

NC WW/GW LC Proficiency Testing (PT) Requirement Changes – 2012

- The NC WW/GW LC program is now recognizing ACLASS as an approved Proficiency Testing Provider Accreditor. Accredited vendors can be found at the following websites:
 - A2LA - <http://www.a2la.org/pt/ProficiencyTesting.cfm>. Laboratories must choose a vendor from the published list of “A2LA Accredited TNI Proficiency Testing Providers”.
 - ACLASS - <http://www.aclasscorp.com/search-accredited-companies.aspx>. This link takes you to a search page where you can find a list of approved PT providers by selecting *Proficiency Test Provider - TNI Vol. 3* in the dropdown list under the *Accreditation Standard* field.
- The list of accredited vendors may change and should be checked each time proficiency testing samples are ordered.
- The NC WW/GW LC program has elected to follow the 2009 TNI Standard for PT reporting and grading. The 2009 TNI standard evaluations of less than (<) values are listed below:
 - As “Acceptable” when the assigned value is greater than “0” and the value reported with the less than (<) sign is greater than the lower acceptance limit.
 - As “Not Acceptable” when the assigned value is greater than “0” and the value reported with the less than (<) sign is less than the lower acceptance limit.
 - As “Acceptable” when the assigned value is equal to < PTRL (Proficiency Testing Reporting Limit).
- The Proficiency Testing Calendar Year has been redefined as January 1 to September 30 moving the deadline up one month to accommodate the extended remedial PT deadline. The remedial PT deadline has been extended to 90 days.
- Provisional Certification Forms, identifying North Carolina clients for which affected data may be reported, must be submitted within 30 days of receipt.
- A PT is required for laboratories analyzing fecal coliform by Colilert-18.
- For those laboratories that do not have adequate glassware for PT sample preparation, and have another lab assist with making up the PT sample, it is the participant laboratory’s responsibility to retain the PT sample preparation documentation.