



Update: EPA Radon Credentialing Criteria

Region 4 Radon Stakeholders Meeting

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Session Objectives



By the end of today's session, participants will have....

- Learned more about EPA's 2023 Proposed Radon Credentialing Criteria.
- Improved understanding of how the criteria may apply to them.
- Shared thoughts.

Background/Context



- A radon **professional's job is serious, technical work.**
 - **Credentials identify professionals** who possess the **necessary competencies** to perform a job.
 - **Third party accreditation** provides an **added layer of risk management.**
- EPA has statutory authority to ensure professional proficiency. This includes:
 - Oversight of **credentialing practices.**
 - Providing a **national radon reference** through EPA's National Air and Radiation Lab.
 - Supporting development of and access to **voluntary consensus standards (VCS).**
 - EPA has never had authority to require actions on the part of industry or state/tribal governments.
- Primary Intent: Outline a **quality standard for credentialing** and align **credentialing practices** through a **right-sized process** for the radon community.
 - 2017 & 2023 Public Comment Periods



Degree of Rigor

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2023 Proposed Credentialing Criteria

Overview



- Proposed criteria closely aligned with 2017 proposal.
 - Primary Audience: Organizations that credential radon professionals (Certification Bodies and State-run programs)
 - Retained third-party accreditation to international standard for certification of personnel (ISO/IEC 17024:2012)
 - 3-year phase-in period.
- Integrated radon voluntary consensus standards (ANSI/AARST).
- *Biggest Change:* New pathway for state-run programs that doesn't require third party accreditation.

Proposed Credentialing Criteria



Evaluation Framework

- Specifications to **promote consistency** across **exams, maintenance of credentials & operation of credentialing programs.**
- Applies to **organizations that credential radon professionals.**
 - Certification Bodies
 - State-run programs

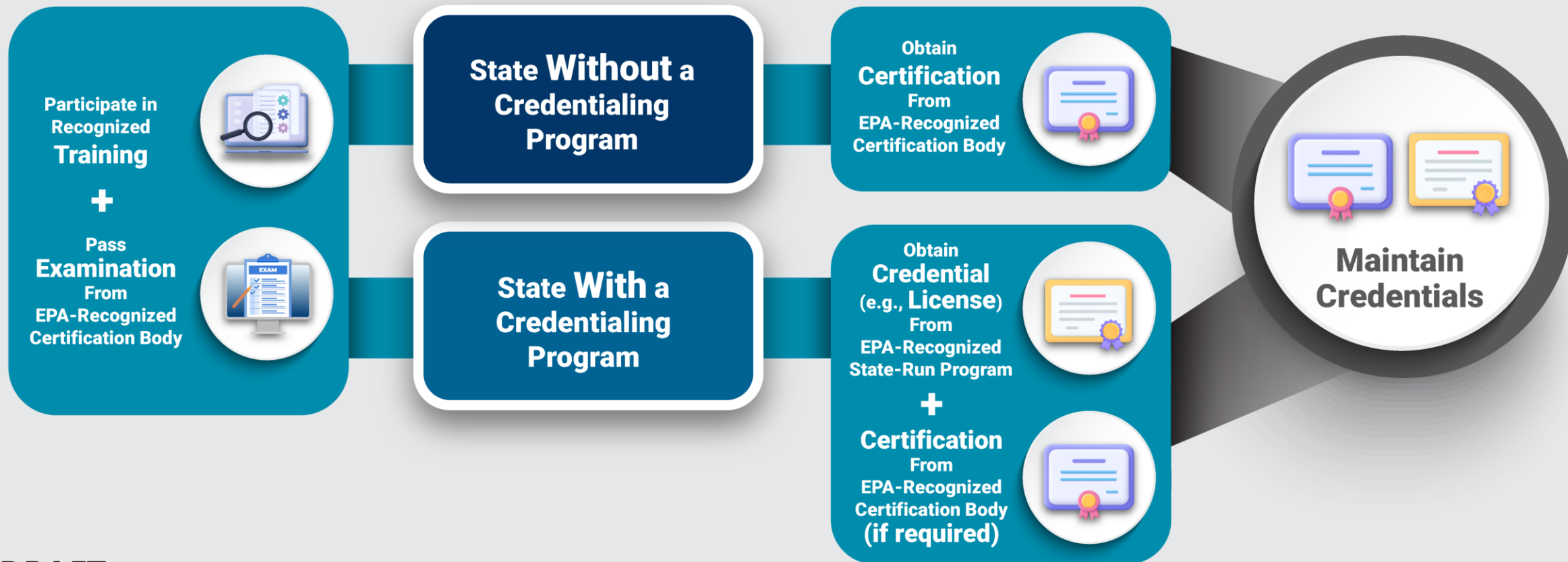
Implementation Approach

- Process for credentialing organizations to **acknowledge meeting criteria.**
- **Public lists** to promote access to workforce.
 - **EPA:** Recognized credentialing organizations (certification bodies or state-run programs)
 - **Grantees:** Providers

If You Are a Service Provider...



Continue Your Existing Process to Obtain & Maintain Credentials



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If You Are a Certification Body...



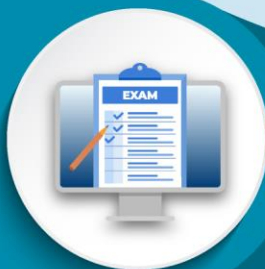
Achieve Third-Party Accreditation

ISO/IEC 17024:2012

&

Maintain Adherence to EPA Criteria

Develop/ Maintain Examination



- Pre-Requisite Training Requirements
- Expert Panel & Stakeholder Feedback
- Voluntary Consensus Standards

Develop/ Maintain Certification



- Verify Test Devices & Quality Assurance Plan
- Credential Renewal
- Suspension/Withdrawal

Accreditation
Body
Reports to
EPA



Receive
Recognition
From EPA



Maintain List of
Certified
Providers

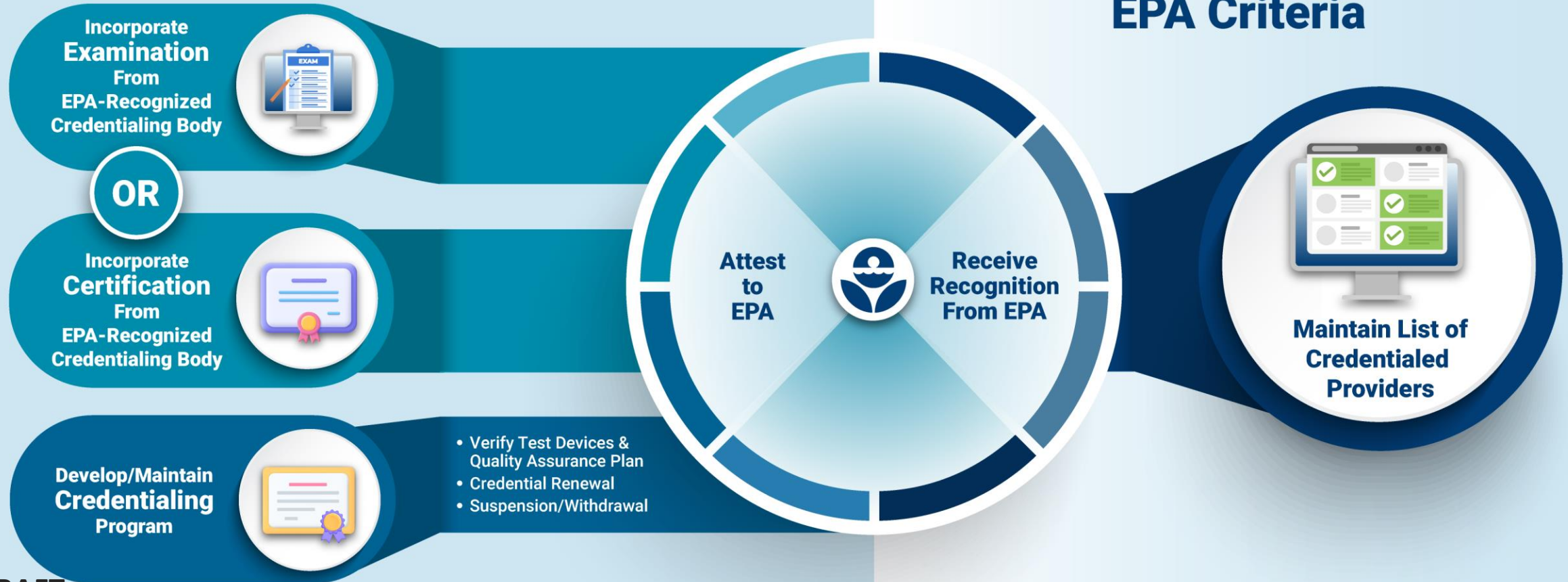
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If You Are a State-Run Program...



Meet Evaluation Framework

Maintain Adherence to EPA Criteria



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If You Are a State Without a Program...



Maintain Adherence to EPA Criteria



Maintain List of Credentialed Providers

- List Providers
- Link to EPA-Recognized Certification Bodies

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2023 Federal Register Notice

Overview of Comments Received



- More states supportive than in 2017.
- Many commenters remain concerned about impact third party accreditation of certification bodies may have.
 - Costs
 - Demand for services
- More work to do to map out approach for devices and quality assurance plans.

Finalize the Credentialing Criteria

