	A2LA	
	R204 – Specific Requirements: Food, Dietary Supplements and Pharmaceutical Testing Laboratory Accreditation Program	Document revised: 01/08/19
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This document describes the accreditation requirements applicable to laboratories performing chemical and/or microbiological analyses in the examination of food, dietary supplements, pharmaceutical products, ingredients in the production of food, in-process food samples, environmental samples pertinent to foods, final products and dietary supplements.

GENERAL CRITERIA

The general criteria for accreditation are contained in ISO/IEC 17025:2017, *General Requirements for Accreditation of Testing and Calibration Laboratories*, as referenced in Part A of the A2LA's *R101 - General Requirements: Accreditation of ISO/IEC 17025 Laboratories*.

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

Specific criteria are generally an elaboration on or interpretation of the general criteria plus those requirements of accreditation applicable to a certain field of testing, testing technology, type of test, or specific test. The specific criteria for food and pharmaceutical testing are contained in the AOAC International *Guidelines for Laboratories Performing Microbiological and Chemical Analyses of Food, Dietary Supplements, and Pharmaceuticals – An Aid to the Interpretation of ISO/IEC 17025:2017” (December 2018 revision)*. This document is available from:


AOAC INTERNATIONAL
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Rockville, MD 20850-3250
Phone: 301 924 7077
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www.aoac.org

PROFICIENCY TESTING

Please refer to A2LA's *R103 –General Requirements: Proficiency Testing for ISO/IEC 17025 Laboratories* and the associated *R103a – Annex*, in addition to the applicable requirements identified in section 7.72 of the specific criteria document, for the proficiency testing requirements applicable to this program.

INTERPRETATIVE GUIDANCE

Occasionally there is also a need for interpretative guidance on applications of the specific criteria. The laboratory is encouraged to refer to the additional guidance on the application of these criteria which can be obtained by referencing the notes found in the **AOAC International *Guidelines for Laboratories Performing Microbiological and Chemical Analyses of Food, Dietary Supplements, and Pharmaceuticals – An Aid to the Interpretation of ISO/IEC 17025:2017”*** and the AOAC website.

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Document Revision History

Date	Description
01/08/19	Revised to refer to updated general and specific criteria, name of the document

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