Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Accreditation Requirements for Verifiers and Verification Bodies

6 NYCRR Part 253

This FAQ is for entities and individuals interested in becoming accredited to perform verification in New York. For entities and individuals without previous accreditation, a New York accreditation program is being developed. At this time, applications to become accredited in New York are only available for those entities and individuals who are currently accredited through American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or California Air Resources Board (CARB).

1. When will New York accreditation be available?

Applications for entities and individuals not already accredited by either ANSI or CARB are not currently being accepted at this time. However, the Department is working diligently to make training materials available to allow for such applications. In acknowledgement of this issue, the Department has extended the deadline for verification statements for years 1 and 2. Verification reports are due to the Department no later than December 1, 2027 for emissions year 2026, December 1, 2028 for emissions year 2027, and August 10 of each subsequent emissions year.

2. Is there a cost associated with the verification training and tests?

At this time, there is no cost associated with training materials or tests.

3. What is the format of the upcoming training?

The training will be virtual and recorded. Viewing the recording will be sufficient for accreditation purposes. The upcoming Existing Verifier Training will only be for verifiers already accredited through CARB or ANSI.

4. I am interested in the New York verifier accreditation and am not ANSI or CARB accredited. Can you add me to the list of interested individuals?

Please email DAR.253MRR@dec.ny.gov noting that you are interested in being accredited and that you do not have any previous accreditation. Include “New York Department Accreditation” in the subject. List your name, affiliated company, if any, and email/phone number. Also list whether you are interested in being a verifier, a verification body, or both. The Department will reach out to interested persons with updates regarding Department accreditation and training as they become available.

5. What is required to apply for accreditation as a verifier?

The requirements for accreditation are listed at 6 NYCRR 253-4.3(c)(1-5). There are separate requirements for verification bodies, lead verifiers, verifiers, and sector-specific verifiers.

To qualify for accreditation, a verifier applicant must: (1) have a bachelors level college degree or equivalent in science, technology, business, statistics, mathematics, environmental policy, economics, or financial auditing; or (2) demonstrate the completion of significant and relevant work experience or other personal development activities that have provided the applicant with the communication, technical, and analytical skills necessary to conduct verification. Applicants must also provide evidence that the applicant has a minimum of two years of full-time work experience in a professional role involved in emissions data management, emissions technology, emissions inventories, environmental auditing, or other technical skills necessary to conduct verification.

6. What is required to become accredited as a verification body in New York?

To qualify for accreditation as a verification body, a company shall employ and retain at least five total full-time staff, two of which have been accredited as lead verifiers. ANSI accredited verification bodies are exempt from this requirement. The company must maintain a minimum of four million U.S. dollars of professional liability insurance. Note that subcontractors cannot be used to meet the minimum staff total or lead verifier requirements for a verification body.

7. What is required to become accredited as a lead verifier in New York?

To qualify for accreditation as a lead verifier, applicants must be accredited through the Department or CARB, and have been a Department-accredited verifier for two continuous years. Applicants must also have worked as a verifier in at least three completed verifications under the supervision of a Department accredited lead verifier.

Alternatively, applicants can qualify for accreditation as a lead verifier if they worked as a project manager or lead person for not less than four years, of which two may be graduate level work, in the development of GHG or other air emissions inventories or, as a lead environmental data or financial auditor.

8. What is required to become accredited as a sector specific verifier in New York?

Sector specific verifiers will be available in the following specialties: transactions specialists, oil and gas systems specialists, and process emissions specialists.

To qualify for accreditation as a sector specific verifier, applicants must be accredited as either verifier or lead verifier through the Department or CARB. Applicants must also have at least two years of professional experience related to the sector in which they are seeking accreditation. Applicants seeking sector-specific verifier accreditation as a process emissions specialist are exempt from the experience requirement.

9. How do I submit documentation of my work experience?

Please include a resume and cover that indicates significant and relevant experience, describes the types of verification services, emissions inventories, or engineering projects that you have completed and your role in such projects.

10. Is subcontracting of verification services allowed in New York?

Subcontracting of verification services is allowed. However, all subcontractors must be accredited through the Department and be qualified to perform the work on that project. Subcontractors must have any necessary sector specific accreditation and cannot act as the independent reviewer. Subcontractors may not further outsource work. Regardless of the use of subcontracting services, verification bodies remain fully responsible for the verification services performed by a subcontractor. Verification bodies will also be responsible for demonstrating that there is no conflict-of-interest between their selected subcontractor and the emission source for which they are providing verification services.