



# NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION BODIES

Integrity,  
Independence,  
Impartiality in  
Certification  
and Inspection  
through  
Internationally  
Recognized  
Accreditation



# National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB)

**NABCB** a constituent Board of the Quality Council of India (QCI), is the national accreditation body, which provides accreditation to Certification as well as Inspection Bodies in accordance with ISO Standards, international requirements/guidelines and NABCB Accreditation Criteria.

NABCB is internationally recognized and represents the interests of the Indian industry at the international forums under the aegis of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and its recognized regional bodies in the Asia Pacific region, the Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (PAC) and the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC) for certification and inspection bodies respectively with the sole objective of promoting acceptance of India's certifications and inspections internationally by becoming a signatory to the Multilateral/Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MLAs/MRAs) of these bodies after undergoing successful international peer evaluations.



NABCB is a member of IAF and PAC as well as signatory to their MLAs for Quality Management Systems (QMS), Environmental Management Systems (EMS) and Product Certification. NABCB is also signatory to PAC MLA for Food Safety Management Systems (FSMS) and Information Security Management Systems (ISMS). NABCB is a full member of ILAC and APLAC as well as signatory to their MRAs for Inspection.

Thus NABCB's accreditations are internationally equivalent.



## Policy

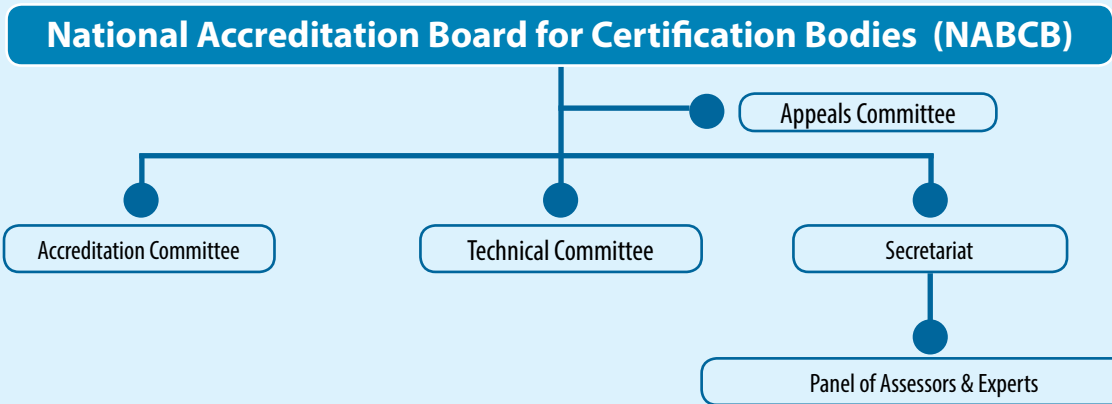
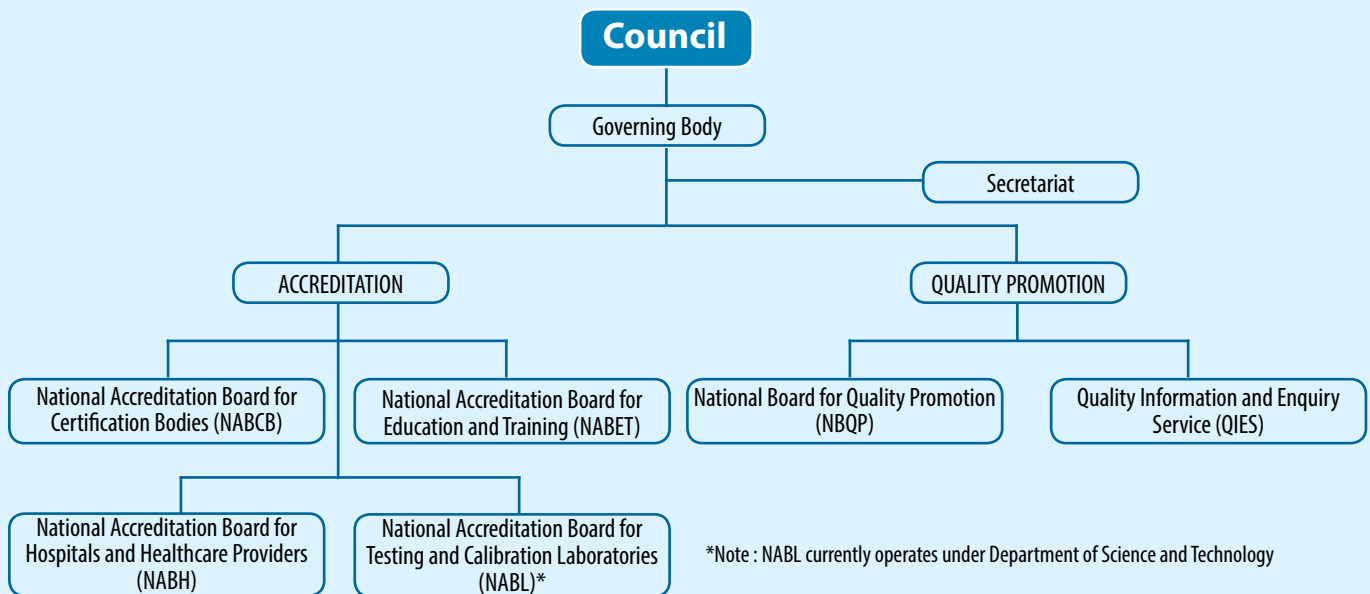
- NABCB provides service to the satisfaction of its customers in accordance with the national and international norms. It is committed to providing equal opportunity to all the applicants with highest regard to transparency, integrity and confidentiality.
- NABCB provides accreditation services to Certification/ Inspection Bodies established as legal entities within the SAARC nations. However relevant locations of the Certification/ inspection bodies in other countries may be included in the accreditation.
- NABCB strives for international recognition of its accreditation schemes through international and regional forums like IAF, ILAC, PAC, APLAC etc. and through bilateral and multilateral mutual recognition arrangements

The above said policy is pursued by complying to the ISO/IEC 17011 "Conformity Assessment - General Requirements for Accreditation Bodies Accrediting Conformity Assessment Bodies", the international standard for accreditation bodies, and other relevant international/national standards and IAF, ILAC, PAC and APLAC requirements/guidance documents.

## Objectives

- To be equally accessible to all the applicant Certification/ Inspection bodies who wish to be accredited to the NABCB Accreditation Criteria within its scope and capability, and within the geographical limitations decided by the Board.
- To upgrade criteria of accreditation in line with international requirements and to foster improvement in the quality of certification/inspection process with the support of certification/ inspection bodies.
- To be impartial in its decision making on criteria and process of accreditation.
- To seek mutual recognition of the accreditation schemes internationally.
- To be independent of any undue influence of any stakeholder and to conduct its business professionally.

# Organizational Structure of QCI and NABCB



## About Quality Council of India

**Quality Council of India (QCI)** was set up in 1997 jointly by the Government of India and the Indian Industry represented by the three premier industry associations i.e. Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), to establish and operate national accreditation structure and promote quality through National Quality Campaign. QCI is also assigned the task of monitoring and administering the National Quality Campaign and to oversee effective functioning of the National Information and Enquiry Services.

QCI is registered as a non-profit society with its own Memorandum of Association. QCI is governed by a Council of 38 members with equal representations of government, industry and consumers. The Chairman of QCI is appointed by the Prime Minister on recommendation of the industry to the government. The Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, is the nodal ministry for QCI.

It functions through the executive boards in the specific areas i.e. Accreditation for

- Conformity Assessment Bodies,
- Healthcare Establishments
- Education & Vocational Training Providers.

In addition, it has an exclusive Board for promotion of quality - NBQP.

To realize the objective of improving quality competitiveness of Indian products and services, QCI provides strategic direction to the quality movement in the country by securing recognition for India's conformity assessment systems at the international level.

## Genesis of Accreditation

Accreditation is a worldwide system for attesting competence and assuring equivalence of conformity assessment activities, which are testing, inspection and certification. It provides for an independent, third party assessment to ensure that accredited conformity assessment bodies have the competence to perform specified tasks. The assessment covers verifying compliance of the management systems as well as requirements on impartiality and technical competence. The accreditation system facilitates trade and contributes to reducing technical barriers. That is, products and services can move across borders and be accepted without requirements of re-testing, re-certification or re-inspection.

More and more governments and businesses are voluntarily choosing the accreditation route as they recognize the internal efficiencies that it brings and the opportunities to demonstrate product performance.

## Benefits of Accreditation

- Attestation of competence by an authoritative body
- Recognition of technical competence
- Customer confidence and satisfaction
- Minimizes risks
- Avoids re-testing/inspection and reduces costs
- Increased efficiency
- Marketing advantage and increased business
- International recognition

### **Accreditation**

*The third party attestation related to conformity assessment body conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks (ISO/IEC 17000:2004).*

### **Certification**

*Third Party attestation related to products, processes, systems or persons (ISO/IEC17000:2004)*

## Accreditation – An International Network

Accreditation is an international network which is managed by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF), in the fields of management systems, products, services, personnel and other similar programmes of conformity assessment, and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), in the field of laboratory and inspection accreditation.

### **About IAF**

The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) is a global association of Accreditation Bodies, Certification Body Associations and other organizations involved in conformity assessment activities in a variety of fields including management systems, products, services and personnel. Its website [www.iaf.nu](http://www.iaf.nu) provides a range of information on certification body accreditation, as well as the location of its members including its MLA signatories worldwide. IAF promotes the worldwide acceptance, of certificates of conformity issued by certification bodies accredited by an Accreditation Body Member.

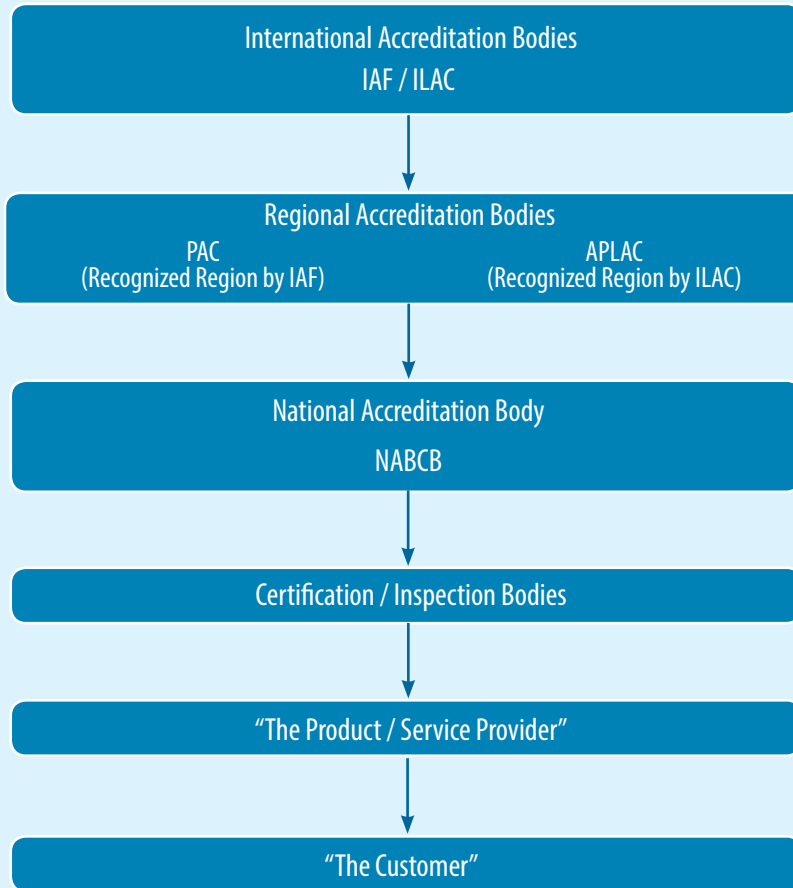
### **About ILAC**

ILAC is the international authority on laboratory and inspection accreditation, with a membership consisting of accreditation bodies and affiliated organizations throughout the world. Its website [www.ilac.org](http://www.ilac.org) provides a range of information on laboratory and inspection accreditation, as well as the location of its members including its MRA signatories worldwide. ILAC promotes the increased use and acceptance by industry as well as governments of the results from accredited laboratories and inspection bodies, including results from accredited organizations in other countries.

### **Functioning of the International Accreditation Framework and the MLAs / MRAs**

Accreditation bodies around the world, on being evaluated by their peers as competent, sign the IAF Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) or the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) that enhances the acceptance of products and services across national borders. Acceptance of an accreditation body into the IAF MRA / ILAC MRA is dependent upon being successfully evaluated by peers from other accreditation bodies in accordance with the relevant rules, standards and procedures. The purpose of these multilateral MLA / MRA is to facilitate mutual recognition of accredited certificates and reports between economies of signatory bodies and to create an international framework to support international trade through the removal of technical barriers.

# Chain of Conformity Assessment



## NABCB Accreditation Programmes

### **NABCB currently offers the following accreditation programmes:**

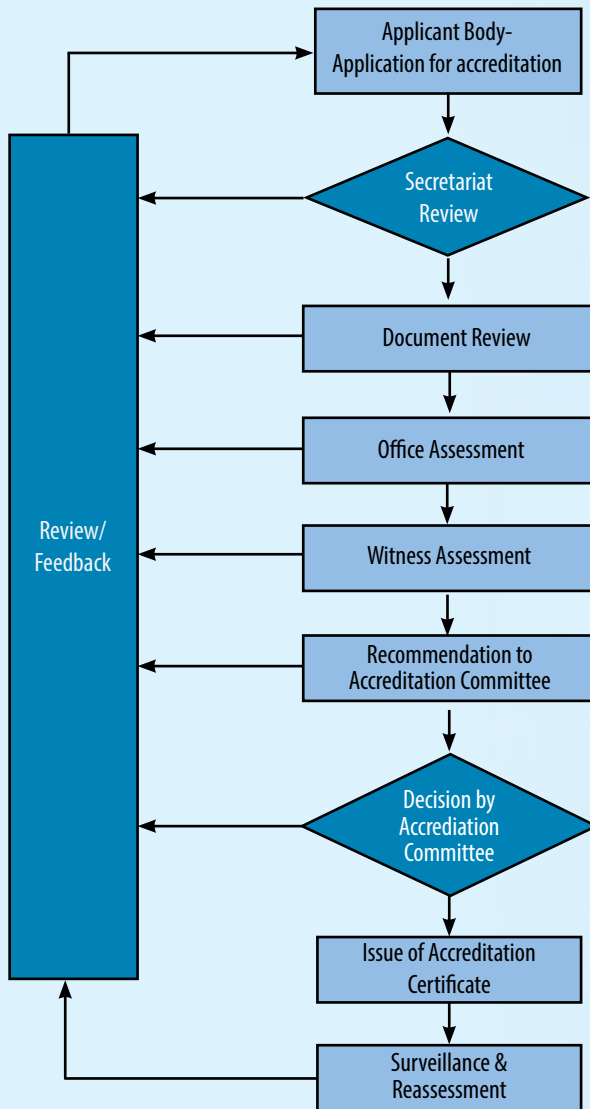
- Quality Management Systems (QMS)
- QMS for Medical Devices
- QMS for Aerospace Industry
- Environmental Management Systems (EMS)
- Occupational Health & Safety Management Systems (OHSMS)
- Food Safety Management Systems (FSMS)
- Inspection
- Product Certification
- Energy Management Systems (EnMS)
- Information Security Management Systems (ISMS)
- Information Technology Service Management Systems (ITSMS)
- Personnel Certification
- Road Traffic Safety Management Systems (RTSMS)

NABCB also has plans to launch new accreditation programmes on Green House Gases (GHG) Validation and Verification, Business Continuity Management Systems, Asset Development Management Systems etc.

NABCB Accreditation Programmes enables services and products to meet agreed standards, providing confidence to consumers, government and purchasers and facilitate international acceptance of the conformity assessment results and in turn the products and services.



# NABCB Accreditation Process



Look for NABCB Logo for reliability in Certifications/Inspections



Accredited organizations are entitled to display symbols that signifies reliable recognition of the accreditation process.

For further information please contact :  
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