

Notice

Invitation to ELAP-Certified or NELAP-Accredited Laboratories to Join the Environmental Laboratory Technical Advisory Committee (ELTAC) as Active Members

At the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP), our mission is to make sure that the analytical data used for regulatory purposes meets the high standards required to safeguard public health and safety.

To assist us in that critical role, we rely on the Environmental Laboratory Technical Advisory Committee (ELTAC) to provide valuable advice and guidance that helps us keep pace with evolving technology, procedures, and environmental concerns. ELTAC consists of experts from multiple disciplines who represent a variety of organizations and interests within the environmental laboratory community. The committee conducts quarterly meetings via teleconference, during which members exchange information and express their views. Because members are both knowledgeable and diverse, the committee is able to provide ELAP with balanced and impartial recommendations that inform the rules and regulations we use to implementing our program.

ELAP would like to invite you to take part in this important work. We believe that greater diversity and inclusion will enhance ELTAC's contribution — and the best way to accomplish this is to encourage others from the laboratory community to participate in the exchange of ideas. Since meetings are conducted over the phone, you or a colleague can attend without having to travel, minimizing the time and effort involved.

This is an excellent opportunity for you to collaborate with us in ensuring that ELAP fulfills its mission and remains responsive to your needs. We hope you will take advantage of it by participating.

For more, including a description of ELTAC, its by-laws, membership, contact information, and enabling statute, see the information below or click on the links provided.

ELTAC: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/services/boards/eltac/Pages/default.aspx>

ELAP: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/labs/Pages/ELAP.aspx>

Overview of the Environmental Laboratory Technical Advisory Committee

ELTAC plays a vital role in advising the Department on matters related to environmental laboratories. ELTAC is mandated by statute (Health and Safety Code, Section 100863).

ELTAC is a multidisciplinary committee. It represents the various interest groups related to the environmental laboratory community by providing relevant competent technical support and impartiality through a balance of interests where no single interest predominates.

To assist the Department, ELTAC makes recommendations for consideration regarding the establishment of rules and regulations for the implementation of the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program.

Enabling Statute, Health and Safety Code, Section 100863:

The department shall appoint a multidisciplinary committee to assist, advise, and make recommendations regarding technical, scientific, and administrative matters concerning the accreditation or certification of environmental laboratories.

Appointments to the committee shall be made from lists of nominees solicited by the department, and shall provide adequate representation of interested parties and environmental laboratories subject to this chapter.

Subcommittees of the committee may be appointed consisting of committee members and other persons having particular knowledge of a subject area, for the purpose of assisting the department on special problems and making recommendations to the committee for consideration in the establishment of rules and regulations. The department shall determine the terms of office of appointees to the committee and any subcommittee. Members of the committee and of any subcommittee shall serve without compensation and shall pay their own expenses incurred as a result of attending meetings or engaging in any other activity pursuant to this section.

Membership:

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/services/boards/eltac/Documents/ELTACMembers-12-01-2009.pdf>

ELTAC By-Laws:

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/services/boards/eltac/Documents/ELTACBy-Laws.pdf>

ELTAC Checklists:

ELTAC has written a number of method checklists. The Department has not officially endorsed the ELTAC checklists. However, they can be used as guidance in preparation for a site visit and for internal audits to assess method compliance.

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/services/boards/eltac/Pages/MethodAuditChecklists.aspx>

Meetings:

Teleconferences are periodically scheduled throughout the year to discuss

current issues and changes that have occurred within the ELAP program and the California Department of Public Health. Notes from recent meetings are available at: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/services/boards/eltac/Pages/default.aspx>.

Our next teleconference is scheduled for December 17, 2009.

For future teleconferences, ELAP wishes to expand laboratory representation in order to better perform our duties and to improve the quality of our services under these difficult times. It is in your best interests to participate as active members on the committee. **If you are interested in joining the committee please send your CV to the ELAP E-mail address given below. We need to fill the existing vacancies. Those who are interested in joining the ELTAC to fill these vacancies must submit their CV's as soon as possible, but preferably by April 30, 2010.**

Should you wish to be nominated to serve as a committee member in ELTAC or have any questions, please contact: elapca@cdph.ca.gov.

In addition, if you wish to make recommendations regarding technical, scientific, and administrative matters concerning the accreditation or certification of environmental laboratories, your suggestions are most welcome.

Please e-mail us at elapca@cdph.ca.gov or phone our office at (510) 620- 3155.

Thank you.

George C. Kulasingam, Ph.D.
Chief, ELAP Branch