



AOAC Official MethodsSM Process Description

Repeal of a Method from the *AOAC Official Method of Analysis of AOAC INTERNATIONAL*

Supporting Recommendation 10: Establish criteria for method repeal/modification process

Quick Reference

- Requests for repeal may be submitted by any interested party.
- AOAC staff conduct an initial completeness review.
- The appropriate method committee oversees the request through review and recommendation.
- Sections and the public are invited to comment for 120 days.
- The Official Methods Board votes to approve or reject the repeal request.

This document outlines the process and form used to request repeal of an AOAC Official Method.

1. Purpose

A request for a method repeal may come from any interested party. Examples of situations where a method might be considered for repeal are data showing that the method does not perform as it should, an improved method is available, or the need for a particular method no longer exists.

2. Procedure

A request for repeal of method must be submitted using the appropriate form. An initial review is undertaken by AOAC staff to ensure all pertinent details are complete. The repeal request is then passed to the appropriate method committee responsible for oversight of the repeal of method through to final decision.

The first step of the repeal process is to notify the method author or their affiliation, if possible. The purpose of this step is to get confirmation of the merits of the repeal request. Additionally, the author or affiliate can either support the recommendation for repeal or oppose with justification. This step can be dispensed with if the request for repeal is initiated by the method author or affiliation, or if the method author or affiliation are not available. If the relevant expert review panel is still empanelled, then the repeal request is passed on to them for review and vote to either support the recommendation for repeal or oppose with justification.

The method committee reviews submissions in support or opposition as well as the initial request to assess the merits of the request. If the justification for the initial request for repeal is demonstrated by experts closest to the method, then support or opposition to method repeal is opened to broader stakeholders.

The request is sent to all AOAC sections and opened for public comment. The period for submissions from both is 120 days. The sections are requested to provide information on method usage or adoption of the method into national or international regulations within their region.

The method committee then assesses the request and supporting agreement or opposition. The method committee adds its support or opposition to the repeal request with justification and then passes the request for repeal to the Official Methods Board.

The Official Methods Board reviews the request for repeal and votes to either approve or reject the request. If the method is repealed, an announcement is published for 30 days and is subject to the appeals process. After 30 days with no appeal, the Editors and publications staff are notified, and the Official Method is modified to reflect the change in status and it is removed from the Official Methods of Analysis.

Repeal of Official Method Status Form

Name	
Affiliation	
Official Method number	
Official Method title	

Reason for appeal

Select all that apply
☐ Data no longer supports status ☐ Similar improved Official Method available ☐ Need for method no longer exists ☐ Critical component no longer available ☐ Other: _____

Supporting documentation: file upload

