

Critical Guidance Pre-Approval FAQ

Starting October 1st all Critical Guidance (CG) submissions will require pre-approval by APR before testing is started

- Pre-approval will be completed with an [online submission form](#) (similar to the application today)
 - The level of detail required during pre-approval will be equivalent to what is required for CG recognition documentation
 - Testing labs are permitted to submit pre-approval on behalf of their clients without disclosing client information as long as sufficient detail about the testing can be provided
- APR staff will return the pre-approval with suggested test protocols (including sortation if needed), test conditions (such as label coverage), resulting recognition, and a unique ID
- Testing labs will be required to have a unique ID before performing any CG test protocols
 - Pre-approval only applies to CG test protocols; all other test protocols can be completed without pre-approval
 - Early-stage innovations are encouraged to perform early evaluation and benchmark tests to better predict success of CG testing
- A **25%** down-payment will be required at the time of pre-approval; this will be applied to Critical Guidance recognition
 - This pre-approval fee will be valid until testing is successfully completed; there is no expiration as long as the scope of the project/innovation remains the same
 - A PO will be accepted as payment for the pre-approval fee, but full payment must be received before CG webinars are scheduled (same as current)