Spring 2026 Viscosity Graded Asphalt Proficiency Samples 283 (A) and 284 (B) Sample Instructions

Closing Date: June 11, 2026

General Information:

Treat each sample as you would treat a typical sample brought into the laboratory. Any special handling or preparation instructions are included below. Conduct tests on each of the two samples in accordance with the instructions below. Report the results of a single determination only, not the average of two or more, unless specified in the test method or instructions.

Reporting the results to an extra decimal place beyond what is required by the test method is requested for statistical reasons and equates to more precise data that is available to analyze.

To permit an estimate of single-operator precision, the same operator should conduct an individual test on both samples. It is not necessary that the same person conduct all the tests in the sample round.

Leave the appropriate spaces on the data sheet blank for any tests you choose not to perform.

Requirements for AASHTO Accredited Laboratories:

AASHTO accredited laboratories are required to perform every test included in an AASHTO re:source Proficiency Sample Program sample round that is also listed in each laboratory's AASHTO Accreditation scope.

AASHTO Accreditation Policy on PSP Participation

The tests that are not listed in the laboratory's accreditation scope may also be performed, but testing is not required, and the AASHTO Accreditation Program (AAP) will not evaluate the ratings.

Sample Information:

The outside of the box is labeled 283(A) and 284(B). The cans inside the box are labeled only (A) or (B). The can labeled (A) is sample 283. The can labeled (B) is sample 284.

Sample Preparation:

Heat the cans of asphalt in an oven at 135°C for a minimum of two hours. Gently stir and reheat for a maximum of two additional hours prior to pouring test specimens.

Test Methods:

Penetration of Bituminous Materials at 25°C, T49-22, or D5/D5M-20: Report, to the nearest whole unit, the average of three penetrations (at 25°C, 100 g, 5 sec.) whose values do not differ more than the amount given in T49 (D5).

Penetration of Bituminous Materials at 4°C, T49-22, or D5/D5M-20: Report, to the nearest whole unit, the average of three penetrations (at 4°C, 200 g, 60 sec.) whose values do not differ by more than the amount given in method T49 (D5).

Flash Point by Cleveland Open Cup, T48-22, or D92-24: Report the flash to the nearest degree Celsius (estimated). Correct the observed value for barometric pressure if necessary. If skin should form, move it carefully aside with a glass rod or spatula and continue with the determination of the flash point. Please note this condition under "comments" or "feedback" when the results are submitted.

ACCREDITED Proficiency Testing Provider CERTIFICATE # 4159.01
DEKRA ISO 9001:2015 Certified
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Specific Gravity (Relative Density) of Bituminous Materials, T228-22, or D70/D70M-21: Determine the specific gravity (relative density) at 25°C relative to water at 25°C. Report the results to the nearest 0.0001 gravity unit.

Kinematic Viscosity of Asphalts, T201-22, or D2170/D2170M-24: Report the kinematic viscosity at 135°C in mm^2/s (cSt) to four significant figures.

Viscosity of Asphalts by Vacuum Capillary Viscometer, T202-22, or D2171/D2171M-22: Report the viscosity, at 60° C and 300 mm Hg vacuum, in Pa·s to four significant figures. (1 Pa·s is equivalent to 10 Poise)

Rolling Thin Film Oven Test (RTFO), T240-23 or D2872-22: Change in Mass: Report, to the nearest 0.001 percent, the average change in mass. Use a negative number to report a loss in mass and a positive number to report a gain in mass.

Penetration of the RTFO Residue at 25°C, T49-22, or D5/D5M-20: Report, to the nearest whole unit, the average of three penetrations at 25°C, 100 g, 5 sec., whose values do not differ by more than the amount given in Method T49 (D5).

Penetration of the RTFO Residue at 4°C, T49-22, or D5/D5M-20: Report, to the nearest whole unit, the average of three penetrations at 4°C, 200 g, 60 sec., whose values do not differ by more than the amount given in Method T49 (D5).

Kinematic Viscosity of the RTFO Residue at 135°C, T201-22, or D2170/D2170M-24: Report the kinematic viscosity at 135°C in mm^2/s (cSt) to four significant figures.

Viscosity of the RTFO Residue at 60°C, T202-22 or D2171/D2171M-22: Report the viscosity of the residue, at 60°C and 300 mm Hg vacuum, in Pa·s to four significant figures. (1 Pa·s is equivalent to 10 Poise)

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