

American Council of Independent Laboratories (ACIL)

Third Party Processes to Improve Laboratory Accreditation Efficiency

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Topics Today

- ACIL Overview
- 3rd Party Accreditation

ACIL Overview

- To be recognized as the leader in advancing the interests of the independent testing industry
- To enhance members' success by
 - Providing advocacy, education, service and mutual support
 - Promoting quality, ethics, independence, objectivity and free enterprise

ACIL Overview

- ACIL delivers on its mission through:
 - Government Relations – monitors, educates and advocates on issues of importance to the independent testing industry.
 - Business Practices – helps laboratory owners and operators become better at running their labs as a business.

ACIL Overview – Public Policy

- Laboratory Accreditation
- Unfair Competition
- Value of Independent Testing

Third Party Accreditation

- State budget cuts
- Chronic coordination issues

Third Party Accreditation Model

- Transition key, state accreditation programs to third parties
- Present third party laboratory accreditation as a cost-saving solution to the states

Progress to date

- Publication of “white paper”
- The State of New Jersey as an opportunity

Core Components of Third Party State Accreditation Model

- Enable competition among professional private sectors ABs
- Promote national third party goal
- Third party model employs NELAC standards
- Single accreditation used for individual state licensing
- Cost-effective

Criteria to assess future opportunities

- Criteria of state selection
- State of Washington already utilizes a third party accreditation model in conjunction with its own state program