



## AASHTO Accreditation Policy on PSP Participation – Soil Programs

### How to use these tables:

The following tables show the standard test methods included in the AASHTO re:source and soil proficiency sample programs. Each line item in the table includes a number that corresponds to an accreditation policy related to participation in the proficiency sample program for each standard test method. Each reference sample-specific policy is shown under each table.

A notation of a dash (-) means that the normal policies apply, and there are no additional sample-specific policies for that test method. The general policies related to proficiency testing are in the AASHTO Procedures Manual for the Accreditation of Construction Materials Testing Laboratories.

### The following policies apply to all standard test methods and all samples:

- Laboratory accreditation is suspended when any combination of ratings of 0, 1, or -1 and no results occur on samples for a test property (line item on a proficiency sample report) on consecutive sample rounds.
- Laboratory accreditation is not suspended for low ratings or no data on single operator precision results.
- If the standard test method is included in more than one proficiency sample, laboratory participation will be evaluated separately for each proficiency sample (ex. low ratings/no results on AASHTO T30 on Hot-Mix Solvent samples and satisfactory ratings on AASHTO T30 on Hot-Mix Ignition samples will still result in a T30 suspension due to the low ratings on the Hot-Mix Solvent samples.) If there is an exception to this rule, it will be noted in the sample-specific policies.
- If a test property's ratings are suppressed, the round is invalid for that test property. All participation rules for consecutive ratings apply to the last round that included ratings.
- \* These test properties, while assigned ratings, are for informational purposes only and not used for accreditation purposes.

For more details on Proficiency Sample Policies, please review the [AASHTO Accreditation Policy and Guidance on Suspension, Revocation, and Reinstatement Resulting from Proficiency Samples Issues](#).

The following pages describe the proficiency sample-specific policies.



## AASHTO Accreditation Policy on PSP Participation – Soil Programs

California Bearing Ratio (CBR)				
AASHTO	ASTM	Test Name	Test Property	Policy
T265	D2216	Moisture Content of Soils	Moisture Content A Received	*, 2
			Moisture Content Before Compaction	
			Moisture Content After Compaction	
T193	D1883	California Bearing Ratio	Dry unit Weight of Compacted Specimen Before Soaking	1
			Swell	*
			CBR (Corrected) at 0.1 in. Penetration	1
			CBR (Corrected) at 0.2 in. Penetration	

### California Bearing Ratio (CBR) Policies

**1** Once negative action has occurred on one test value (Dry Unit Weight or CBR Values), satisfactory results are needed on all test values (Dry Unit Weight and CBR Values).

**2** A laboratory does not need to be enrolled in any proficiency sample programs to maintain accreditation for T265/D2216.

R-Value (RVL)				
AASHTO	ASTM	Test Name	Test Property	Policy
T265	D2216	Moisture Content of Soils	Moisture Content As received	*, 1
T190	D2844	R-Value	R-Value at 300 psi Exudation Pressure	-

### R-Value (RVL) Policies

**1** A laboratory does not need to be enrolled in any proficiency sample programs to maintain accreditation for T265/D2216.



## AASHTO Accreditation Policy on PSP Participation – Soil Programs

Soil Classification and Compaction (SOL)				
AASHTO	ASTM	Test Name	Test Property	Policy
T88	D422	Particle Analysis of Soil	Total Material Passing the No. 10 Sieve	1
			Total Material Passing the No. 40 Sieve	
			Total Material Passing the No. 200 Sieve	
			Total Material Smaller than 0.02 mm	
			Total Material Smaller than 0.002 mm	
			Total Material Smaller than 0.001 mm	*
-	D7928	Particle Size Distribution of Fine-Grained Soils (Hydrometer Analysis)	Particle Diameter at 4 Minutes of	1
			Particle Diameter at 30 Minutes	
			Particle Diameter at 60 Minutes	
			Particle Diameter at 240 Minutes	
			Particle Diameter at 1440 Minutes	*
			Total Percent Finer at 4 Minutes	1
			Total Percent Finer at 30 Minutes	
			Total Percent Finer at 60 Minutes	
			Total Percent Finer at 240 Minutes	
			Total Percent Finer at 1440 Minutes	
T89	D4318	Liquid Limit of Soils	Liquid Limit	2
T90		Plastic Limit of Soils	Plastic Limit	
T100	D854	Specific Gravity of Soils	Specific Gravity, Passing No.10, 20° C	3
-	D4943	Shrinkage Factor of Soils	Shrinkage Limit (Wax Method)	-
T267	D2974	Organic Content of Soils by Ignition	Organic Content	-
T99	D698	Moisture-Density of Soils (Standard Effort)	Optimum Moisture Content	4
			Maximum Dry Density	
T180	D1557	Moisture-Density of Soils (Modified Effort)	Optimum Moisture Content	4
			Maximum Dry Density	



**Soil Classification and Compaction (SOL) Policies**

- 1a** Low ratings/no results must occur on the same test value in order to be considered consecutive. Once negative action has occurred on one test value, satisfactory results are needed on all test values.
- 1b** A laboratory that is accredited for both methods of hydrometer testing shall submit test data for both T88/D422 and D7928. A suspension for either T88/D422 or D7928 does not affect the other hydrometer method.
  
- 2** Low ratings/no results on the liquid limit procedure or plastic limit procedure of D4318 will result in a suspension for all D4318. Once negative action has occurred on one test value, satisfactory results are needed on both procedures to be reinstated for D4318.
  
- 3** Participation is required for soils testing only. If a laboratory is accredited for T100 (Mineral Filler) in the aggregate scope, the laboratory must perform T100 testing on the Asphalt Mixture Gyratory Design (HMG) samples also.
  
- 4a** Laboratories will have the option of testing standard (T99/D698) or modified (T180/D1557) Proctors. Accreditation for both T99/D698 and T180/D1557 will be evaluated based on the proficiency sample results of either the standard or modified compaction test. A laboratory accredited for only T99/D698 or T180/D1557 must submit results for that effort.
- 4b** Once negative action has occurred on one test value, satisfactory results are needed on both procedures to be reinstated for T99/D698 and/or T180/D1557.



## AASHTO Accreditation Policy on PSP Participation – Soil Programs

Soil Corrosivity and Chemistry (SCC)				
AASHTO	ASTM	Test Name	Test Property	Policy
T288	-	Minimum Soil Resistivity	Soil Resistivity	-
			Resistivity of Water	*
-	G187	Soil Resistivity Using Two-Electrode Box	Soil Resistivity	-
T289	-	pH of Soils for Corrosion Testing	pH Test in Water	-
-	D4972	pH Testing of Soils	pH in Water	1
			pH in calcium Chloride Solution	
T290	-	Determining Water-Soluble Sulfate Ion Content in Soil	Sulfate Ion Content (Method B)	-
T291	-	Determining Water-Soluble Chloride Ion Content in Soil	Chloride Ion Content	-

### Soil Corrosivity and Chemistry (SCC) Policies

- 1 Test data needs to be submitted for pH values in both water and calcium chloride solutions. Measurements in both liquids are necessary to fully define the soil's pH.



## AASHTO Accreditation Policy on PSP Participation – Soil Programs

Soil-Cement Mixture (SCM)				
AASHTO	ASTM	Test Name	Test Property	Policy
T265	D2216	Moisture Content of Soils	Moisture Content As Received	*, 1
			Moisture Content Before Compaction	
			Moisture Content After Compaction	
T135	D559	Wetting and Drying of Compacted Soil-Cement Mixtures	Dry Unit Weight of Compacted Specimens Before Soaking	-
			Soil-Cement Loss	-
T136	D560	Freezing and Thawing of Compacted Soil-Cement Mixtures	Dry Unit Weight of Compacted Specimens Before Soaking	-
			Soil-Cement Loss	-
-	D1633	Compressive Strength of Molded Soil-Cement Cylinders	Dry Unit Weight of Compacted Specimen	-
			Mass of Test Specimen Immediately Before Compression	-
			Maximum Load Carried by the Specimen	-
			Compressive Strength	-
			Water Content Immediately After Compression	-

### Soil-Cement Mixture (SCM) Policies

**1** A laboratory does not need to be enrolled in any proficiency sample programs to maintain accreditation for T265/D2216.