



## **Specific Accreditation Criteria**

**ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189 Application  
Document**

**Legal - Annex**

**Policy for the transition of medico-legal drug  
testing accreditation from AS/NZS 4308:2008 to  
AS/NZS 4308:2023**

**Issued: December 2023**

**Effective: December 2023**

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## Purpose

This policy is effective from December 2023 until December 2026 and describes changes to the *NATA Accreditation Criteria* (NAC) applicable to all facilities performing medico-legal drug testing currently accredited to *AS/NZS 4308:2008*.

## Background information

Facilities accredited to AS/NZS 4308:2008 are expected to transition to AS/NZS 4308:2023. Standards Australia have allowed AS/NZS 4308:2008 to remain current for 36 months after the date of publication. Therefore, facilities will be able to select which version of the Standard they are assessed against providing that transition to the new version is completed prior the December 2026 deadline.

As there is an option to select what version of the Standard the facility is assessed against, the year of the Standard will be published on the scopes of accreditation until AS/NZS 4308:2008 is withdrawn.

## Assessment of facilities to AS/NZS 4308:2023

It is expected that facilities use the latest valid version of a method as per ISO conformity assessment standards (ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189), therefore transition from AS/NZS 4308:2008 to AS/NZS 4308:2023 will be performed at the next routine reassessment unless the facility advises its preference to be assessed against AS/NZS 4308:2008 during the transition period. Assessment against the new version of the Standard during a routine reassessment will not incur any charges.

Facilities may request assessment outside of the routine reassessment. This will be a chargeable activity as per the current NATA Fee Schedule.

Requests to be assessed to the new version must be received by no later than 30 June 2026 with the completed '[Application for changes to the scope of accreditation](#)' form and all the necessary supporting documentation to enable the request to be completed in a timely manner.

Once the transition period ends, all facilities will be assessed against AS/NZS 4308:2023 and any facility not yet transitioned to AS/NZS 4308:2023 (i.e. still accredited to AS/NZS 4308:2008) will have its accreditation withdrawn.

### Applicant facilities

Applicant facilities will be assessed against AS/NZS 4308:2023 unless NATA is advised otherwise.

## Further information

Further information can be obtained by contacting your NATA Client Coordinator.

## References

This section lists publications referenced in this document.

### Standards

AS/NZS 4308:2008 *Procedures for specimen collection and the detection and quantitation of drugs in urine*

AS/NZS 4308:2023 *Procedure for specimen collection and the detection and quantification of drugs in urine*

### **NATA Publications**

Legal (including Forensic Science) *NATA Accreditation Criteria* package

*NATA Procedures for accreditation*

### **Amendment table**

The table below provides a summary of changes made to the document with this issue.

<b>Section or Clause</b>	<b>Amendment</b>
Assessment of facilities to AS/NZS 4308:2023	Inclusion of request deadline for assessment to new version.