

Laboratory Improvement and Training Services

The Laboratory Improvement Section exercises surveillance over the quality of lab testing in Illinois Department of Public Health facilities. This surveillance is done through proficiency testing and consultation, as well as through personnel training and internal audits. Quality surveillance supports the federal Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA '88), the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC), and the American Industrial Hygienist Association (AIHA).

This section also administers training programs that provide continuing education to laboratorians in Illinois. The Division of Laboratories is a member of the National Laboratory Training Network and, as such, provides state-of-the-art training courses developed by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Consultative support is provided to local health departments and regional health offices regarding laboratory issues.