

FDA FACT SHEET

ISO/IEC 17025:2005 ACCREDITATION COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT PROGRAM

Program Description

- The ISO/IEC 17025:2005 cooperative agreement program provides support for State human food testing laboratories to obtain and/or maintain accreditation to the ISO 17025 standard.
- Laboratories that are accredited to this international standard have demonstrated that they have implemented a quality system that assures that samples are analyzed in a technically competent environment able to produce precise and accurate test data.
- ISO 17025 accredited laboratories are regularly reevaluated by their accrediting body to ensure they remain in compliance with the standards.
- The Quality Management System structure required under the ISO standard helps to ensure a level of equivalency between all laboratories.

Intended Outcomes

- Expanded network of state laboratories performing chemical and microbiological food analyses.
- Enhanced data sharing and data acceptance for regulatory action.
- Increased eLEXNET data submission to help assess risks and analyze nationwide trends.
- Strengthened capacity of state human food testing laboratories in support of the Manufactured Food Regulatory Program.
- Advanced collaborative relationships to advance the goal of an Integrated Food Safety System (IFSS).

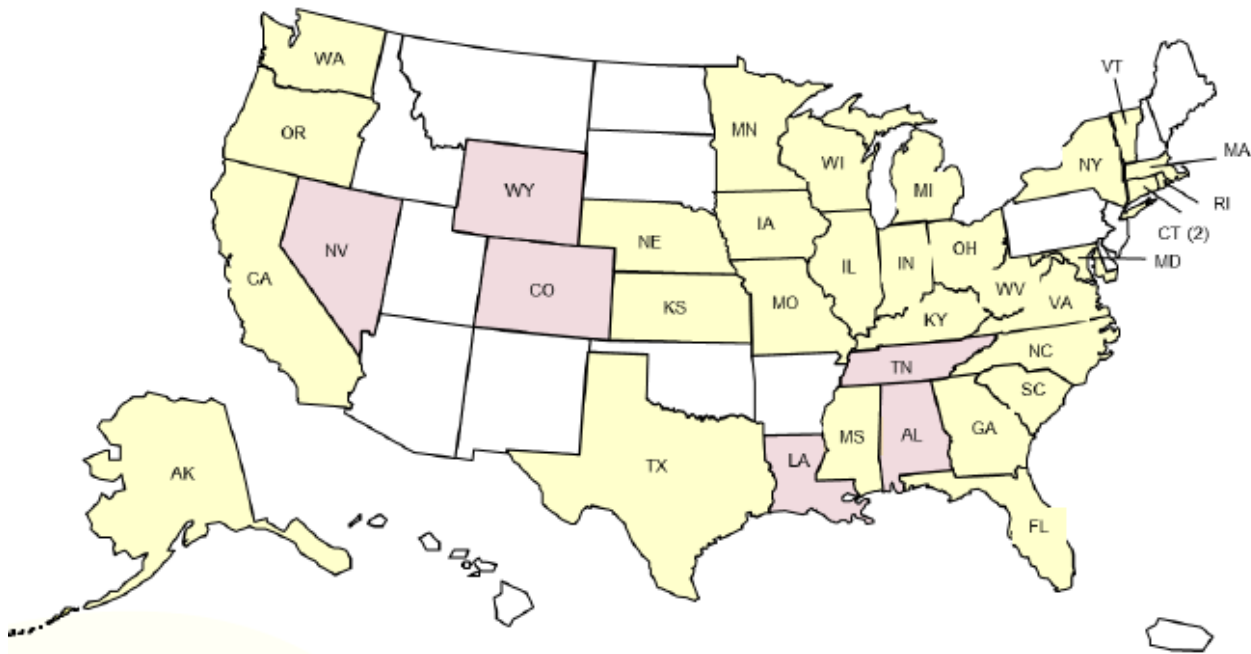
Program Metrics

- Current program funding: \$9.7M
- Current number of awards: 36
- \$300,000/yr for laboratories seeking to obtain ISO accreditation.
- \$150,000/yr for laboratories to maintain and/or expand their scope of ISO accreditation.

Program Accomplishments

- Over 17,000 surveillance samples analyzed in the 2014-2015 project year.
- In February 2015, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control successfully isolated *L. mono* from a in a ice cream product. This positive finding sparked a national investigation into multiple illnesses and a few deaths across the United States. The company voluntarily recalled all of its products that were on the market at that time.
- In April 2015 the Nebraska Department of Agriculture detected *L. mono* in a sample of a firm's ice cream collected under the MFRPS/ISO Sampling Agreement. The company subsequently initiated a voluntary recall of all products.

**Figure 1. ISO Cooperative Agreement States
(2016-2017)**



The FDA, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, protects the public health by assuring the safety, effectiveness, and security of human and veterinary drugs, vaccines and other biological products for human use, and medical devices. The agency also is responsible for the safety and security of our nation's food supply, cosmetics, dietary supplements, and products that give off electronic radiation, and for regulating tobacco products.