Join Our Pool of Experts

AOAC invites volunteers to join the pool of experts from which method-centric committees will be formed focusing on specific methods. Experts must have demonstrated knowledge and experience related to the specified areas. All method volunteer appointments are valid for a 3-year term. In addition, collaborators and laboratories are requested to participate in various studies.

General Referees*

General Referees (AOAC Process Experts) are experts in the AOAC method validation processes. Candidates must have knowledge and experience of the validation and collaborative study processes either through training or experience.

Opportunities are currently available for volunteers with method experience in the following areas:

- FLAVANOLS AND PROCYANIDINS IN COCOA AND CHOCOLATE
- FOOD MICROBIOLOGY
- OKADAIC ACID
- PARALYTIC SHELLFISH TOXINS
- TOTAL ANTIOXIDANT ACTIVITY IN FOODS AND BEVERAGES

Topic Advisors*

Topic Advisors (AOAC Subject Matter Experts) must have demonstrated knowledge/experience in the currently requested field through both training and practice.

Key position requirements include knowledge in:

- FLAVANOLS AND PROCYANIDINS IN COCOA AND CHOCOLATE
- FOOD MICROBIOLOGY
- PARALYTIC SHELLFISH TOXINS
- TOTAL ANTIOXIDANT ACTIVITY IN FOODS AND BEVERAGES
- WATER-SOLUBLE VITAMINS

Call for Volunteers

Safety Advisors*

Candidates should have the ability to evaluate and respond to collaborative study protocols and manuscripts with regard to inclusion of safety-related information. Safety Advisors recommend any cautionary statements that should be included in the method; serve as advisors to Methods Committees by providing advice on safety matters; and stay current on the latest laboratory issues.

Opportunities are currently available in the following areas:

- DISINFECTANTS
- FLAVANOLS AND PROCYANIDINS IN COCOA AND CHOCOLATE
- FOOD MICROBIOLOGY
- OKADAIC ACID
- PARALYTIC SHELLFISH TOXINS
- PROTEIN IN MEAT
- THREAT AGENT METHODS
- TOTAL ANTIOXIDANT ACTIVITY IN FOODS AND BEVERAGES
- VETERINARY DRUG RESIDUES IN ANIMAL TISSUES
- WATER-SOLUBLE VITAMINS

Method Committee Members*

Method Committees review and guide the development and validation of analytical methods for identification, detection, and/or quantitation of analytes from a variety of matrixes. Methods that meet standard method performance requirements and demonstrate sufficient accuracy, precision, and specificity may be recommended for adoption by AOAC as *Official Methods of Analysis*SM.

Current opportunities are available for volunteers with method experience in the following areas:

- FLAVANOLS AND PROCYANIDINS IN COCOA AND CHOCOLATE
- FOOD MICROBIOLOGY
- OKADAIC ACID
- PARALYTIC SHELLFISH TOXINS
- TOTAL ANTIOXIDANT ACTIVITY IN FOODS AND BEVERAGES
- VETERINARY DRUG RESIDUES IN ANIMAL TISSUES
- WATER-SOLUBLE VITAMINS

Labs/Collaborators**

AOAC is seeking laboratories to participate in a collaborative study for **flavanols and procyanidins in cocoa and chocolate using HPLC-fluorescence detection technology**. Collaborators are responsible for analyzing test samples, according to the AOAC-approved protocol; following the method exactly; and reporting data to the Study Director. The study is expected to begin in the first quarter of 2010.

Interested laboratories should have personnel experienced in the basic techniques employed. **Collaborators are chosen by the organizers of the collaborative study** from a diversity of laboratories with interest in the method including regulatory agencies, industry, and universities.

*For additional information or to participate, contact **Deborah McKenzie** at dmckenzie@aoac.org or Tel: +1-301-924-7077 ext. 157 or **Delia Boyd** at dboyd@aoac.org or Tel: +1-301-924-7077 ext. 126.*

** Noncompensated volunteer positions.*

*** Calls for laboratories/collaborators are issued on behalf of the method developers and Study Directors. AOAC does not select the laboratories. All information received will be sent directly to the proposed Study Director.*