

**Reference Material Producer
Accreditation Program (RMPAP)**

Program Overview

Version 1 – April 2024

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Reference Material Producers Accreditation (RMPAP): Program Overview

Reference Material Producers (RMPs) are organizations that take responsibility for all aspects of the development, production, and optional certification of reference materials. Reference materials are essential tools used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements and test results in various fields, including chemistry, biology, forensics, environmental analysis, and materials testing.

Accredited RMPs have demonstrated scientific and technical competence regarding the production and certification of reference materials allowing their customers to:

- Assess and demonstrate the reliability of the data they produce;
- Provide known values to use in method validation and development;
- Identify areas where improvement in their testing and measurement methods is needed;
- Identify further training needs of staff;
- Foster confidence in the performance of their testing and measurements; and,
- Increase laboratory confidence in results provide a reference value to be used for quality control, such as control chart values.

SCC is preparing for International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) international recognition.

1. Accreditation Program Requirements

ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS	PARTNER
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ISO 17034:2016 - General requirements for the competence of reference material producers• ILAC P8:11/2023 ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (Arrangement): Supplementary Requirements for the Use of Accreditation Symbols and for Claims of Accreditation Status• ILAC P10:07/2020 ILAC Policy on Traceability of Measurement Results	Bureau de normalisation du Québec (BNQ)

2. Accreditation Cycle Requirements

Upon initial accreditation, each accredited organization will be subject to regular reassessment activities. The due date for the first reassessment is twelve months after the organization is granted accreditation, or two years after the assessment visit, whichever comes first. Reassessments will then occur every two years after that date.

In the year between reassessment years, the Reference Material Producer is required to complete a Surveillance Questionnaire to provide confirmation that the assessed quality management system and accredited activities continue to meet the requirements of accreditation. The Reference Material Producer will be required to identify any significant changes that have been made to the quality management system, key staff, procedures, production process, facilities and equipment, suppliers / subcontractors but not limited to these. The Surveillance Questionnaire is then reviewed by SCC staff who would confirm if the information provided is acceptable. If deficiencies are identified, SCC staff will follow-up with the Reference Material Producer.

Revision History

VERSION	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE(S)	APPROVED DATE
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Initial ReleaseSeparating program-specific content out of the ASB Program OverviewAdded applicable ILAC accreditation requirements	2024-04-02