,610	\$2,483	\$2,500
Utah	\$600	\$17,000	\$3,750	\$2,165

Actual fees assessed to real labs, not theoretical minimum and maximum fees.



## Accreditation Body Fee Structure Basics

- Base Fee – with variations
  - Usually annual, but may differ (LADEQ is every three years)
  - Initial application versus renewal
  - Primary, secondary, or Out-of-State
- Accreditation fees (vary dramatically)
  - Definitions – watch for “Program”, “Categories” and “Matrix (matrices)”. Review regulation.
  - Many charge by groups and groups are defined very differently (from 5 to 51 of them).
  - NY and UT charge by analyte
  - OR bills for these at time of on-site, not annually.





## Accreditation Body Fee Structure Alternatives

- Change Fees and New Certificate Fees
- Travel Expenses for On-Site Assessments
- Third Party Assessor Fees
- Oregon bills technologies at on-site, not by accreditations at reapplication time.
- Volume Fee (only New York)
- Proficiency testing samples included for NY only



## Comparison of Mock Labs

- Small Lab
  - PW Coliform, Lead and Copper
- Estimated PT costs from a commercial provider
  - \$380





## Small Lab, continued

NELAC AB	Fees		On-Site Assessment	
	Initial	Reapplication	Instate	Out of State
California	\$5,229	\$5,229	No charge	Actual cost
Florida	\$1,200	\$1,000	No charge	Actual cost
Illinois	\$3,900	\$2,400	No charge	Actual cost
Kansas	\$800	\$800	No charge	3rd Party
Louisiana DHH	\$1,250	\$1,250	No charge	Actual cost
Louisiana DEQ	Not accredited			
New Hampshire	\$300	\$300	\$1,100	\$1,100
New Jersey	\$943	\$413	No charge	Actual cost
New York*	\$685	\$685	No charge	Actual cost
Oregon**	\$450/\$1,250	\$450/\$1,250	\$490	\$590+Actual cost
Pennsylvania	\$1,500	\$1,400	No charge	Actual cost
Texas	\$800	\$800	No charge	Actual cost
Utah***	\$624/\$824/\$6600	\$624/\$824/\$6600	No charge	Actual cost

\* NY – estimated \$0 Volume Fee (government labs are exempted)

\*\* Oregon – In-State Cost/Out-of-State Cost

\*\*\* Utah – Instate/Secondary/Out-of-State



## Comparison of Mock Labs

- Medium Lab
  - PW coliform, metals, nutrients, physicals
  - NW coliform, metals, nutrients, physicals (no organics)
  - SW metals only
- Estimated PT costs from a commercial provider
  - \$3300





## Medium Lab, continued

NELAC AB	Fees		On-Site Assessment	
	Initial	Reapplication	Instate	Out of State
California	\$9,413	\$9,413	No Charge	Actual Cost
Florida	\$3,700	\$3,500	No Charge	Actual Cost
Illinois	\$4,900	\$3,400	No Charge	Actual Cost
Kansas	\$3,000	\$3,000	No Charge	3rd Party
Louisiana DHH*	\$1,250	\$1,250	No Charge	Actual Cost
Louisiana DEQ*	\$990	\$660	No Charge	Actual Cost
New Hampshire	\$600	\$600	\$2,900	\$2,900
New Jersey	\$2,288	\$2,358	No Charge	Actual Cost
New York**	\$6,740	\$6,740	No Charge	Actual Cost
Oregon***	\$900/\$2,000	\$900/\$2,000	\$4345	\$4,000+Actual Cost
Pennsylvania	\$2,900	\$2,800	No Charge	Actual Cost
Texas	\$1,625	\$1,625	No Charge	Actual Cost
Utah****	\$2381/\$2581/\$8356	\$2381/\$2581/\$8356	No Charge	Actual Cost

\* LA DHH and DEQ only include appropriate fees

\*\* NY includes estimated volume fees of \$4,000

\*\*\* Oregon – In-State/Out-of-State

\*\*\*\*Utah - Instate/Secondary/Out-of-State



## Comparison of Mock Labs

- Large Lab
  - PW and NW - radiation chemistry, coliform, metals, nutrients, organics, physicals, basic chemistry
  - SW – TCLP, physicals, organics, metals, nutrients
  - Air – metals and particulates
- Estimated PT costs from a commercial provider
  - \$20,000







## Large Lab, continued

NELAC AB	Fees		On-Site Assessment	
	Initial	Reapplication	Instate	Out of State
California	\$25,411	\$25,411	No Charge	Actual Cost
Florida	\$7,700	\$7,500	No Charge	Actual Cost
Illinois	\$9,900	\$8,400	No Charge	Actual Cost
Kansas	\$7,000	\$7,000	No Charge	3rd Party
Louisiana DHH*	\$2,300	\$2,300	No Charge	Actual Cost
Louisiana DEQ*	\$1980	\$660	No Charge	Actual Cost
New Hampshire	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$4,600	\$4,600
New Jersey	\$6,425	\$5,482	No Charge	Actual Cost
New York**	\$73,330	\$73,330	No Charge	Actual Cost
Oregon ***	\$1,600/\$3,000	\$1,600/\$3,000	\$8,250	\$8,650 + Actual Cost
Pennsylvania	\$9,250	\$9,150	No Charge	Actual Cost
Texas	\$4,325	\$4,325	No Charge	Actual Cost
Utah****	\$9025/\$9225/\$15,000	\$9025/\$9225/\$15,000	No Charge	Actual Cost

\* LA DHH and DEQ only include appropriate fees.

\*\* NY includes estimated volume fees of \$40,000 (actual range from \$18,000 to \$80,000)

\*\*\* Oregon – In-state/Out-of-State

\*\*\*\*Utah - Instate/Secondary/Out-of-State



## Conclusions

- When labs can choose their primary accreditation body, labs should select a primary accreditation body based on which program best suits their accreditation needs. There are many options.
- New accreditation bodies should realize that there are many options in setting up fee structures. Choice of structure can shift the financial burden to different laboratory sectors.





## Contributors

- Thanks
  - Appreciation is extended to those AB personnel that contributed to this presentation.

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