Chapter 246-390 WAC
DRINKING WATER LABORATORY CERTIFICATION AND DATA REPORTING

Last Update: 6/17/25

WAC

246-390-001 Purpose.
246-390-010 Definitions, abbreviations, and acronyms.
246-390-030 Certification.
246-390-055 Reporting contracted analytical results.
246-390-065 Notification requirements.
246-390-075 Reporting.
246-390-085 Enforcement.
246-390-095 Revocation and suspension.
246-390-100 Appeals.

DISPOSITION OF SECTIONS FORMERLY CODIFIED IN THIS CHAPTER

246-390-020 Requirement for certification. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. WSR 92-15-152 (Order 290B), § 246-390-020, filed 7/22/92, effective 8/22/92.] Repealed by WSR 18-09-048, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080.

246-390-040 Provisional certification. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. WSR 92-15-152 (Order 290B), § 246-390-040, filed 7/22/92, effective 8/22/92.] Repealed by WSR 18-09-048, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080.

246-390-050 Revoking or denying certification. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. WSR 92-15-152 (Order 290B), § 246-390-050, filed 7/22/92, effective 8/22/92.] Repealed by WSR 18-09-048, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080.

246-390-060 Reciprocity. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. WSR 92-15-152 (Order 290B), § 246-390-060, filed 7/22/92, effective 8/22/92.] Repealed by WSR 18-09-048, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080.

246-390-070 Third-party certification. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. WSR 92-15-152 (Order 290B), § 246-390-070, filed 7/22/92, effective 8/22/92.] Repealed by WSR 18-09-048, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080.

246-390-990 Fees. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. WSR 92-23-060 (Order 313), § 246-390-990, filed 11/17/92, effective 12/18/92.] Repealed by WSR 18-09-048, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080.

WAC 246-390-001 Purpose. (1) The purpose of this chapter is to set minimum certification and data reporting requirements for environmental laboratories that analyze drinking water samples.

(2) This chapter conforms to EPA primary enforcement responsibility requirements of 40 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) 142.10 for the certification of laboratories.

(3) Certified laboratories must comply with the requirements of this chapter, chapter 173-50 WAC, and applicable state and federal drinking water laws and regulations.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080. WSR 18-09-048, § 246-390-001, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. WSR 92-15-152 (Order 290B), § 246-390-001, filed 7/22/92, effective 8/22/92.]

WAC 246-390-010 Definitions, abbreviations, and acronyms. The definitions, abbreviations, and acronyms in this section apply throughout this chapter, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(1) "µmhos/cm" means micromhos per centimeter (1 µmhos/cm = 1 S/cm).

(2) "µg/L" means micrograms per liter (1 µg/L = 1 ppb).

(3) "Acute" means posing an immediate risk to human health.

(4) "Bioaccumulative" means a chemical that can accumulate in the body when regular exposure occurs through drinking water.

(5) "C.F.R." means the Code of Federal Regulations.

(6) "CFU" means colony-forming unit.

(7) "Chronic" means posing a risk to human health only when exposure occurs over many years to a contaminant above a state or federal health standard.

(8) "Close of business" means the latest time during a business day when a lab is no longer in routine operation for accepting or performing drinking water sample analysis.

(9) "Confirmation" means to demonstrate that the results of a sample accurately represents the original sample result by analyzing another sample from the same location within a reasonable given period of time. This confirmation analysis is in addition to any analytical method confirmation requirements.

(10) "Contaminant" means a substance present in drinking water that may adversely affect the health of the consumer or the aesthetic quality of the water. It is measured using an analytical method for compliance purposes under chapters 246-290 and 246-291 WAC.

(11) "Contracted lab" means a certified lab that receives a drinking water sample from another certified lab for analysis.

(12) "Contracting lab" means a certified lab that sends a drinking water sample to another certified lab to be analyzed.

(13) "CU" means color unit.

(14) "Department" means the Washington state department of health or health officer as identified in a joint plan of responsibility under WAC 246-290-030(1).

(15) "Ecology" means the Washington state department of ecology.

(16) "EPA" means the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

(17) "Estimated concentration" means the level of the contaminant reported to the department is above a lab's MDL, but below the lab's MRL.

(18) "GWR" means groundwater rule.

(19) "Lab" or "certified lab" means an environmental lab accredited under chapter 173-50 WAC for one or more drinking water contaminants and meets the requirements of this chapter.

(20) "Maximum contaminant level (MCL)" means the maximum permissible level of a contaminant in water that a public water system delivers to consumers. MCLs are established in chapters 246-290 and 246-291 WAC.

(21) "Minimum detectable activity (MDA)" means the smallest activity or concentration of radioactive material in a sample that will yield a net count (above sample background) that can be detected with 95 percent probability.

(22) "Minimum detection level (MDL)" means the minimum measured concentration of a substance that can be reported with 99 percent confidence that the measured concentration is distinguishable from the method blank results.

(23) "Method reporting limit (MRL)" means the lowest concentration of a standard used for calibration.

(24) "MFL" means microfibers per liter.

(25) "mg/L" means milligrams per liter (1 mg/L = 1 ppm).

(26) "MPN" means most probable number.

(27) "ng/L" means nanograms per liter (1 ng/L = 1 ppt).

(28) "NTU" means nephelometric turbidity units.

(29) "pCi/L" means picocuries per liter.

(30) "ppb" means parts per billion (1 ppb = 1 µg/L).

(31) "ppm" means parts per million (1 ppm = 1 mg/L).

(32) "ppt" means parts per trillion (1 ppt = 1 ng/L).

(33) "Proficiency testing (PT)" means the evaluation of sample analysis results, the true values of which are known to the supplier of the samples, but unknown to the lab conducting the analysis. PT samples are provided by a source external to the certified lab.

(34) "Public water system" is defined under WAC 246-290-020 and 246-291-010.

(35) "Quality control (QC)" means a set of measures used during an analytical method to ensure that the process is within specified control parameters.

(36) "State action level (SAL)" means the concentration of a contaminant or group of contaminants established to protect public health in accordance with WAC 246-290-315 and which, if exceeded, triggers actions a purveyor takes in accordance with WAC 246-290-320.

(37) "State detection reporting limit (SDRL)" means the minimum reportable detection of a contaminant as established in Tables 3 through 7 of this chapter.

(38) "Tentatively identified compound (TIC)" means compounds detected in samples that are not target compounds, internal standards, system monitoring compounds or surrogates.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70A.125.080. WSR 25-13-093, s 246-390-010, filed 6/17/25, effective 7/18/25; WSR 21-23-096, § 246-390-010, filed 11/17/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080. WSR 18-09-048, § 246-390-010, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. WSR 92-15-152 (Order 290B), § 246-390-010, filed 7/22/92, effective 8/22/92.]

WAC 246-390-030 Certification. To be certified to analyze drinking water samples, a lab shall:

(1) Be accredited under chapter 173-50 WAC; and

(2) Comply with data reporting requirements under this chapter.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080. WSR 18-09-048, § 246-390-030, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. WSR 92-15-152 (Order 290B), § 246-390-030, filed 7/22/92, effective 8/22/92.]

WAC 246-390-055 Reporting contracted analytical results. (1) A contracting lab that contracts with another lab shall:

(a) Verify that the contracted lab is currently certified in Washington to analyze samples for the contaminant;

(b) Notify the public water system that a sample will be contracted to another lab at the time the contracting lab confirms that the sample will be contracted out to another lab;

(c) Confirm that the contracted lab receives the sample within 14 calendar days of the contracting lab receiving the sample, but not to exceed a contaminant holding time if the holding time is less than 14 calendar days;

(d) Provide the following information to the contracted lab:

(i) The public water system's department assigned water system identification number;

(ii) The name of the public water system;

(iii) The date the sample was collected;

(iv) The location where the sample was collected;

(v) The public water system's department assigned source identification number;

(vi) The purpose for the sample;

(vii) The sample composition; and

(viii) The sample type;

(e) Identify, on the final analytical results to the public water system, which sample results were contracted to another lab and clearly identify the lab.

(2) A contracted lab that receives a sample from a contracting lab shall:

(a) Submit to the department a copy of the analytical results following the requirements under WAC 246-390-065 and 246-390-075;

(b) Submit a copy of the analytical results to the contracting lab in the format and time frame per the contract terms established between the contracting lab and the contracted lab.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70A.125.080. WSR 21-23-096, § 246-390-055, filed 11/17/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080. WSR 18-09-048, § 246-390-055, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18.]

WAC 246-390-065 Notification requirements. (1) In addition to the data reporting requirements under WAC 246-390-075, a lab shall notify the department and the public water system in accordance with Table 1 of this section for the following exceedances:

Table 1 - Notification Requirements for Routine Compliance Samples

Sample type	Exceeds	[1]Required Notification	Required Number of Attempts to Contact the Department
Routine, repeat, triggered, and assessment water coliform samples	Total coliform positive and *E. coli* positive	Close of business same day	3
Routine, repeat, triggered, and assessment water coliform samples	Total coliform positive and *E. coli* negative	Close of business[2] next business day	1
Routine or confirmation samples for nitrate or nitrite	MCL under chapters 246-290 and 246-291 WAC	Close of business same day	3
Routine or confirmation sample results for other inorganic, organic, or radiological contaminant sample results	4 times the state or federal MCL under chapters 246-290 and 246-291 WAC	Close of business same day	1

(2) For routine or confirmation sample results for contaminants that exceed the SAL or state MCL under WAC 246-290-315 and classified as Tier 1, Tier 2 bioaccumulative, or Tier 2 nonbioaccumulative under WAC 246-290-71006 Table 17, a lab shall notify the department as indicated in Table 2 of this section:

Table 2 - Notification Requirements for Contaminants with a SAL or State MCL

Tier Number	Bioaccumulative (Y/N)	Exceeds	[1]Required Notification	Required Number of Attempts to Contact the Department
Tier 1	Either	SAL or state MCL	Close of business same day	3
Tier 2	Y	4 times SAL or state MCL	Close of business same day	3

Tier Number	Bioaccumulative (Y/N)	Exceeds	[1]Required Notification	Required Number of Attempts to Contact the Department
Tier 2	Y	SAL or state MCL	Close of business[2] next business day	1
Tier 2	N	4 times SAL or state MCL	Close of business same day	1

[1] Notification may occur by telephone, facsimile, or email. If close of business is after 5 p.m. PST, contact the department's after-hours telephone number.
[2] For labs that operate seven days per week or observe regular holidays; weekends and holidays are not considered business days for the purposes of this subsection.

(3) A lab shall:

(a) Document all notification attempts required under subsections (1) and (2) of this section by recording the following information in a paper or electronic logbook:

(i) Date;

(ii) Time;

(iii) Sample number;

(iv) Public water system name and department-assigned identification number;

(v) The contact person and telephone number, facsimile number, or email address for the public water system;

(vi) The contact person and telephone number, facsimile number, or email address of the department; and

(vii) The initials of the lab person that made the attempt.

(b) Make the logbook available to the department upon request; and

(c) Retain the logbook for a minimum of two years after the last entry date.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70A.125.080. WSR 21-23-096, § 246-390-065, filed 11/17/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080. WSR 18-09-048, § 246-390-065, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18.]

WAC 246-390-075 Reporting. (1) A lab shall report analytical results to the department and the public water system.

(2) A lab submitting paper reports shall complete and submit to the department data reports following the procedures and templates in the department's *Laboratory Reporting Guidance*, Publication DOH 331-530, April 2025.

(3) A lab submitting electronic reports shall complete and submit to the department data reports following the procedures in the department's *Electronic Reporting Guidance*, Publication 331-289, April 2025.

(4) Labs shall submit reports to the public water system in the format and time frame that was agreed upon when executing the service agreement between the laboratory and the public water system.

(5) Labs shall submit reports of acute contaminant results within 10 business days after receiving the sample.

(6) Labs shall submit reports of chronic contaminants within 30 calendar days after receiving the sample.

(7) Analytical results must be complete, legible, and accurate.

(8) A lab shall report numerical results consistent with the accuracy of the EPA-approved methods and any associated lab instruments, glassware, or tools.

(9) A lab shall report numerical results out to, but not exceed, one decimal place past the SDRL in cases where the last definitely known digit exceeds one decimal place past the SDRL as follows:

(a) If the digit 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9 is dropped, increase the preceding digit by one unit;

(b) If the digit 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 is dropped, do not alter the preceding digit; or

(c) If the SDRL is 1.1 and the result, out to the last definitely known digit is 1.13, then the value reported to the department is 1.1. If the result is 1.15, then the value reported to the department is 1.2.

(10) A lab shall include the following data qualifiers adjacent to the results that are affected:

(a) "B" - This data qualifier is used when the target contaminant is detected in the method blank above the lab's established MRL or SDRL, whichever is lower;

(b) "J" - This data qualifier is used when the result is an estimated concentration per subsections (13), (14), and (17) of this section;

(c) "NDDS" - This data qualifier is used when the contaminant is not detected in duplicate sample; or

(d) "U" - This data qualifier is used when the radiochemistry contaminant is not detected at or above the lab's established MDA.

(11) A lab shall notate on the report to the public water system and the department when any analysis is completed using a provisional accreditation.

(12) At the department's request, a lab shall submit the following information:

(a) The method specific QC for any given analytical report.

(b) The most recent MDL procedures performed for any given contaminant.

(c) The most recent PT study performed for any given contaminant.

(13) The SDRLs for organic chemical contaminants are established in Tables 3 and 7 of this section. All contaminants in Tables 3 and 7 are considered chronic contaminants.

(a) Labs shall provide a copy of the method specific QC results at the request of the department.

(b) A lab shall report organic chemical contaminant results when the lab's established MRL is greater than the SDRL as follows:

(i) "Nondetect" or "ND" when a lab's result is less than the SDRL and MRL;

(ii) An estimated concentration, notated with a "J" data qualifier when a result is equal to or greater than the SDRL, but less than the lab's established MRL;

(iii) A number when a result is equal to or greater than the lab's established MRL.

(c) A lab shall report organic chemical contaminant results when the lab's established MRL is less than the SDRL as follows:

(i) "Nondetect" or "ND" when a lab's result is less than the lab's established MRL;

(ii) "Nondetect" or "ND" when a lab's result is less than the established SDRL; or

(iii) A number when a result is equal to or greater than the SDRL.

(d) A lab shall report organic chemical contaminant results when their established MRL is equal to the SDRL as:

(i) "Nondetect" or "ND" when a lab's result is less than the SDRL and MRL; or

(ii) A number when a result is equal to or greater than the SDRL and the lab's established MRL.

Table 3 - Organic Contaminants

Contaminant Name	Contaminant Number	Units	SDRL
1,1 Dichloroethane	0058	µg/L	0.5
1,1 Dichloroethylene	0046	µg/L	0.5
1,1 Dichloropropene	0062	µg/L	0.5
1,1,1 Trichloroethane	0047	µg/L	0.5
1,1,1,2 Tetrachloroethane	0072	µg/L	0.5
1,1,2 Trichloroethane	0067	µg/L	0.5
1,1,2,2 Tetrachloroethane	0080	µg/L	0.5
1,2 Dichlorobenzene	0084	µg/L	0.5
1,2 Dichloroethane	0050	µg/L	0.5
1,2 Dichloropropane	0063	µg/L	0.5
1,2,3 Trichlorobenzene	0098	µg/L	0.5
1,2,3 Trichloropropane	0079	µg/L	0.5
1,2,4 Trichlorobenzene	0095	µg/L	0.5
1,2,4 Trimethylbenzene	0091	µg/L	0.5
1,3 Dichloropropane	0070	µg/L	0.5
1,3 Dichloropropene	0154	µg/L	0.5
1,3,5 Trimethylbenzene	0089	µg/L	0.5
1,4 Dichlorobenzene	0052	µg/L	0.5
2,2 Dichloropropane	0059	µg/L	0.5
2,3,7,8 TCDD (dioxin)	0149	ng/L	0.005
2,4 D	0037	µg/L	0.1
2,4 DB	0135	µg/L	1
2,4,5 T	0136	µg/L	0.4
2,4,5 TP (Silvex)	0038	µg/L	0.2
3,5 Dichlorbenzoic Acid	0226	µg/L	0.5
4,4 DDD	0232	µg/L	0.1
4,4 DDE	0233	µg/L	0.1
4,4 DDT	0234	µg/L	0.1
Acenaphthylene	0244	µg/L	0.2
Acifluorfen	0223	µg/L	2
Alachlor	0117	µg/L	0.2
Aldicarb	0142	µg/L	0.5
Aldicarb Sulfone	0143	µg/L	0.8
Aldicarb Sulfoxide	0144	µg/L	0.5
Aldrin	0118	µg/L	0.1
Anthracene	0246	µg/L	0.2
Arochlor 1016	0180	µg/L	0.08
Arochlor 1221	0173	µg/L	20
Arochlor 1232	0174	µg/L	0.5
Arochlor 1242	0175	µg/L	0.3
Arochlor 1248	0176	µg/L	0.1

Contaminant Name	Contaminant Number	Units	SDRL
Arochlor 1254	0177	µg/L	0.1
Arochlor 1260	0178	µg/L	0.2
Atrazine	0119	µg/L	0.1
Bentazon	0220	µg/L	0.5
Benzene	0049	µg/L	0.5
Benzo (a) anthracene	0247	µg/L	0.2
Benzo (a) Pyrene	0120	µg/L	0.02
Benzo (b) fluoroanthene	0248	µg/L	0.2
Benzo (k) fluoranthene	0250	µg/L	0.2
Benzyl Butyl Phthalate	0258	µg/L	1.0
Bromacil	0179	µg/L	0.1
Bromobenzene	0078	µg/L	0.5
Bromochloromethane	0086	µg/L	0.5
Bromodichloromethane	0028	µg/L	0.5
Bromoform	0030	µg/L	0.5
Bromomethane	0054	µg/L	0.5
Butachlor	0121	µg/L	0.1
Carbaryl	0145	µg/L	2
Carbofuran	0146	µg/L	0.9
Carbon Tetrachloride	0048	µg/L	0.5
Chlordane (total)	0122	µg/L	0.2
Chlorobenzene	0071	µg/L	0.5
Chloroethane	0055	µg/L	0.5
Chloroform	0027	µg/L	0.5
Chloromethane	0053	µg/L	0.5
Chrysene	0251	µg/L	0.2
Cis- 1,2 Dichloroethylene	0060	µg/L	0.5
Cis- 1,3 Dichloropropene	0065	µg/L	0.5
Dalapon	0137	µg/L	1
DBCP	0103	µg/L	0.02
DBCP (screening)	0428	µg/L	0.5
DCPA Acid Metabolites	0225	µg/L	0.1
Di (2-Ethylhexyl) Adipate	0124	µg/L	0.6
Di (2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate	0125	µg/L	0.6
Dibromoacetic Acid	0415	µg/L	1
Dibromochloromethane	0029	µg/L	0.5
Dibromomethane	0064	µg/L	0.5
Dicamba	0138	µg/L	0.2
Dichloroacetic Acid	0412	µg/L	1
Dichlorodifluoromethane	0104	µg/L	0.5
Dichlorprop	0221	µg/L	0.5
Dieldrin	0123	µg/L	0.1
Diethyl Phthalate	0260	µg/L	1.0
Dimethyl Phthalate	0261	µg/L	1.0
Di-n-butyl Phthalate	0259	µg/L	1.0
Dinoseb	0139	µg/L	0.2

Contaminant Name	Contaminant Number	Units	SDRL
Diquat	0150	µg/L	0.4
EDB	0102	µg/L	0.01
EDB (screening)	0427	µg/L	0.5
Endothal	0151	µg/L	9
Endrin	0033	µg/L	0.01
EPTC	0208	µg/L	0.1
Ethylbenzene	0073	µg/L	0.5
Fluorene	0254	µg/L	0.2
Glyphosate	0152	µg/L	6
HAA(5)	0416	µg/L	+
Heptachlor	0126	µg/L	0.04
Heptachlor Epoxide	0127	µg/L	0.02
Hexachlorobenzene	0128	µg/L	0.1
Hexachlorobutadiene	0097	µg/L	0.5
Hexachlorocyclo pentadiene	0129	µg/L	0.1
Isopropylbenzene	0087	µg/L	0.5
Lindane (bhc - gamma)	0034	µg/L	0.02
M- dichlorobenzene	0083	µg/L	0.5
M/P Xylenes (MCL for total)	0074	µg/L	0.5
Methomyl	0147	µg/L	4
Methoxychlor	0035	µg/L	0.1
Methylene Chloride (Dichloromethane)	0056	µg/L	0.5
Metolachlor	0130	µg/L	0.1
Metribuzin	0131	µg/L	0.1
Molinate	0218	µg/L	0.1
Monobromoacetic Acid	0414	µg/L	1
Monochloroacetic Acid	0411	µg/L	2
Naphthalene	0096	µg/L	0.5
N-Butylbenzene	0094	µg/L	0.5
N-Propylbenzene	0088	µg/L	0.5
O- Chlorotoluene	0081	µg/L	0.5
O- Xylene (MCL for total)	0075	µg/L	0.5
Oxamyl	0148	µg/L	2
P- Chlorotoluene	0082	µg/L	0.5
Paraquat	0400	µg/L	0.8
PCB (as Decachlorobiphenyl)	0401	µg/L	0.1
Pentachlorophenol	0134	µg/L	0.04
Phenanthrene	0256	µg/L	0.2
Picloram	0140	µg/L	0.1
P-Isopropyltoluene	0093	µg/L	0.5
Propachlor	0132	µg/L	0.1
Pyrene	0257	µg/L	0.2
Sec- Butylbenzene	0092	µg/L	0.5
Simazine	0133	µg/L	0.07
Styrene	0076	µg/L	0.5
Terbacil	0190	µg/L	0.1

Contaminant Name	Contaminant Number	Units	SDRL
Tert- Butylbenzene	0090	µg/L	0.5
Tetrachloroethylene	0068	µg/L	0.5
Toluene	0066	µg/L	0.5
Total organic carbon	0421	mg/L	0.7
Total Trihalomethane	0031	µg/L	+
Total Xylenes	0160	µg/L	0.5
Toxaphene	0036	µg/L	1
Trans- 1,2 Dichloroethylene	0057	µg/L	0.5
Trans- 1,3 Dichloropropene	0069	µg/L	0.5
Trichloroacetic Acid	0413	µg/L	1
Trichloroethylene	0051	µg/L	0.5
Trichlorofluoromethane	0085	µg/L	0.5
Trifluralin	0243	µg/L	0.1
Vinyl Chloride	0045	µg/L	0.5

+ Results are calculated values based on other analytical results.

(14) The SDRLs for inorganic chemical contaminants are established in Table 4 of this section. All contaminants in Table 4 are considered chronic contaminants except annual, quarterly, or monthly nitrate analysis which is considered an acute contaminant. Labs shall report analytical results within 10 business days after receiving the nitrate sample. If nitrate analysis is part of a routine complete inorganic compound panel, then labs shall submit a report to the department within 30 calendar days after receiving the sample.

(a) Labs shall provide a copy of the method specific QC results at the request of the department.

(b) A lab shall report inorganic chemical contaminant results when the lab's established MRL is greater than the SDRL as follows:

(i) "Nondetect" or "ND" when a lab's result is less than the SDRL and MRL;

(ii) An estimated concentration, notated with a "J" data qualifier, when a result is equal to or greater than the SDRL, but less than the lab's established MRL; or

(iii) A number when a result is equal to or greater than the lab's established MRL.

(c) A lab shall report inorganic chemical contaminant results when the lab's established MRL is less than the SDRL as follows:

(i) "Nondetect" or "ND" when a lab's result is less than the lab's established MRL;

(ii) "Nondetect" or "ND" when a lab's result is less than the department's established SDRL, but greater than the lab's established MRL; or

(iii) A number when a result is equal to or greater than the SDRL.

(d) A lab shall report inorganic chemical contaminant results when the lab's established MRL is equal to the SDRL as:

(i) "Nondetect" or "ND" when a lab's result is less than the SDRL and MRL; or

(ii) A number when a result is equal to or greater than the SDRL and the lab's established MRL.

Table 4 - Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant Name	Contaminant Number	Units	SDRL
Alkalinity-Lab	0403	mg/L	5
Antimony	0112	mg/L	0.003
Arsenic	0004	mg/L	0.001
Asbestos	0115	MFL	0.20
Barium	0005	mg/L	0.1
Beryllium	0110	mg/L	0.0003
Bromate	0419	mg/L	0.005/0.001
Cadmium	0006	mg/L	0.001
Chloride	0021	mg/L	2
Chlorite	0418	mg/L	0.02
Chromium	0007	mg/L	0.007
Color	0018	CU	15
Conductivity	0016	µmhos/cm	70
Copper	0023	mg/L	0.02
Cyanide	0116	mg/L	0.05
Fluoride	0019	mg/L	0.2
Hardness	0015	mg/L	10
Iron	0008	mg/L	0.1
Lead	0009	mg/L	0.001
Manganese	0010	mg/L	0.01
Mercury	0011	mg/L	0.0002
Nickel	0111	mg/L	0.005
Nitrate-n	0020	mg/L	0.5
Nitrite-n	0114	mg/L	0.1
Selenium	0012	mg/L	0.002
Silver	0013	mg/L	0.1
Sodium	0014	mg/L	5
Sulfate	0022	mg/L	2
TDS-total dissolved solids	0026	mg/L	100
Thallium	0113	mg/L	0.001
Total nitrate/nitrite	0161	mg/L	0.5
Turbidity	0017	NTU	0.1
Zinc	0024	mg/L	0.2

Labs that use EPA Methods 317.0, 326.0 or 321.8 must meet a 0.0010 mg/L SDRL for bromate.

(15) The SDRLs for radiochemistry contaminants are established in Table 5 of this section. All contaminants in Table 5 are considered chronic contaminants.

(a) A lab's MDA must meet the established SDRL levels for the analysis to be considered for compliance purposes.

(b) A lab shall report radiochemistry contaminant results as:

(i) A number and a "U" qualifier if the contaminant was analyzed for, but not detected at or above the lab's established MDA; or

(ii) A number when a result is equal to or greater than the lab's established MDA.

Table 5 - Radiochemistry Contaminants

Contaminant Name	Contaminant Number	Units	SDRL
Cesium 134	0107	pCi/L	10.0

Contaminant Name	Contaminant Number	Units	SDRL
Gross Alpha	0165	pCi/L	3.0
Gross Alpha (Minus Uranium)	0041	pCi/L	+
Gross Beta	0042	pCi/L	4.0
Iodine 131	0108	pCi/L	1.0
Radium 226	0039	pCi/L	1.0
Radium 226 + 228	0040	pCi/L	+
Radium 228	0166	pCi/L	1.0
Radon	0109	pCi/L	+
Strontium 90	0044	pCi/L	2.0
Tritium	0043	pCi/L	1000
Uranium	0105	µg/L	1.0

+ Results are calculated values based on other analytical results.

(16) The units for microbiology contaminants are established in Table 6 of this section. All contaminants in Table 6 are considered acute contaminants.

(a) Total coliform and *E. coli* results for routine and repeat samples in accordance with 40 C.F.R. 141 Subpart Y - Revised Total Coliform Rule, GWR triggered, and GWR assessment source sample results that are absent or present as follows:

(i) "Satisfactory" if no total coliforms are detected.

(ii) "Unsatisfactory" if:

(A) Total coliforms are detected; and

(B) *E. coli* absent if *E. coli* is not detected; or

(C) *E. coli* present if *E. coli* is detected.

(b) A lab shall report routine filtered and unfiltered surface water microbiology contaminant results as a number.

(c) A lab shall report routine heterotrophic plate count results as a number.

(d) A lab shall report results of investigative samples or samples collected for information only to the public water system for total coliforms, fecal coliforms, and *E. coli* as a number or, as absent or present. Investigative samples or samples collected for information only are not required to be reported to the department.

Table 6 - Microbiology Contaminants

Contaminant Name	Contaminant Number	Units
E. coli (numerical)	0003	CFU/100mL
E. coli (numerical)	0003	MPN/100mL
E. coli (absence/presence)	0003	N/A
Fecal Coliform (numerical)	0002	CFU/100mL
Fecal Coliform (numerical)	0002	MPN/100mL
Fecal Coliform (absence/presence)	0002	N/A
Heterotrophic Plate Count (numerical)	0101	CFU/1mL
Heterotrophic Plate Count (numerical)	0101	MPN/mL
Total Coliform (numerical)	0001	CFU/100mL
Total Coliform (numerical)	0001	MPN/100mL
Total Coliform (absence/presence)	0001	N/A

(17) The SDRLs for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are established in Table 7 of this section. All contaminants in Table 7 are considered chronic contaminants.

(a) A lab shall analyze PFAS samples using EPA method 537.1 version 2 (3/20), or EPA method 533.

(b) Labs shall provide a copy of the method specific QC results at the request of the department.

(c) A lab shall report PFAS contaminant results when the lab's established MRL is greater than the SDRL as follows:

(i) "Nondetect" or "ND" when a lab's result is less than the SDRL and MRL;

(ii) An estimated concentration, notated with a "J" data qualifier when a result is equal to or greater than the SDRL, but less than the lab's established MRL; or

(iii) A number when a result is equal to or greater than the lab's established MRL.

(d) A lab shall report PFAS contaminant results when the lab's established MRL is less than the SDRL as follows:

(i) "Nondetect" or "ND" when a lab's result is less than the lab's established MRL;

(ii) "Nondetect" or "ND" when a lab's result is less than the established SDRL; or

(iii) A number when a result is equal to or greater than the SDRL.

(e) A lab shall report PFAS contaminant results when the lab's established MRL is equal to the SDRL as follows:

(i) "Nondetect" or "ND" when a lab's result is less than the SDRL and MRL; or

(ii) A number when a result is equal to or greater than the SDRL and the lab's established MRL.

(f) A lab shall report to the department any tentatively identified compounds (TIC) that are detected while analyzing a PFAS sample if the approved method allows for TIC determinations to be made.

(g) A lab shall provide a copy of the method-specific QC results for any TIC detections that are reported to the department.

Table 7 - Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Contaminants

Contaminant Name	Contaminant Number	Units	SDRL	[3]Required Contaminant List for EPA 537.1 version 2 (3/20)	[4]Required Contaminant List for EPA 533
(11Cl-PF3OUdS) 11-Chloroeicosafluoro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonic acid	448	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y
(4:2FTS) 1H,1H, 2H, 2H-Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid	450	ng/L	2.0	N	Y
(6:2FTS) 1H,1H, 2H, 2H-Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	451	ng/L	2.0	N	Y
(8:2FTS) 1H,1H, 2H, 2H-Perfluorodecane sulfonic acid	452	ng/L	2.0	N	Y
(9Cl-PF3ONS) 9-Chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxanonane-1-sulfonic acid	446	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y
(ADONA) 4,8-Dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoic acid	445	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y
(HFPO-DA) Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid	447	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y
(NEtFOSAA) N-ethyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid	441	ng/L	2.0	Y	N
(NFDHA) Nonafluoro-3,6-dioxaheptanoic acid	453	ng/L	2.0	N	Y
(NMeFOSAA) N-methyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid	442	ng/L	2.0	Y	N

Contaminant Name	Contaminant Number	Units	SDRL	[3]Required Contaminant List for EPA 537.1 version 2 (3/20)	[4]Required Contaminant List for EPA 533
(PFBA) Perfluorobutanoic acid	454	ng/L	2.0	N	Y
(PFBS) Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	429	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y
(PFDA) Perfluorodecanoic acid	436	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y
(PFDoA) Perfluorododecanoic acid	438	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y
(PFEESA) Perfluoro(2-ethoxyethane)sulfonic acid	460	ng/L	2.0	N	Y
(PFHpA) Perfluoroheptanoic acid	430	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y
(PFHpS) Perfluoroheptanesulfonic acid	455	ng/L	2.0	N	Y
(PFHxA) Perfluorohexanoic acid	435	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y
(PFHxS) Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	431	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y
(PFMBA) Perfluoro-4-methoxybutanoic acid	456	ng/L	2.0	N	Y
(PFMPA) Perfluoro-3-methoxypropanoic acid	457	ng/L	2.0	N	Y
(PFNA) Perfluorononanoic acid	432	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y
(PFOA) Perfluorooctanoic acid	434	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y
(PFOS) Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	433	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y
(PFPeA) Perfluoropentanoic acid	458	ng/L	2.0	N	Y
(PFPeS) Perfluoropentanesulfonic acid	459	ng/L	2.0	N	Y
(PFTA) Perfluorotetradecanoic acid	440	ng/L	2.0	Y	N
(PFTrDA) Perfluorotridecanoic acid	439	ng/L	2.0	Y	N
(PFUnA) Perfluoroundecanoic acid	437	ng/L	2.0	Y	Y

[3] For a water system to qualify for a monitoring waiver these contaminants must be reported to the department if analyzing the sample using EPA method 537.1 version 2 (3/20).
[4] For a water system to qualify for a monitoring waiver these contaminants must be reported to the department if analyzing the sample using EPA method 533.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70A.125.080. WSR 25-13-093, s 246-390-075, filed 6/17/25, effective 7/18/25; WSR 21-23-096, § 246-390-075, filed 11/17/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080. WSR 18-09-048, § 246-390-075, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18.]

WAC 246-390-085 Enforcement. (1) When a lab fails to comply with the requirements of this chapter, the department may initiate one or more of the following enforcement actions:

(a) An informal enforcement document directing appropriate corrective measures to return a lab to compliance with the requirements of this chapter prior to taking formal enforcement measures;

(b) A formal enforcement process that includes, but is not limited to:

(i) A notice to correct violations;

(ii) An order to correct violations; or

(iii) A formal compliance agreement.

(2) If a lab fails to comply with the terms and deadlines specified in one or more enforcement documents in subsection (1) of this section, the department may revoke or suspend a lab's drinking water certification in accordance with WAC 246-390-095.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70A.125.080. WSR 21-23-096, § 246-390-085, filed 11/17/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080. WSR 18-09-048, § 246-390-085, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18.]

WAC 246-390-095 Revocation and suspension. (1) The department may suspend a lab's certification for up to one year or revoke a lab's certification for up to five years if a lab fails to comply with any formal enforcement actions specified in WAC 246-390-085(1).

(2) A lab whose certification is suspended or revoked may, after the period of suspension or revocation has ended, apply for certification in conformance with the requirements at the time of application.

(3) If ecology suspends or revokes a lab's accreditation for drinking water contaminants as authorized under chapter 173-50 WAC, the department shall immediately suspend or revoke a lab's certification to analyze drinking water samples. The lab must immediately notify the department and public water systems of any samples that are invalidated as a result of the revocation or suspension.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70A.125.080. WSR 21-23-096, § 246-390-095, filed 11/17/21, effective 1/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080. WSR 18-09-048, § 246-390-095, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18.]

WAC 246-390-100 Appeals. (1) A certified lab may appeal a revocation or suspension action taken by the department in accordance with chapters 246-10 WAC, 34.05 RCW, and RCW 43.70.115.

(2) To appeal a notice of revocation or suspension action, the certified lab must file a written appeal with the department within twenty-eight days of receipt of the initiating documents. The written appeal must contain the specific grounds for an appeal.

(3) A certified lab that requests a hearing may continue to operate until the department issues a final order unless the department takes a summary action due to a high public health risk.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 70.119A.080. WSR 18-09-048, § 246-390-100, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. WSR 92-15-152 (Order 290B), § 246-390-100, filed 7/22/92, effective 8/22/92.]