

PROPOSED REGULATION

Act 87 of 1963-Code 2-33-101 & Act 150 of 1985-Code 19-6-448

AUTHORIZATION OF LABORATORIES CONDUCTING OFFICIAL TESTS FOR REPORTABLE DISEASES IN ARKANSAS

1. No person shall operate a laboratory conducting official tests for reportable diseases in Arkansas without first obtaining approval from the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission.
2. The laboratory must submit a written request to the Office of the State Veterinarian indicating which reportable diseases it will test for, which tests will be utilized, and demonstrating a need for such a laboratory in the specific geographic area.
3. Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission Officials will review the request and determine if there is a justified need for such a laboratory in the identified geographic region.
4. If it is determined that a justified need exists for such a laboratory, the facility will be inspected by the State Veterinarian, or their designee, to determine compliance with all applicable regulations and Standard Operating Procedures.
5. The Laboratory Director must agree, in writing, to operate the Laboratory in a manner that is compliant with all applicable regulations and Standard Operating Procedures. These requirements include training, check tests, record keeping, annual inspections, etc.... as specified in the applicable regulations and Standard Operating Procedures.
6. Upon completion of the inspection, the State Veterinarian or their designee will report their findings to the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission at the next regularly scheduled meeting for approval or disapproval of the laboratory.
7. Upon approval, the State Veterinarian, or their designee, will inspect the laboratory facility as deemed necessary thereafter, but not less than annually for renewal of laboratory authorization.
8. Laboratories shall immediately report, by telephone and/or in writing via fax or email, all reportable disease positive results to the office of the State Veterinarian.
9. Failure to comply with the requirements of the applicable regulations and Standard Operating Procedures will result in revocation of Laboratory authorization.
10. All expenses incurred while performing the laboratory inspections will be passed on to the participating laboratory.