

Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (OSPHL)



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Quick Links to OSPHL Services:

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An Overview of the Public Health Laboratory The Oregon State Public Health Laboratory is open Monday through Friday 7:00 am to 5:00 pm, with the exception of holidays, and Saturday (for specimen receipt only) 8:00 am to noon.

For public health emergencies outside regular hours, please telephone (503) 693-4100.

OSPHL Accreditations:

- State of Oregon License 101
- CLIA Certificate (Federal) 38D0656824
- College of American Pathologists (CAP) 24427-01
- US Environmental Protection Agency OR023

Our Objective:

- To provide accurate and timely laboratory testing for community health programs, and to assure the quality of clinical and environmental laboratory services in Oregon.

Who We Serve:

- Everyone in Oregon who is at risk of developing diseases or disorders of public health significance.
- State and local government agencies and their community partners.
- Clinical and environmental laboratories in Oregon, and their clients.

What We Do:

- [Newborn Screening Tests](#) for Metabolic Disorders - All newborns are tested for genetic disorders of body chemistry which, if undetected, can cause severe mental retardation or death within the first days to weeks of life. Collection of a few drops of blood at birth allows testing for twenty-six disorders. The Northwest Regional Newborn Screening Program, centered at the OSPHL, includes testing of all newborns in Alaska, Idaho, Nevada, Hawaii, and Oregon, and testing of newborns in military facilities in the State of Washington, and facilities in Saipan and Kwajalein.

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- Lab Response Network
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- Public Health Home
- DHS Home

- [Bacterial](#), [Parasitic](#), [Rabies](#), [Viral](#), and [Chlamydial](#) Diseases of Public Health Importance - Human, animal, and environmental samples are tested for evidence of infectious diseases of community health importance, such as tuberculosis, HIV disease, hepatitis, rabies, foodborne illnesses, and many others. Most testing is done in support of state and local disease control programs, often involving epidemiologic investigations or specialized methods unavailable elsewhere.
- Reference and Consultation for Other Laboratories - The OSPHL provides consultation and reference testing for laboratories throughout Oregon for tests of public health importance, including access to specialized services at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- Support to Local Health Departments - As part of Oregon's public health system, the OSPHL provides direct services to local health departments: consultation to local health department laboratory staff to maintain proficiency, testing of samples to support clinical or environmental program activities, and electronic access to OSPHL test results. Listed below are two primary contacts, but please feel free to contact anyone at OSPHL for information and assistance. For information on technical policies and procedures, staff training, or submitting samples to OSPHL, contact the Virology Section Manager, Christianne Biggs, at (503) 693-4100, or E-mail her at: christianne.biggs@state.or.us.
- [Laboratory Compliance & Quality Assurance](#) - Federal and State laws require that clinical laboratories testing human samples be certified or licensed. Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (OSPHL) personnel inspect and/or monitor clinical laboratories for the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments Program (CLIA 88), license and register substance of abuse (SOA) laboratories, issue permits and monitor health screen testing sites. For information on laboratory regulatory compliance (CLIA), hiring assistance, or OSHA compliance, contact the Laboratory Compliance & Quality Assurance Section Manager, Rita Youell at (503) 693-4121 or E-mail her at rita.a.scheu@state.or.us.
- [Oregon Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program \(ORELAP\)](#) - Laboratories that test drinking water supplies and water from private wells involved in real estate transactions must be accredited by ORELAP. Other environmental laboratories may voluntarily seek accreditation through the ORELAP program. OSPHL, Department of Agriculture and Department of Environmental Quality staff inspect and monitor these laboratories. ORELAP accreditation meets the requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Availability of OSPHL Testing Services:

- Please refer to the OSPHL [Quick Reference](#) for specific information on test availability and sample submission requirements. Some tests require prior approval from the Health Services's Center for Disease Prevention and Epidemiology, or are available only to local health departments or other public agencies.
- The OSPHL forwards appropriate specimens to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as described in the [Quick Reference](#).
- The OSPHL provides collection kits and test request forms for tests performed at the OSPHL. See our [Ordering Forms and Kits](#) page, or go directly to the [Stockroom Order Form](#).

To read, navigate or print (pdf) files, free software called Adobe Acrobat Reader must be installed on your computer. Different versions of Acrobat Reader (Windows, Mac, UNIX, and other operating systems) can be downloaded for "free" from Adobe's Web site (<http://www.adobe.com>).

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