



Enhanced Water Quality Assurance (EWQA) Program is an audit based model involving the B.C. Ministry of Health, BCCDC Public Health Laboratory municipal utility laboratories, and private laboratories.

EWQA carries out its legislated mandate under the BC Drinking Water Act and its regulations.

Vision

To be a recognized Quality partner in drinking water microbiology laboratory best practices for the protection of the public health of all British Columbians.

Mission statement

The Enhanced Water Quality Assurance (EWQA) Program is a public health, recognition provider working through peer-direction and education to provide leadership and excellence in best practices for drinking water testing.

Program Services

Conducts environmental laboratory on-site inspections for drinking water laboratories

Makes recommendations for approval to British Columbia's Provincial Health Officer

Processes applications for approved laboratories to award certification and re-certification

Provides educational materials, workshops, and consultation to laboratories to improve the quality of water testing.

Requirements for EWQA New Laboratory Approval Process Enrollment

1. Enroll in and provide evidence of satisfactory performance in Clinical Microbiology Proficiency Testing Program (CMPT).
2. Complete and submit an application form, EWQA Questionnaires, quality manual, and standard operating procedure.
4. Provide evidence and Methods Validation
5. Pass an onsite inspection.

Successful laboratories will receive a certificate of approval (valid for three years) from the BC Provincial Health Officer.

Ongoing certification requires satisfactory performance with external proficiency testing two times per year, performing a mid-cycle self-assessment and onsite audit.

PROGRAM CONTACT

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