

(II) STATE STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC DRINKING WATER.

(4) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE.

(5) "CERTIFICATION" MEANS A CERTIFICATION ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER THIS SECTION.

(6) "SECRETARY" MEANS THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE OR HIS DESIGNEE.

(B) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM TO TEST A WATER QUALITY LABORATORY'S PERFORMANCE.

(3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH STANDARDS AND CRITERIA FOR DEMONSTRATING SATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE IN A PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM AND FOR CONDUCTING THE PROGRAM.

(C) (1) A PERSON MAY NOT OPERATE A WATER QUALITY LABORATORY IN THIS STATE AFTER OCTOBER 31, 1980 WITHOUT A CERTIFICATION ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION.

(2) ANY PERSON WHO DESIRES TO OPEN OR MAINTAIN A WATER QUALITY LABORATORY SHALL SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT AN APPLICATION ON THE FORM REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND A REASONABLE APPLICATION FEE SET BY THE DEPARTMENT.

(3) ON RECEIPT OF AN APPLICATION TO OPERATE, THE SECRETARY SHALL CAUSE THE WATER QUALITY LABORATORY TO BE INSPECTED.

(4) IF THE WATER QUALITY LABORATORY MEETS THE STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS SET BY THE DEPARTMENT, THE SECRETARY SHALL ISSUE A CERTIFICATION FOR THE WATER QUALITY LABORATORY TO OPERATE.

(D) (1) THE SECRETARY SHALL CAUSE EACH WATER QUALITY LABORATORY TO BE INSPECTED ~~PERIODICALLY~~ ANNUALLY.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY REFUSE TO ISSUE, SUSPEND, OR REVOKE A CERTIFICATION IF A WATER QUALITY LABORATORY FAILS TO COMPLY WITH:

(I) THE MINIMUM STANDARDS OR QUALIFICATIONS; OR

(II) THE RULES AND REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER THIS SECTION.

(E) THE CERTIFICATION ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE AUTHORIZES A WATER QUALITY LABORATORY TO OPERATE WHILE THE CERTIFICATION IS EFFECTIVE.