

## Policy

PL - 27

# SNAS POLICY FOR ACCREDITATION OF PROFICIENCY TESTING PROVIDERS

Approved by: **Ing. Štefan Král, PhD.**  
Director SNAS

Effective from: 28.02.2025	Edition: 3 Updating: 1	Document label: PL - 27
-------------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------

- This document was created electronically -

**PURPOSE:** This document determines the SNAS policy for accreditation of proficiency testing providers.

Note: The term proficiency testing in the context of this policy means all interlaboratory comparisons focused for evaluation of participant performance against pre-established criteria.

Elaborated by: **RNDr. Lívía Kijovská, PhD.**

Date of elaboration: **15.02.2025**

Verified by: **RNDr. Renáta Fazekašová, PhD.**

By coming into force of this PL expired the validity of PL-27 from 30.042021.

Effective from: 28.02.2025	Edition: 3 Updating: 1	Document label: PL - 27
-------------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------

## Content

<b>1</b>	<b>SNAS POLICY ON ACCREDITATION OF PROFICIENCY TESTING (PT) PROVIDERS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>RELATED DOCUMENTATION.....</b>	<b>5</b>

Effective from: 28.02.2025	Edition: 3 Updating: 1	Document label: PL - 27
-------------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------

## 1 SNAS POLICY ON ACCREDITATION OF PROFICIENCY TESTING (PT) PROVIDERS

**1.1** SNAS generally assess compliance with the requirements of the current version of ISO / IEC 17043 and use relevant policies and methodological guidelines for accreditation issued by SNAS in assessing the competence of the PT providers,

**1.1** Accreditation Certificate number (X-xxx) form letter abbreviations X expressing scope of accreditation and a three-digit number xxx.

**1.2** If the PT provider granted accreditation to ISO/IEC 17043, issued accreditation certificate has identified scope of accreditation by the letter T. In the SNAS list of accredited CAB, it will be referred to as PT provider. Accreditation Certificate number (T-xxx) form letter abbreviations T expressing scope of accreditation and a three-digit number xxx.

**1.3** Assessment of the competency to provide proficiency testing, also requirements and recommendations of relevant standards, documents or guidelines such as ISO 13528 and other documents related to ensuring continuation of measurements and other specialized activities related to PT organizing are taken into account.

**1.4** SNAS consistently pays attention that applicants for accreditation in proficiency testing scheme meet requirements for impartiality, confidentiality, openness, objectiveness and non-discrimination as well as avoiding conflicts of interest. The policy and procedures of the applicants shall include all factors that may influence their competence, impartiality, confidentiality and integrity (ownership relations and interests, organizational aspects, decision-making procedures, financial matters, personnel, etc.).

**1.5** SNAS accredits PT providers who have accredited laboratories or who have non-accredited laboratories or who have no laboratories or who have outsourced laboratory services. In the event of all the above mentioned alternatives, the provider shall make sure that the laboratories meet requirements of the ISO/IEC 17025 Standard and also specific requirements of an provider for the needs of proficiency testing, which means relevant requirements of the ISO/IEC 17043 Standard which are related to laboratory activities.

**1.6** If the item of proficiency testing is a material that meets the definition of a reference material, the PT provider shall ensure that it is produced under conditions that meet the relevant requirements of ISO 17034.

**1.7** SNAS grants accreditation for PT providers only to CAB which already organize or have organized specific comparisons of that type and can prove this through submitting documented procedures about how the testing was organized and in the form of records and reports on a minimum of one activity conducted in the sphere. Accreditation is granted only for spheres in which those programs were already conducted.

**1.8** CABs/PT provider applying for accreditation in the field of PT provider are assessed in the scope which is according to their specification (MSA-L/01).

**1.9** For providers who already have accreditation in another accreditation scope, the competence is assessed in accordance with the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17043

Effective from: 28.02.2025	Edition: 3 Updating: 1	Document label: PL - 27
-------------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------

Standard while the results of assessment of system elements from other accreditation scopes can be also taken into account.

**1.10** After accreditation granting SNAS performs regular planned surveillances; during accreditation certificate validity, verifies whether the laboratory permanently meets all accreditation requirements related to its accredited activities. At each surveillance internal audits, management reviews, complaints, realized PT programs are assessed, preferably for the period since the last performed assessment at the provider.

**1.11** During the accreditation validity period the provider shall carry out a minimum of two PTs (1item of the scope of accreditation), and in the event of several items (two or more items of the accreditation scope) a minimum of one PT in the respective object of PT, during the time of the accreditation validity.

**1.12** The extension of scope of an accreditation is principally similar to accreditation. Extension can be related to new object of PT organization within already accredited scope of accreditation or to new sphere of activities within already accredited scope of accreditation.

## 2 RELATED DOCUMENTATION

ISO/IEC 17011	Conformity assessment. Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies.
ISO/IEC 17043	Conformity assessment. General requirements for proficiency testing.
ISO/IEC 17025	General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories
ISO 17034	General requirements for the competence of reference material producers
MSA-04	Procedure for the Accreditation.

Effective from: 28.02.2025	Edition: 3 Updating: 1	Document label: PL - 27
-------------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------