

**681—5.2(263) Specimens examined.**

**5.2(1) Classification.** This being the state public health and environmental laboratory, specimens submitted to it should have a direct or probable significance that is actionable for public health, medical management, or the quality and preservation of the environment.

**5.2(2) Who may submit specimens.**

*a.* Licensed physicians, osteopathic physicians, and other licensed practitioners may submit specimens for the diagnosis and control of communicable or other diseases in which such tests are required by the state department of public health.

*b.* Veterinarians may submit animal specimens involving diseases of animals that are communicable to humans.

*c.* The department of health and human services may submit specimens as stated in Iowa Code section 263.8(2). Other programs, services, and studies may be negotiated on a contractual basis.

*d.* The natural resources department may submit specimens necessary in the conduct of its fundamental responsibilities relative to municipal water supplies. Other programs, services, and studies may be negotiated on a contractual basis.

*e.* Other state agencies, institutions, and municipalities may submit specimens, generally under a contractual arrangement if the submission is to be of a regular or routine nature.

*f.* Local departments of health may submit specimens when performing official functions of state regulatory agencies. The examination of other specimens necessary in the support of locally directed programs are provided only with prior clearance and cost negotiations.

*g.* Private individuals may submit specimens to address infectious disease or environmental concerns.

*h.* Privately owned industries and businesses may submit specimens for environmental studies by prior arrangement with the laboratory on a fee-based contractual basis.

*i.* Public schools may submit specimens at the discretion of the school nurse, consulting physician, principal, or upon recommendations of the local department of health.

*j.* Any agency, organization, business or individual impacted by a natural disaster may submit specimens that require testing to ensure health and safety.

*k.* First responders, hazmat teams, the Radiological Emergency Response Team, the 71st Civil Support Team, the FBI, the United States Postal Service and any other officially recognized law enforcement or terrorism response agency may submit samples for identification and confirmation of potential weapons of mass destruction (WMD) according to the Iowa Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) Response Protocol.

[ARC 0420D, IAB 7/8/26, effective 8/12/26]