



The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation

P107 – Policy on Transferring Accreditation

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A2LA offers accreditation across a wide spectrum of laboratory testing fields and calibration as well as conformity assessment programs (i.e. Reference Material Producer, Inspection Body, Product Certification Body) that are part of internationally recognized Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRA). As such, there are times when a Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) accredited by one of our MRA partners wishes to transfer their current accreditation to A2LA to take advantage of the benefits of an A2LA accreditation. This policy describes the process for accomplishing this.

NOTE: Medical laboratories wishing to transfer their ISO 15189 accreditation to A2LA may only do so from an MRA partner recognized for ISO 15189 accreditations.

In order for A2LA to accept an application from an accredited CAB of one of our MRA partners, A2LA must receive the following additional information along with the A2LA application (i.e. F101 – Application for Accreditation – ISO/IEC 17025 Laboratories; F651 - Application for Accreditation - Medical Laboratories for ISO 15189; F301 – Application for Accreditation – ISO/IEC 17020 Inspection Bodies; F304 – Application for Accreditation – ISO Guide 34 Reference Material Producers; F309 – Application for Accreditation – ISO Guide 65 Product Certification Bodies) and applicable fees:

- most recent full on-site assessment report (*pursuant to ISO/IEC 17011, the assessment shall have been performed within the past 24 months in order to be accepted*);
- complete corrective action response to the full assessment report;
- copy of the current and valid Scope of Accreditation;
- measurement uncertainty budgets (*calibration laboratories only*);
- official accreditation letter from the CAB's current Accreditation Body announcing the accreditation.

Once A2LA receives the aforementioned application and information, the decision to accept the MRA partner accreditation in lieu of an on-site assessment will be made on a case-by-case basis. If accreditation is accepted, the accreditation expiration date will be set at a maximum 24 months from the date of the most recent, full on-site assessment performed by the current Accreditation Body. The CAB will then be placed into the standard A2LA schedule of full, bi-annual assessments.

If the accreditation is not fully accepted, A2LA may chose to perform a full, on-site assessment or a partial, on-site surveillance assessment to enable the CAB to become A2LA accredited.

For more information, please contact A2LA at 301 644 3248 or at info@A2LA.org.

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