



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of Materials Management
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Eric Holcomb, Governor
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April 25, 2018

TESTING MEMORANDUM 18-05

SUBJECT: Independent Assurance and Qualified Acceptance Personnel Program Changes

TO: District Testing Staff
District Construction Staff
Certified HMA Producers
Certified Aggregate Producers
Contractors and Consultant Inspection Staff

FROM: Matthew P. Beeson, State Materials Engineer
Office of Materials Management

We have made significant revisions to the Independent Assurance and Qualified Laboratory and Technician Programs for 2018, including changing the intent and scope of each of the programs. The Programs are now:

Directive 106 – Qualified Laboratory Program
Directive 107 – Independent Assurance and Qualified Acceptance Personnel Program

Both Directives can be found here: <http://www.in.gov/indot/div/mt/directives/directives.htm>

The Independent Assurance Program is now the Independent Assurance and Qualified Acceptance Personnel Program. There has been confusion within INDOT as to the difference between the Independent Assurance Program and the Qualified Technician Program. Both programs required the Acceptance Technician being observed by an Independent Assurance Technician, but the required frequencies and purposes of the program were different. To reduce confusion and ensure program compliance, we are merging the two programs.

The new Independent Assurance and Qualified Acceptance Personnel Program sets up a program where the Technician will be both Qualified and satisfy Independent Assurance requirements at the same time. To achieve this with the Independent Assurance Technician staffing available, we are changing to a two year frequency. This will increase the Independent Assurance frequency from one year to two years, but reduce the Qualified Technician renewal frequency from three years to two years. Each Technician will be seen by IA every two years.

Other notable changes include:

- Observations and Comparison tests have now been clearly defined, and a matrix in Attachment II lists what is required for each test method.



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- Written examinations do not “expire.” Once an exam for a given procedure is passed, it is not required to be taken again.
- Certified Aggregate Technicians and Certified Asphalt Technicians are not exempted from the written examinations. Any currently Qualified personnel in these categories will not be required to go back and take the written examinations, however.
- Independent Assurance Technicians (IAT) will have observations performed by another IAT for every test method that the IAT is involved.

The new two year Qualification period will be handled as follows:

Qualification periods starting on any day from January 1st to June 30th of the same calendar year will expire on January 1st in the calendar year that is 2 years from the qualification start date
Example #1: If a Technician is initially qualified (or Qualifications are renewed) on March 31, 2018, the Qualification will expire January 1, 2020.

Qualification periods that start on any day from July 1st to December 31st of the same calendar year will expire on January 1st in the calendar year that is 3 years from the qualification start date
Example #2: If a Technician is initially qualified (or Qualifications are renewed) on August 3, 2018, the Qualification will expire January 1, 2021.

This pattern will continue with each subsequent renewal of Qualifications.

The new Programs are effective immediately, however, please note that all current Qualification expiration dates will remain in effect. This should result in a gradual phase-in of these changes as Acceptance Personnel Qualifications expire.

If you have any additional questions regarding the program, please contact your District Testing Engineer.