



**NABL**

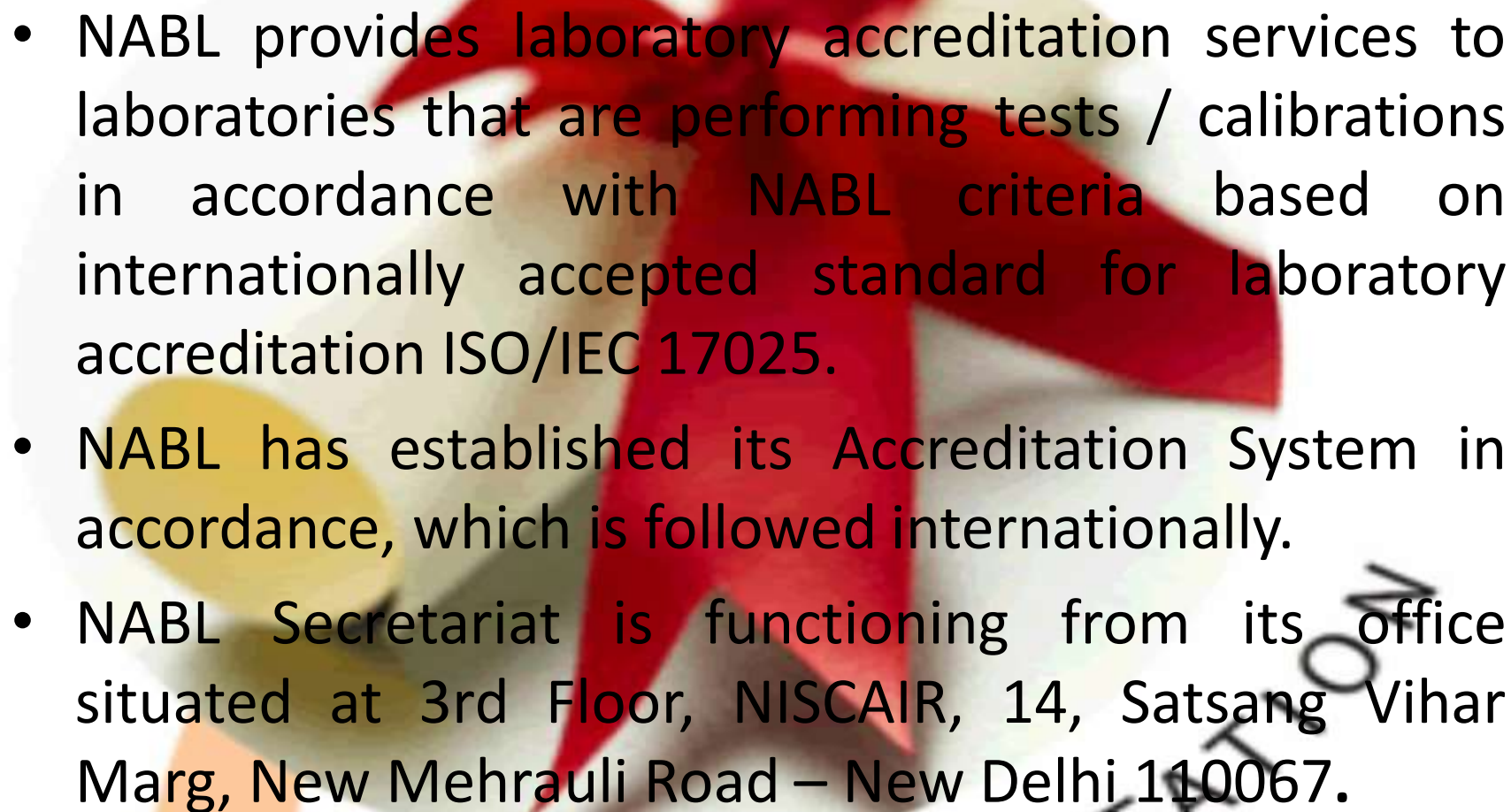
ACCREDITATION

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# National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratory

- An autonomous body under the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India and is registered under the Societies Act.
- Government of India has authorized NABL as the sole accreditation body for Testing and Calibration laboratories.
- Assessment of the quality, technical competence of testing and calibration laboratories are the objective of NABL.

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- The background of the slide features a large, semi-transparent watermark of the NABL Accreditation logo. The logo consists of a stylized red ribbon forming a star-like shape, with the word "ACCREDITATION" written in a curved path below it. The ribbon is set against a light-colored circular background with orange and yellow accents.
- NABL provides laboratory accreditation services to laboratories that are performing tests / calibrations in accordance with NABL criteria based on internationally accepted standard for laboratory accreditation ISO/IEC 17025.
  - NABL has established its Accreditation System in accordance, which is followed internationally.
  - NABL Secretariat is functioning from its office situated at 3rd Floor, NISCAIR, 14, Satsang Vihar Marg, New Mehrauli Road – New Delhi 110067.

# Benefits of laboratory accreditation



- Provide formal recognition to competent laboratory and ensure that they perform their work in accordance with international standard.
- Minimize the risk of unreliable result.
- Minimize the chances of retesting and hence reduces financial burden and time.

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- Enhance customer confidence and satisfaction.
- International acceptability of test results. Once tested and accepted everywhere.
- This is relevant in case of insurance coverage, health authorities.
- Society also needs to know the technically competent laboratory in fields such as Medical, Forensic, and Food Testing etc.
- Better control of laboratory operations and feedback to laboratories.

# Process for Accreditation

## 1. Stage I (Filling of Application)

- Prepare your laboratory's application for NABL accreditation, giving all desired information and enlisting the test(s) / calibration(s) along with range and measurement uncertainty for which the laboratory has the competence to perform. Laboratory can apply either for all or part of their testing / calibration facilities. Formats NABL 151, NABL 152 & NABL 153 are to be used by Testing, Calibration and Medical Laboratories respectively for applying to NABL for accreditation.

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- Laboratories are required to submit **five sets** of duly filled in application forms **for each field of testing / calibration** along with five sets of Quality Manual and Application Fees.
- NABL Secretariat on receipt of application will issue acknowledgement to the laboratory. After **scrutiny of application** for it being complete in all respects, a unique **Customer Registration Number** will be allocated to laboratory for further processing of application.



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- NABL Secretariat shall then nominate a Lead Assessor for giving **Adequacy Report** on the Quality Manual / Application submitted by the laboratory. A copy of Adequacy Report by Lead Assessor will be provided to Laboratory for taking necessary **corrective action, if any**. The laboratory shall submit Corrective Action Report.
- After satisfactory corrective action by the laboratory, a **Pre-Assessment audit** of the laboratory will be organized by NABL.



## 2.Stage II (Pre-Assessment audit)

- NABL Secretariat shall organize the Pre-Assessment audit, which shall normally be carried by **Lead Assessor** at the laboratory sites.
- The pre-assessment helps the laboratory to be better prepared for the Final Assessment. It also helps the Lead Assessor to assess the attentiveness of the laboratory to undergo Final Assessment as per application submitted by the laboratory.
- A copy of Pre-Assessment Report will be provided to Laboratory for taking necessary corrective action on the concerns raised during audit, if any.
- After laboratory confirms the completion of corrective actions, Final Assessment of the laboratory shall be organized by NABL.

### 3.Stage III (Final Assessment)

- NABL Secretariat shall organize the Final Assessment at the laboratory site(s) for its compliance to NABL Criteria and for that purpose appoint an **assessment team**.
- The Assessment Team shall comprise of a Lead Assessor and other Technical Assessor(s) in the relevant fields depending upon the scope to be assessed.
- The Lead Assessor will provide a copy of **consolidated report** of the assessment to the laboratory and send the original copy to NABL Secretariat.

## 4.Stage IV (Corrective Reassessment)

- After satisfactory corrective action by the laboratory, the **Accreditation Committee** examines the findings of the Assessment Team and recommends additional corrective action.
- Accreditation Committee shall make the appropriate recommendations regarding accreditation of a laboratory to NABL Secretariat.
- Laboratories are free to appeal against the findings of assessment or decision on accreditation by writing to the Director, NABL.

## 5.Stage V (Granting of Accreditation)

- Accreditation to a laboratory shall be valid for a period of 3 years and NABL shall conduct periodical Surveillance of the laboratory at intervals of one year.
- Laboratory shall apply for Renewal of accreditation to it at least 6 months before the expiry of the validity of accreditation.
- Approval for accreditation done by chairman of NABL.
- Certificate issued by secretariat of NABL.

# Introduction

- To gain NABL Accreditation, a laboratory has to meet the requirements of international standard ISO/IEC 17025 and relevant specific criteria.
- ISO/IEC 17025:1999 (general requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories) contain all the requirement that testing and calibration laboratories have to meet.

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# ISO/IEC 17025



- This standard has two clauses.
  1. Clause 4 : Management requirement
  2. Clause 5: Technical requirement

# Clause-4 (Management requirement)

- 4.1 ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT
- 4.2 QUALITY SYSTEM
- 4.3 DOCUMENT CONTROL
- 4.4 REVIEW OF REQUESTS, TENDERS AND CONTRACTS
- 4.5 SUBCONTRACTING OF TESTS AND CALIBRATIONS
- 4.6 PURCHASING SERVICES AND SUPPLIES
- 4.7 SERVICE TO THE CLIENT
- 4.8 COMPLAINTS

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4.9 CONTROL OF NON- CONFORMING  
TESTING AND/OR CALIBRATION WORK

4.10 IMPROVEMENT

4.11 CORRECTIVE ACTION

4.12 PREVENTIVE ACTION

4.13 CONTROL OF RECORDS

4.14 INTERNAL AUDITS

4.15 MANAGEMENT REVIEWS



# Clause 5 (Technical requirement)



5.1 GENERAL

5.2 PERSONNEL

5.3 ACCOMMODATION & ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONDITIONS

5.4 TEST AND CALIBRATION METHODS  
AND METHOD VALIDATION

5.5 EQUIPMENT GENERAL

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5.6 MEASUREMENT TRACEABILITY

5.7 SAMPLING

5.8 HANDLING OF TEST AND  
CALIBRATION ITEMS

5.9 ASSURING THE QUALITY OF TEST  
AND CALIBRATION RESULTS

5.10 REPORTING THE RESULTS

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