



DIVISION OF PUBLIC and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH Policy

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1.0 POLICY

To be eligible for a Medical Marijuana Establishment (MME) Registration Certificate renewal, Independent Testing Laboratories must participate in a Proficiency Testing Program designated by the Division of Public and Behavioral Health (Division) Pursuant to NAC 453A.660.

2.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to delineate the procedures for Proficiency Testing which the Division will use to determine whether an Independent Testing Laboratory demonstrates the requisite proficiency to continue to operate as a registered MME in Nevada.

3.0 SCOPE

This policy applies to certified Nevada medical marijuana Independent Testing Laboratories.

4.0 DEFINITIONS

- 4.1 **Independent Testing Laboratory (ITL):** Has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 453A.107.
- 4.2 **Proficiency Testing (PT):** A means to evaluating an independent testing laboratory's performance under controlled conditions relative to a given set up criteria through analysis of unknown samples provided by an external source.
- 4.3 **Proficiency Testing Program (PT Program):** The aggregate of providing rigorously controlled and standardized samples to a laboratory for analysis, reporting of results, statistical evaluation of results and the collective demographics and results summary of all participating laboratories.
- 4.4 **Proficiency Testing Provider Accreditor (PTPA):** An organization that accredits and monitors the performance of proficiency testing providers.
- 4.5 **Proficiency Testing Provider (PTP):** A person or organization accredited by Proficiency Testing Provider Accreditor to operate PT Program.
- 4.6 **Proficiency Testing Sample (PT Sample):** A sample, the composition of which is unknown to the laboratory and is provided to test whether the laboratory can produce analytical results within specified acceptance criteria.
- 4.7 **Analyte:** Any compound, element, contaminant organism, and species or other substance for which a medical marijuana sample is tested by an ITL.

5.0 PROCEDURE

Absolute Standards, Inc., the only certified Proficiency Testing Provider available, will conduct the Proficiency Testing Program for Nevada medical marijuana ITLs. The Division will determine the schedule the Proficiency Testing Provider will follow when sending the Proficiency Testing Samples to the ITLs for analysis.



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5.1 Participation

5.1.1 Each ITL must participate in this Proficiency Testing Program and must:

- a) Obtain single-blind proficiency test samples from the Proficiency Testing Provider;
- b) Analyze the Proficiency Test Sample for all required analytes listed in NAC 453A.654-658; and
- c) Report the results of the analysis to the Proficiency Testing Provider;
- d) Analyze the Proficiency Testing Sample pursuant to the program not less than once every 12 months.

5.1.2 Each ITL shall pay the costs of subscribing to a Proficiency Testing Program specified in 5.1.1 subsection of this policy.

5.1.3 Each ITL shall, before obtaining a Proficiency Test Sample pursuant to paragraph a) of subsection 5.1.1, authorize the provider of the Proficiency Test Sample to submit to the Division the results of any test taken pursuant to the provisions of NAC 453A.660. If the ITL fails to provide an authorization, the Division may refuse to consider the results of any test taken pursuant to the provisions of NAC 453A.660.

5.1.4 The Division shall consider the results of any test taken to be satisfactory if results are within the limits of acceptance range according to the PTP.

5.1.5 If the Division determines that the results of a test are satisfactory, an ITL will be eligible to renew its registration certificate.

5.1.6 If the Division determines that the results of a test are not satisfactory, the Division may allow an ITL to retest once before a registration certificate may be limited, suspended or revoked.

6.0 REFERENCES

Proficiency Testing Provider: Absolute Standards, Inc.

Hamden, CT

1-800-368-1131

<http://www.absolutestandards.com/>