

## Algal Toxin Proficiency Testing Programs Assess Your Lab's Performance

Gold Standard Diagnostics' trusted Algal Toxin Proficiency Testing Program satisfies the increasing international demand for conformity assessment in the field of cyanotoxin analysis and provides an independent assessment of your laboratory's performance, giving you confidence in your lab's ability to deliver quality results to your customers.

Our algal toxin proficiency testing program, with options for both ELISA and instrumental analysis, is offered at various times throughout the year. Testing programs for finished drinking water and raw fresh water/recreational water are available for the following algal toxins, in addition to a marine water program for Saxitoxin:

- Microcystins
- Anatoxin-a
- Cylindrospermopsin
- Saxitoxin



## Algal Toxin Proficiency Testing Programs

A general timeline for the annual algal toxin proficiency testing program is indicated in the table below:

Sample Matrix	Analyte	Technique	Program #	Registration Close	Samples Sent	Results Due Back	Final Report Distributed
Finished Drinking Water	Microcystins	Instrumental (HPLC)	520080-01A	Late January	Late February	Late March	Mid May
		ELISA/PPIA	520080-01B	Late January	Late February	Late March	Mid May
	Anatoxin-a/ Cylindrospermopsin	Instrumental (HPLC)	520080-02A	Late January	Late February	Late March	Mid May
		ELISA/PPIA	520080-02B	Late January	Late February	Late March	Mid May
	Saxitoxin	ELISA/PPIA	520080-05B	Late January	Late February	Late March	Mid May
	Raw Fresh Water (Source/ Recreational)	Microcystins	Instrumental (HPLC)	520080-03A	Late May	Late June	Late July
ELISA/PPIA			520080-03B	Late May	Late June	Late July	Mid September
Anatoxin-a/ Cylindrospermopsin		Instrumental (HPLC)	520080-04A	Late May	Late June	Late July	Mid September
		ELISA/PPIA	520080-04B	Late May	Late June	Late July	Mid September
Saxitoxin		ELISA/PPIA	520080-06B	Late May	Late June	Late July	Mid September
Marine Water		Saxitoxin	ELISA/PPIA	520080-07B	Late May	Late June	Late July

## How the Proficiency Testing Program Works

- Each participant laboratory receives a **unique code** to maintain confidentiality.
- Gold Standard Diagnostics produces and distributes **water samples** that have been spiked with known toxin congeners and concentrations.
- **Participant labs test the samples**, using their own equipment, methods and personnel, and return the test results to Gold Standard Diagnostics.
- Gold Standard Diagnostics prepares a **comprehensive program report** including laboratory reported results, methods used, and a statistical evaluation comparing results to other laboratories performing the same analysis.

**NOTE: Kits and/or testing materials are not included in the program price and must be purchased separately.**

For more information and to register please visit our *Proficiency Testing* page in the *Services* section on our website at [www.abraxiskits.com](http://www.abraxiskits.com)



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