



# Laboratory Certification Requirements for Certified Mental Health and Substance Abuse Programs

Wisconsin Department of Health Services / Division of Quality Assurance  
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## Purpose

Mental health and substance abuse providers are required to obtain a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certificate to perform laboratory testing. Laboratories performing drug or alcohol screening and/or testing followed by individual treatment must be CLIA certified. Providers found to be performing such testing without a CLIA certificate are in violation of CLIA and subject to possible federal enforcement actions.

## Requirements

Laboratory Definition at 42 CFR § 493.2 means that a facility that examines materials derived from the human body for the purpose of providing diagnosis, prevention, or treatment of any disease or impairment of, or the assessment of the health of, human beings. These examinations also include procedures to determine, measure, or otherwise describe the presence or absence of various substances in the human body. Therefore, any entity or facility performing drug or alcohol testing and/or screening where the test results are used for the purpose of referring, offering, or making available to the test subjects treatment must obtain an appropriate CLIA certificate.

## Directions

For questions and/or a CLIA application, contact:

DQA / Bureau of Health Services / Licensing, Certification, CLIA Section

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