

PJLA Update Notification

Update Notification # 87 AOAC 2024 Transition Requirements

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Form/Procedure/Policy: LF-56 AOAC ALACC 2024-Working Document Rev 1.0

Attention All Applicant and Accredited Organizations:

In 2024, AOAC released an updated version of the *Guidelines for Laboratories Performing Microbiological and Chemical Analyses of Food, Dietary Supplements, Pharmaceuticals, and Cannabis: An Aid to Interpretation of ISO/IEC 17025:2017*.

This revision expands the scope of the guidance to include detailed criteria for cannabis testing, in addition to updates to the existing guidance for the food, dietary supplement, and pharmaceutical sectors.

While all laboratories are encouraged to obtain and review the updated version, the most significant changes impact cannabis laboratories, as previous editions did not include market-specific requirements for this sector.

PJLA will begin transitioning to the updated AOAC guideline for all Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) starting in **September 2025**. Full implementation for laboratories electing to participate in this voluntary program will be required by **December 31, 2027**.

As the updated guideline affects both technical and management system requirements, PJLA strongly encourages CABs to transition during a **reassessment**, as doing so during a **surveillance assessment** will necessitate additional onsite time to ensure comprehensive coverage of all applicable criteria.

Laboratories must have fully implemented the revised requirements—including all applicable documentation and practices—**prior to the scheduled assessment**. Any unaddressed requirements at the time of assessment will result in a **nonconformity**.

Thank you!