

Agreements with Government Agencies and Professional Bodies

Recognition of NATA's role - NATA /Commonwealth MOU

Under a Memorandum of Understanding between NATA and the Commonwealth of Australia, NATA is recognised as:

- the national authority for accreditation of laboratories and producers of reference materials;
- a peak authority for accreditation of inspection bodies and proficiency testing scheme providers; and
- Australia's compliance monitoring authority for facilities undertaking non-clinical health and environmental safety studies in accordance with OECD Principles of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP).

The MOU applies to all non-corporate Commonwealth bodies and also details a broad range of individual and joint undertakings aimed at facilitating a reliable conformity assessment infrastructure to serve the national interest and for public benefit.

The MOU is a public domain document and is available on both the [NATA website](#) and the [Department of Industry, Science, and Resources \(DISR\) website](#).

Memoranda of Understanding and Deeds relating to regulatory requirements

NATA enters into agreements with Commonwealth, State and Territory Government agencies where NATA accreditation is utilised by the agency to underpin a regulatory or policy objective. These typically involve cooperation on policy and/or industry developments, advice on matters of conformity assessment and the exchange of information on concerns with, or poor performance of, accredited facilities which may seriously compromise the relevant policy or regulatory objective.

Memoranda of Understanding will include objectives of the agreement followed by the undertakings of each party and the joint undertakings.

Deeds of Agreement are contractually binding and describe NATA's obligations to the relevant agencies.

The following table lists current agreements which may impact on facilities (including the disclosure of information otherwise considered as privileged under NATA Rule R.39). Agreements are listed per Sector, in some cases where agreements have cross Sector coverage; the Agreement is listed under each Sector.

Memorandum of Understanding with professional bodies

NATA also maintains MOUs with the Professional Bodies with whom joint accreditation programs are operated in clinical services.

Click on the applicable link to review a summary of the undertakings that are related to an information exchange which may include privileged communications.

Agreements with Government Agencies and Professional Bodies



ALL SECTORS			
MOU	Party/Parties	Full Agreement	Scope
Memorandum of Understanding	The Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Department of Industry, Science, and Resources (Industry)	View	All of NATA's accreditation activities excepting those relating to the <i>Therapeutic Goods Act 1989 (Cth)</i>
Memorandum of Understanding	State of Tasmania	View	Facilities accredited by NATA, either public or private, and conducting testing, measurement, inspection or related activities for the State of Tasmania.

SECTOR - LEGAL AND CLINICAL SERVICES			
MOU	Party/Parties	NATA Obligations/Undertakings	Scope
Deed of Agreement	The Commonwealth of Australia as represented by Services Australia and the Department of Health and Aged Care	View	Accredited Pathology Laboratories (APL's) under the Health Insurance Act 1973.
Memorandum of Understanding	The Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Therapeutic Goods Administration	View	Facilities with in-house IVD medical devices being manufactured that are subject to requirements under the <i>Therapeutic Goods (Medical Devices) Regulations 2002</i> .
Memorandum of Understanding	The Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the National Blood Authority	View	Accredited human pathology laboratories.
Memorandum of Understanding	The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia	View	Human pathology laboratories accredited or current applicants under the joint NATA/RCPA accreditation program;

Agreements with Government Agencies and Professional Bodies



SECTOR - LEGAL AND CLINICAL SERVICES			
MOU	Party/Parties	NATA Obligations/Undertakings	Scope
Memorandum of Understanding	Department of Health, Victoria	View	Human pathology laboratories accredited or current applicants under the joint NATA/RCPA accreditation program; Medical Imaging facilities accredited or current applicants for accreditation under the joint RANZCR/NATA accreditation program; Sleep Disorders Services accredited or current applicants for accreditation under the joint ASA/NATA accreditation program.
Memorandum of Understanding	Department of Health, Western Australia	View	Human pathology laboratories accredited or current applicants under the joint NATA/RCPA accreditation program; Medical Imaging facilities accredited or current applicants for accreditation under the joint RANZCR/NATA accreditation program; Sleep Disorders Services accredited or current applicants for accreditation under the joint ASA/NATA accreditation program; Forensic Biology Services provided by the Department of Health that are accredited or are current applicants for accreditation.
Memorandum of Understanding	Department of Health, Queensland	View	Medical Imaging facilities accredited or current applicants for accreditation under the joint RANZCR/NATA accreditation program; Human pathology laboratories accredited or current applicants under the joint NATA/RCPA accreditation program; Sleep Disorders Services accredited or current applicants for accreditation under the joint ASA/NATA accreditation program.

Agreements with Government Agencies and Professional Bodies



SECTOR - LEGAL AND CLINICAL SERVICES			
MOU	Party/Parties	NATA Obligations/Undertakings	Scope
Memorandum of Understanding	Department of Health, NT	View	Human pathology laboratories accredited or current applicants under the joint NATA/RCPA accreditation program; Medical Imaging facilities accredited or current applicants for accreditation under the joint RANZCR/NATA accreditation program; Sleep Disorders Services accredited or current applicants for accreditation under the joint ASA/NATA accreditation program.
Memorandum of Understanding	NSW Health Pathology	View	NATA/RCPA accredited NSW Health pathology laboratories.
Memorandum of Understanding	Department for Health and Wellbeing, South Australia	View	Human pathology laboratories accredited or current applicants under the joint NATA/RCPA accreditation program; Sleep Disorders Services accredited or current applicants for accreditation under the joint ASA/NATA accreditation program.
Memorandum of Understanding	The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR)	View	Facilities accredited under the joint RANZCR/NATA accreditation program.
Memorandum of Understanding	The Australasian Sleep Association	View	Facilities accredited under the joint ASA/NATA accreditation program.
Memorandum of Understanding	The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand	View	Facilities accredited under the joint TSANZ/NATA accreditation program.

Agreements with Government Agencies and Professional Bodies



SECTOR - LIFE SCIENCES			
MOU	Party/Parties	NATA Obligations/Undertakings	Scope
Memorandum of Understanding	The Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	View	All laboratories in either the private or public sector accredited for the following. • Microbiological or virology testing of imported seafood; • Microbiological or chemical testing of imported food; • Laboratories contracted by the National Residue Survey (NRS) to perform residue testing of agricultural products; • Laboratories conducting veterinary testing of animals and animal products. • Laboratories conducting sampling and/or testing of DNA/RNA from environmental samples (eDNA/eRNA) [Added to MOU on 20 September 2021]
Deed of Agreement/Deed of Variation	The Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	View	Commonwealth approved laboratories undertaking microbiological testing of meat and meat products for export from Australia and its territories

Agreements with Government Agencies and Professional Bodies



SECTOR - LIFE SCIENCES			
MOU	Party/Parties	NATA Obligations/Undertakings	Scope
Memorandum of Understanding	Department of Health, Victoria	View	Food testing laboratories as follows: - laboratories accredited by NATA for the purposes of conducting chemical, microbiological or physical analysis of food; - within NATA accredited food testing laboratories, laboratory staff appointed by the Department of Health and Human Services as approved analysts. Water testing laboratories accredited by NATA for the purposes of conducting chemical or microbiological analysis of water.
Memorandum of Understanding	Department of Health, Queensland	View	Food testing laboratories as follows: - laboratories accredited by NATA for the purposes of conducting chemical, microbiological or physical analysis of food; - within NATA accredited food testing laboratories, laboratory staff appointed by the Department of Health as approved analysts. Water testing laboratories as follows: - laboratories accredited by NATA for the purposes of conducting chemical or microbiological analysis of water; - within NATA accredited water testing laboratories, laboratory staff appointed by the Department of Health as approved analysts.

Agreements with Government Agencies and Professional Bodies



SECTOR - LIFE SCIENCES			
MOU	Party/Parties	NATA Obligations/Undertakings	Scope
Memorandum of Understanding	Department of Health, NT	View	Food testing laboratories as follows: - laboratories accredited by NATA for the purposes of conducting chemical, microbiological or physical analysis of food; - within NATA accredited food testing laboratories, laboratory staff appointed by the Department of Health as approved analysts. Water testing laboratories as follows: - laboratories accredited by NATA for the purposes of conducting chemical or microbiological analysis of water; - within NATA accredited water testing laboratories, laboratory staff appointed by the Department of Health as approved analysts.
Memorandum of Understanding	Department for Health and Wellbeing, South Australia	View	Food testing laboratories as follows: - laboratories accredited by NATA for the purposes of conducting chemical, microbiological or physical analysis of food; - within NATA accredited food testing laboratories, laboratory staff appointed by the Department for Health and Wellbeing as approved analysts. Water testing laboratories as follows: - laboratories accredited by NATA for the purposes of conducting chemical or microbiological analysis of water; - within NATA accredited water testing laboratories, laboratory staff appointed by the Department for Health and Wellbeing as approved analysts.

Agreements with Government Agencies and Professional Bodies



SECTOR - LIFE SCIENCES			
MOU	Party/Parties	NATA Obligations/Undertakings	Scope
Memorandum of Understanding	Department of Health, WA	View	Food testing laboratories as follows: - laboratories accredited by NATA for the purposes of conducting chemical, microbiological or physical analysis of food and potable water; - within NATA accredited food testing laboratories and appointed by WA Health as approved laboratories under Section 82 of the <i>Food Act 2008</i>. Water testing laboratories as follows: - laboratories accredited by NATA for the purposes of conducting chemical or microbiological analysis of water; - within NATA accredited water testing laboratories, laboratory staff appointed by the Department of Health as approved analysts.
Memorandum of Understanding	The Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Therapeutic Goods Administration	View	Facilities with in-house IVD medical devices being manufactured that are subject to requirements under the Therapeutic Goods Act 1989 and the Therapeutic Goods (Medical Devices) Regulations 2002.
Memorandum of Understanding	Victorian Asbestos Eradication Agency	View	Asbestos testing laboratories undertaking work associated with buildings owned by the Victorian State Government.

Agreements with Government Agencies and Professional Bodies



SECTOR - CALIBRATION			
MOU	Party/Parties	NATA Obligations/Undertakings	Scope
Memorandum of Understanding	National Measurement Institute	-	Laboratories that have been appointed by the National Measurement Institute as Legal Metrology Authorities

SECTOR - MATERIALS, ASSETS AND PRODUCTS			
MOU	Party/Parties	NATA Obligations/Undertakings	Scope
Memorandum of Understanding	The Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Australian Signals Directorate	-	Laboratories conducting security evaluation of ICT products under the Australasian Information Security Evaluation Program ("AISEP")
Memorandum of Understanding	Transport for Victoria	View	Civil Construction Materials Testing Laboratories holding or seeking: (a) pre-qualification under the VicRoads Register of Prequalified Contractors and Consultants for Field Testing (PT1) and Field and Laboratory Testing (PT2), or (b) admission to the Register of Testing Companies for Provision of Testing Services for Road Infrastructure Contracts, or (c) to perform testing work for road projects in accordance with the requirements of VicRoads (DoT) Standard Specification for Roadworks and Bridgeworks, Section 160 – Construction - General, Clauses 160.A2 and 160.E5(d),

Agreements with Government Agencies and Professional Bodies



SECTOR - MATERIALS, ASSETS AND PRODUCTS			
MOU	Party/Parties	NATA Obligations/Undertakings	Scope
Memorandum of Understanding	Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads	View	Construction Materials Testing Laboratories holding or seeking pre-qualification under TMR's Construction Materials Testing Supplier Registration System
Memorandum of Understanding	Government of New South Wales - Transport for NSW	View	Construction Industry Laboratories seeking or holding registration under TfNSW's Technical Services Registration Scheme or Primary Testing Laboratories Registration Scheme
Memorandum of Understanding	The Commissioner of Main Roads, Western Australia	View	Civil Construction testing laboratories undertaking quality control testing holding current NATA accreditation for all test methods referred to in the applicable specifications.
Memorandum of Understanding	Sydney Water Corporation Urban Growth Business (Sydney Water)	View	Accredited Laboratories seeking to become providers of Field Testing Services.

SECTOR - INSPECTION			
MOU	Party/Parties	NATA Obligations/Undertakings	Scope
Deed of Agreement/Deed of Variation	The Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	View	Commonwealth approved Inspection Bodies undertaking inspections of meat and meat products for export from Australia and its territories.
Memorandum of Understanding	Sydney Water Corporation Urban Growth Business (Sydney Water)	View	Inspection Bodies seeking to become providers of Field Testing Services.
Memorandum of Understanding	Victorian Asbestos Eradication Agency	View	Inspection bodies undertaking asbestos related site inspection and clearance work associated with buildings owned by the Victorian State Government.