

## TPD: Competency Testing and Its Relationship to Training

---

**Purpose**  
**5.2.6.2.1**

Competency Testing is used to demonstrate the competency of the analyst and to identify areas where additional training may be required.

---

**Competency testing**

Successful completion of a competency test is required before an analyst is approved to begin analyzing casework in the following situations

- analysts new to the laboratory
  - analysts completing a course of training in a new technical discipline
  - analysts re-entering a technical discipline after an absence from casework for more than one year
- 

**Required training**

If an analyst errs or fails a competency test, additional training may be warranted.

- The supervisor and DNA Technical Lead (if applicable), in conjunction with the Quality Manager/Laboratory Director, will outline a training plan.
  - The Quality Manager will issue a second competency test.
- 

**Reference**

For a complete discussion of competency testing in the laboratory, refer to *Assuring the Quality of Results, AQR: Competency Testing Program*.

---