



MICROBIOLOGY

Matrices with low and high concentrations of analytes for testing bacteria in drinking water and waste water. Samples are delivered as lyophilized pellets in a glass vial with phosphate buffer dilution water.



Water Pollution PT Schedule

2024

Water Pollution (including UST in Water)			
	Scheme #	Opens	Closes
Q	WP 348	Jan 16	Mar 1
	WP 349	Feb 12	Mar 28
	WP 350	Mar 11	Apr 25
Q	WP 351	Apr 15	May 30
	WP 352	May 13	Jun 27
	WP 353	Jun 10	Jul 25
Q	WP 354	Jul 15	Aug 29
	WP 355	Aug 12	Sep 26
	WP 356	Sep 9	Oct 24
Q	WP 357	Oct 11	Nov 25
	WP 358	Nov 11	Dec 26
	WP 359	Dec 9	Jan 23, 2025

2025

Water Pollution (including UST in Water)			
	Scheme #	Opens	Closes
Q	WP 360	Jan 21	Mar 7
	WP 361	Feb 17	Apr 3
	WP 362	Mar 10	Apr 24
Q	WP 363	Apr 14	May 29
	WP 364	May 12	Jun 26
	WP 365	Jun 16	Jul 31
Q	WP 366	Jul 14	Aug 28
	WP 367	Aug 11	Sep 25
	WP 368	Sep 15	Oct 30
Q	WP 369	Oct 10	Nov 24
	WP 370	Nov 3	Dec 18
	WP 371	Dec 8	Jan 22, 2026

Schedule subject to change – see Waters ERA's website at eraqc.com

Contents

CRM: A reference material characterized by a metrologically valid procedure for one or more specified properties, accompanied by a reference material certificate that provides the value of the specified property, its associated uncertainty, and a statement of metrological traceability.

A complete listing of ERA's CRMs can be found on our Scope of Accreditation for general requirements for competence of reference material producers available at www.eraqc.com/AboutERA/Accreditations.

PT: A Proficiency Test (PT) is an analysis of what is often referred to as a blind sample or a sample with unknown concentrations of analytes for the purpose of evaluating a laboratory's analytical performance.

QR: Similar to a Proficiency Test, a QuiK Response (QR) is a sample with unknown concentrations. However, unlike a scheduled PT, QR is on-demand and available at any time. Plus, your results are returned within two business days. QuiK Response can be used as a bilateral PT as referenced in the IUPAC/CITAC guide: Selection and use of PT schemes for a limited number of participants – chemical analytical labs.

RM: A material, sufficiently homogeneous and stable with respect to one or more specified properties, which has been established to be fit for its intended use in a measurement process.

Description	CRM	PT	QR	Page
Enterococci	081	880 Q	787QR	34
Heterotrophic Plate Count (WP)		935 B		34
Heterotrophic Plate Count (WS)	084	079 M	084QR	34
Massachusetts Ground Water Enterococci	081	077 *	–	34
Potable Water Coliform Microbe	694	080 M	085QR	34
Source Water Microbe	078	595 Q	078QR	34
Source Water Microbe - 9221	078A	595A Q	078AQR	34
Wastewater Coliform Microbe	083	576 M	786QR	34
Wastewater Coliform Microbe - 9221	083A	576A M	786AQR	34

Water Supply PT Schedule 2024

Water Supply			
	Scheme #	Opens	Closes
Q	WS 330	Jan 8	Feb 22
	WS 331	Feb 5	Mar 21
	WS 332	Mar 4	Apr 18
Q	WS 333	Apr 8	May 23
	WS 334	May 6	Jun 20
	WS 335	Jun 3	Jul 18
Q	WS 336	Jul 8	Aug 22
	WS 337	Aug 5	Sep 19
	WS 338	Sep 3	Oct 18
Q	WS 339	Oct 4	Nov 18
	WS 340	Nov 4	Dec 19
	WS 341	Dec 2	Jan 16, 2025

2025

Water Supply			
	Scheme #	Opens	Closes
Q	WS 342	Jan 13	Feb 27
	WS 343	Feb 10	Mar 27
	WS 344	Mar 3	Apr 17
Q	WS 345	Apr 7	May 22
	WS 346	May 5	Jun 19
	WS 347	Jun 9	Jul 24
Q	WS 348	Jul 7	Aug 21
	WS 349	Aug 4	Sep 18
	WS 350	Sep 8	Oct 23
Q	WS 351	Oct 3	Nov 17
	WS 352	Oct 31	Dec 15
	WS 353	Dec 1	Jan 15, 2026

All Waters ERA Microbiology PTs open monthly (**M**), quarterly (**Q**), or biannually (**B**) unless otherwise noted. Waters ERA Massachusetts Ground Water Enterococci PT is available any time. Quarterly months are January, April, July, and October.

WP Microbiology

Wastewater Coliform Microbe

CRM Cat. #083	PT Cat. #576	M	QR Cat. #786QR
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Each PT sample is one lyophilized quantitative standard for use with all Clean Water Act quantitative methods, including MF and MPN. If determining MPN by SM 9221 or similar multiple tube techniques, use 083A, 576A, or 786A.

CRM also includes one blank sample. Each standard can be used for total coliform, fecal coliform, and *E. coli* which are present in the range 20–2400 CFU/100 mL or MPN/100 mL.

Wastewater Coliform Microbe – 9221

CRM Cat. #083A	PT Cat. #576A	M	QR Cat. #786AQR
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Each PT sample is one lyophilized quantitative standard for use with Standard Methods 9221 or similar multiple tube techniques.

CRM also includes one blank sample. Each standard can be used for total coliform, fecal coliform, and *E. coli* which are present in the range of 20–2400 MPN/100 mL.

Enterococci

CRM Cat. #081	PT Cat. #880	Q	QR Cat. #787QR
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Each PT sample is one lyophilized standard, which can be analyzed for enterococci and/or fecal streptococci, MF or MPN in the range 20–1000 CFU/100 mL or MPN/100 mL.

CRM also includes one blank sample. Use with EPA Methods 1106.1 and 1600, ASTM Methods D5259-92, D6503-99, and Standard Methods 9230B and 9230C, and Enterolert Quantitray.

Heterotrophic Plate Count


PT Cat. #935	B
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One lyophilized sample containing a Heterotrophic bacteria. SPC PT standards are required for laboratories seeking NELAC accreditation as well as by many other state programs.

B Offered Biannually in March and September.

State-Specific Microbiology

Massachusetts Ground Water Enterococci

CRM Cat. #081	PT Cat. #077	
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Each PT sample set is composed of 10 lyophilized samples to be analyzed for presence or absence of enterococci. This sample is specifically designed for the State of Massachusetts certification for compliance with the federal Ground Water Rule. Each CRM sample set is composed of two lyophilized samples - one quantitative positive and one blank.

***** Massachusetts Ground Water Enterococci PT is available any time.

WS Microbiology

Heterotrophic Plate Count

CRM Cat. #084	PT Cat. #079	M	QR Cat. #084QR
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Each sample is one lyophilized standard containing a heterotrophic bacteria present in the range 5–500 CFU/mL or MPN/mL. Use with the Standard Methods 9215B – Pour Plate Method, and Most Probable Number (MPN) Method (simplate).

Potable Water Coliform Microbe

CRM Cat. #694	PT Cat. #080	M	QR Cat. #085QR
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Each sample set consists of lyophilized standards for the presence or absence analysis of total coliform, fecal coliform, and *E. coli*. The standards are applicable to all SDWA promulgated methods-MF, MPN, presence/absence, and ONPG-MUG. The Potable Water Coliform Microbe PT standard is available in all 12-monthly WS studies.

Source Water Microbe

CRM Cat. #078	PT Cat. #595	Q	QR Cat. #078QR
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Each sample is one lyophilized quantitative standard containing *E. coli* in the range 20–200 CFU/100 mL or MPN/100 mL. Use with all SDWA quantitative methods. Each standard can be used for total coliform, fecal coliform, and *E. coli*. If determining MPN by SM 9221 or similar multiple tube techniques, use 078A, 595A, and 078AQR.

Source Water Microbe – 9221

CRM Cat. #078A	PT Cat. #595A	Q	QR Cat. #078AQR
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Each sample is one lyophilized quantitative standard containing *E. coli* in the range of 20–200 MPN/100 mL for use with Standard Methods 9221 or similar multiple tube techniques. Each standard can be used for total coliforms, fecal coliforms, and *E. coli*.

CRM – Certified Reference Material
PT – Proficiency Testing
QR – Quik Response

All Waters ERA Microbiology PTs open monthly (**M**) or quarterly (**Q**). Quarterly months are January, April, July, and October.



Learn more about Microbiology products

GOING BEYOND THE STANDARD

Supplying Proficiency Testing (PT) and Certified Reference Material (CRM) standards is not unique. What sets us apart is our commitment to being more than a standards provider. Since 1977, we've worked as your partner, helping you produce reliable, defensible data, maintain critical accreditations, and make your laboratory successful.

- **Data Tools to Help You Succeed:** eDATA online PT data management portal allows you to effectively manage your proficiency testing program, assess risk, and evaluate trends over time.
- **Expert Guidance at Your Fingertips:** Direct access to one of the most qualified Customer Service and Technical Support teams in the environmental PT and CRM industry.
- **Superior Standards for Better Results:** Waters ERA maintains ISO 17025, ISO 17034, and ISO 17043 accreditations, giving you greater confidence in your data due to the largest studies, two-day report turn-around time, and more reliable performance evaluations.

