



COMMUNITY HOSPITAL AND INDEPENDENT LABORATORY ACCREDITATION

COLA's Community Hospital and Independent Laboratory Accreditation programs are specially designed for laboratories looking for cost-effective and educational accreditation.

Affordable Pricing

COLA's accreditation program is affordably priced and, in most cases, less expensive than the federal government. You'll save money and benefit from an educational approach to accreditation.

Educationally-Oriented

COLA's approach to compliance is educational. Through COLA's newsletters and easy-to-read manuals, you will continually improve your skills and keep up-to-date on the latest technical advances in your industry.

Federally Approved and Joint Commission-Recognized

The COLA Laboratory Accreditation program has been approved by the federal government to meet CLIA regulations and is recognized by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) for laboratory surveys and accreditation.

Regulatory Liaison

Through our professional relationship with state and federal agencies, COLA keeps you current on regulatory issues affecting your laboratory.

Quality Assurance

COLA's emphasis is on quality. All our materials are designed to improve the quality of laboratory testing and promote excellence in medicine and patient care.

Pricing

COLA's pricing structure is based on the laboratory's test volume and the number of specialties in which testing is performed. The rates are set according to each state.

COLA provides a credit of \$100 at the time of enrollment to laboratories switching from a Certificate of Compliance to a Certificate of Accreditation. Additional discounts may also apply.

While COLA's pricing is based on test volume, it is important to identify the number of specialties that are performed at time of enrollment.

To enroll in COLA Accreditation, please contact a COLA Information Resource Representative at 800-981-9883.

All fees are subject to change without prior notice. Refunds of these fees will be given if requested in writing by an applicant laboratory within 60 days of application and prior to an on-site survey. A cancellation fee of \$400 will be charged to the laboratory.

Unique Self-Assessment

There are no surprises with COLA's accreditation process, because you can voluntarily evaluate the laboratory using the same questions that our own Surveyors will use. After you return the Self-Assessment, COLA provides you with a confidential report of deficiencies that can be corrected before your on-site survey, saving your staff valuable time.

Immediate Feedback

Survey findings and improvement recommendations are routinely delivered within approximately one week after an on-site survey. You and your staff can begin making any necessary improvements at once.

Eligibility

Community hospitals and independent laboratories which perform testing in pathology, cytology, chemistry/urinalysis, hematology, microbiology, immunology/serology, and immunohematology (full transfusion services or blood component storage only) are eligible for this program. Individual departments and point-of-care stations within a facility performing tests in these specialties are also eligible for enrollment with COLA.

Laboratories that conduct routine donor collection or sophisticated blood component processing should contact COLA for eligibility requirements.

For questions on eligibility and other information on Community Hospital and Independent Laboratory Accreditation, please contact the COLA Information Resource Center at (800) 981-9883.