

File No. 12011/01/2019-QA
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)
(Quality Assurance Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi - 110002

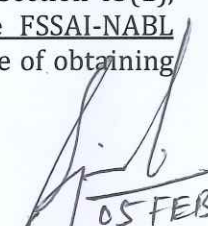
Dated, the 05 February, 2021

Notice

In continuation to this office Notice of even number dated 3rd June, 2019 regarding recognition of food laboratories under FSSAI-NABL integrated assessment mode and NABL decision vide Order dated 26.06.2020, validity of FSSAI notified laboratories is extended subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Conditions enumerated itself in NABL decision dated 26.06.2020 has been accepted.
- (b) All those primary notified Laboratories who have not obtained their accreditation through **FSSAI-NABL Integrated Assessment mode** including the State Food testing Laboratories under Section 43(1), must obtain the same prior to the expiry of their NABL approved validity period. Hence, it is advised to initiate this process at the earliest.
- (c) Further, NABL should also accept any fresh application of laboratories (private, public and State Food Testing Laboratories) for FSSAI recognition **through FSSAI-NABL integrated mode only.**
- (d) The State Food Testing Laboratories (SFTL) other than notified under Section 43(1), and who have applied for NABL accreditation, should apply for the FSSAI-NABL Integrated assessment at the earliest (within 1 year) from the date of their final application submitted to NABL.
- (e) The State Food Testing Laboratories (SFTL) other than notified under Section 43(1), and who have obtained NABL accreditation should apply for the FSSAI-NABL Integrated assessment at the earliest (within 6 months) from the date of obtaining the accreditation from NABL.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


(Sanu Jacob)
Director (QA)

05 FEB 2021

Encl: Copy of Notice dated 3rd June, 2019 & NABL decision dated 26.06.2020

To

1. Chief Executive Officer, NABL
2. Commissioners of Food Safety of all States/UTs
3. All FSSAI Notified Laboratories
4. All State Food Testing Laboratories

Copy to:

- (i) PS to Chairperson, FSSAI
- (ii) PS to CEO, FSSAI

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Dated, the 3rd June, 2019

NOTICE

Sub: Integrated assessment for Accreditation/ Recognition/Approval of the Laboratories-Reg.

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) will be recognizing food testing laboratories with effect from 15th June, 2019 only through the unified approach of laboratory accreditation/ recognition/ approval system of NABL which also has other regulatory boards.

2. Accordingly, the food testing laboratories willing to apply for FSSAI recognition/ renewal/extension of scope, etc., after 15th June, 2019, should apply only through the unified system of NABL in the application form for integrated assessment (NABL 154) as per the procedure document NABL 127. Any application received in FSSAI after 15th June, 2019 shall not be entertained. The applications already received/will be received in FSSAI till 15.06.2019 will only be processed by FSSAI.

3. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,


(Umesh Kumar Jain)
Joint Director (QA)

To:

FSSAI recognized laboratories- with the request to submit the renewal/ additional scope, etc., directly to NABL as per the integrated assessment procedure.

Copy to:

1. Director, NABL, Quality Council of India, NABL House, Plot – 45, Sector 44, Gurgaon – 122002, Haryana
2. Head (IT) – with the request to get it uploaded on the website of FSSAI.



National Accreditation Board for
Testing and Calibration Laboratories
(A Constituent Board of Quality Council of India)



Extension in Validity of Accreditation

26.06.2020

NABL Policy: It is decided to extend the validity of accreditation for a period of one year to all conformity assessment bodies (CABs) where renewal of accreditation is to take place and accreditation validity date is between 01.01.2020 and 30.06.2022 **subject to the following:**


1. Providing satisfactory documents based on NABL-218 wrt compliance to the requirements of the relevant Standard and NABL requirements.
2. The CABs are required to conduct additional internal audit to ensure compliance with the standard requirements (by increasing the existing frequency of their audit plan) and submit the document.
3. The CABs are required to provide control charts and trends for assuring the validity of results.
4. CABs are required to provide an undertaking to undergo unannounced assessment (onsite and/or remotely, depending on the situation) and actions as per NABL-216 thereof, at any point of time during the validity period.
5. Making payment of **annual accreditation fee** for the extended period.

Examples:

- Accredited CABs with date of issue 15.01.2018 and valid till 14.01.2020, then their Accreditation validity will be extended till 14.01.2021
- Accredited CABs with date of issue 15.02.2019 and valid till 14.02.2021, then their Accreditation validity will be extended till 14.02.2022.
- Accredited CABs with date of issue 15.06.2020 and valid till 14.06.2022, then their Accreditation validity will be extended till 14.06.2023

NOTE:

1. The above will be applicable to the laboratories for which transition to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 version has been completed. For the laboratories which are accredited as per ISO/IEC 17025:2005 version, they have to undergo transition assessment (onsite and/or remotely, depending on the situation) and follow transition plan defined.
2. The above is not applicable to CABs where there will be a change in name of CAB and/or legal identity change and/or Premises change.
3. Also, **the above is not applicable to the CABs which are not registered in portal** (exemption- International accredited CABs).
4. Routine assessments will take place for any scope extension /addition.
5. Payment due to NABL can be deferred (postpone the payment) upto a period of Six (6) months. There will be no waive-off of any fee for any CABs. If payments are not made, then action as per procedure (NABL-216) will be initiated. There will be no relaxations wrt payment from 01.01.2021.


N. Venkateswaran
CEO, NABL