

TENNESSEE MEDICAL LABORATORY BOARD

POLICY STATEMENT

REMOTE SURVEY PROCESS

The Medical Laboratory Board interprets “on-site” to include review of documents by electronic means. The performance of remote laboratory surveys will be utilized in two methods, extensive review, and short review. Extensive review will be utilized for initial surveys of non-waived labs and the addition of specialty labs. The short review will utilize a self-audit for accredited laboratories. Per the discretion of the surveyor, the short review option may be used for labs that are not accredited. This policy statement does not remove the requirement for a surveyor’s physical presence within a facility for complaint investigations, initial surveys of high complexity laboratories, and biennial surveys of facilities that the surveyor determines require an onsite survey. The remote survey process cannot be performed on the same laboratory during two consecutive survey cycles. This policy will fulfill the regulatory onsite survey requirement.

This policy was adopted on October 28, 2022 and revised on January 27, 2023.