

**Virginia Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services
LABORATORY CERTIFICATION/ACCREDITATION PROGRAMS
1VAC30-41 and 1VAC30-46**

INFORMATION NOTICE

**USE OF MOST CURRENT EDITION OF
ANALYTICAL TEST METHODS FOR DRINKING WATER ANALYSES
November 6, 2017**

The Virginia Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water (VDH-ODW) maintains primary enforcement responsibility (primacy) under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and the federal SDWA regulations for the Commonwealth of Virginia. In its Waterworks Regulation (12VAC5-590-340), VDH-ODW requires the Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services (DCLS) or laboratories certified by DCLS to perform the analyses used to demonstrate compliance with the drinking water maximum contaminant levels or action levels set out in 12VAC5-590.

VDH-ODW at 12VAC5-590-480 B specifies that drinking water laboratories must use *the most current edition of approved Standard Methods test methods* to perform these analyses, as follows:

Laboratory analyses shall conform with the most current edition available of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater published by the American Public Health Association, the American Water Works Association, and the Water Pollution Control Federation, or analytical methods approved by the division.

Effective July 1, 2018 the Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services (DCLS) will only assess/certify methods that are the most current approved version of approved published methods; e.g., Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater and other methods approved under SDWA.

Laboratories may locate the most recent approvals for drinking water testing under the Safe Drinking Water Act at Appendix A of Subpart C of 40 CFR 141, available by clicking [HERE](#) or through <https://www.ecfr.gov>.

The Virginia Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (VELAP) will begin a process of revising all certificates containing certifications for drinking water testing to ensure the certificates reflect the most current revision of approved methods. The process will be completed before July 1, 2018. No change-in-scope requests or fees are required for this change and proficiency testing histories will be transferred by VELAP to the revised field of certification or field of accreditation. **Laboratories should begin immediately to update their own Standard Operating Procedures, Quality Manuals, Proficiency Test Reporting Procedures, Customer Reports, etc. to reflect these changes and ensure compliance by July 1, 2018.**