Prepublication Requirements

• Issued December 18, 2020 •

APR Chapter Revisions

The Joint Commission has approved the following revisions for prepublication. While revised requirements are published in the semiannual updates to the print manuals (as well as in the online E-dition®), accredited organizations and paid subscribers can also view them in the monthly periodical The Joint Commission Perspectives®. To begin your subscription, call 800-746-6578 or visit http://www.jcrinc.com.

Please note: Where applicable, this report shows current standards and EPs first, with deleted language struck-through. Then, the revised requirement follows in bold text, with new language underlined.

APPLICABLE TO THE LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Effective July 1, 2021

Accreditation Participation Requirements (APR) Chapter

APR.01.03.01

The laboratory reports any changes in the information provided in the application for accreditation and any changes made between surveys.

Element(s) of Performance for APR.01.03.01

1. The laboratory notifies The Joint Commission in writing within 30 days of a change in ownership, control, location, capacity, or services offered.
   Note: When the laboratory changes ownership, control, location, capacity, or services offered, it may be necessary for The Joint Commission to survey the laboratory again. If the laboratory does not provide written notification to The Joint Commission within 30 days of these changes, the laboratory could lose its accreditation.

1. The laboratory notifies The Joint Commission in writing within 30 days of a change in ownership, control, location, capacity, or services offered.
   Note: When the laboratory changes ownership, control, location, capacity, or services offered, it may be necessary for The Joint Commission to survey the laboratory again. If the laboratory does not provide written notification to The Joint Commission within 30 days of these changes, the laboratory may be denied accreditation.

APR.03.01.01

The laboratory fulfills requirements for Focused Standards Assessment.

Element(s) of Performance for APR.03.01.01

Key: D indicates that documentation is required; R indicates an identified risk area;
1. The laboratory, at 12 months after its full biennial survey, updates and submits to The Joint Commission the full Focused Standards Assessment (FSA) and its Plan of Action on any recommendations cited. (Refer also to the “Focused Standards Assessment [FSA]” section in “The Accreditation Process” [ACC] chapter.)
   Note 1: For laboratories that select Options 1, 2, or 3, the requirement to transmit the FSA and its Plan of Action to The Joint Commission may not apply in part or in whole.
   Note 2: Neither the full FSA nor FSA Options 1, 2, or 3 are due in the year of the laboratory’s biennial survey.

3. The laboratory exercising Option 1, 2, or 3 for the Focused Standards Assessment (FSA) attests at 12 months after its full biennial survey that the organization has decided not to participate in the submission of the full FSA.
   Note: Neither the full FSA nor FSA Options 1, 2, or 3 are due in the year of the organization's biennial survey.

4. The laboratory exercising Option 1 for the Focused Standards Assessment (FSA) completes an FSA and Plan of Action.
   Note: The laboratory does not submit this information to The Joint Commission.

6. The laboratory exercising Option 2 for the Focused Standards Assessment agrees to undergo a limited survey and then submit a Plan of Action for recommendations cited as a result of the survey.

7. The laboratory exercising Option 3 for the Focused Standards Assessment agrees to undergo a limited survey.
   Note: The laboratory does not receive a written report after the survey.

APR.06.01.01

Applicants and accredited laboratories do not use Joint Commission employees to provide accreditation-related consulting services.

Element(s) of Performance for APR.06.01.01

1. The laboratory does not use Joint Commission employees to provide any accreditation-related consulting services.
   Note: Consulting services include, but are not limited to, the following:
   ~ Helping the laboratory to meet Joint Commission standards
   ~ Helping the laboratory to complete its Focused Standards Assessment (FSA)
   ~ Assisting the laboratory in remedying areas identified in its FSA as needing improvement
   ~ Conducting mock surveys

APR.09.04.01

The laboratory provides care, treatment, services, and an environment that pose no risk of an “Immediate Threat to Health or Safety,” also known as “Immediate Threat to Life” or ITL situation.

The laboratory provides care, treatment, services, and an environment that pose no risk of an “Immediate Threat to Health or Safety.”

Key: □ indicates that documentation is required;  ● indicates an identified risk area;
Element(s) of Performance for APR.09.04.01

1. The laboratory provides care, treatment, services, and an environment that pose no risk of an “Immediate Threat to Health or Safety,” also known as “Immediate Threat to Life” or ITL situation.

1. The laboratory provides care, treatment, services, and an environment that pose no risk of an “Immediate Threat to Health or Safety.”