



## Bureau of Public Health Laboratories (BPHL) Jacksonville - Miami - Tampa

# Laboratory Support

The Laboratory Support Department is comprised of various individual units that play a vital role in the daily operations of the Jacksonville Bureau of Public Health Laboratory. These units perform duties and responsibilities that are often behind the scenes but are very much considered the 'backbone' of the services we provide. These units are comprised of Shipping and Receiving, Media and Glassware Preparation, USPS Mailroom, and the specimen Triage Department.

### Highlights of Laboratory Support

- Triage and the Shipping and Receiving Department are inspected by CLIA for their role in assessing the pre-analytical specimen conditions upon arrival, along with maintaining supply storage conditions.
- The Media and Glassware Preparation Departments are regularly inspected by the EPA and NY ELAP for their role in water testing by the Environmental Microbiology Department.
- 4 out of 5 of all specimens received at the Jacksonville Laboratory will be assessed, sorted, and delivered to the appropriate testing department by the Triage personnel.
- On average, over 200 incoming packages of specimens, supplies and lab equipment are received, processed, and delivered daily by the S&R/Supply Department from various couriers and vendors.
- Each week, the Media & Glassware Preparation Departments produce approximately 2,500 tubes and 400 plates of media ordered by internal laboratory departments such as General Microbiology and Mycobacteriology and will run up to 100 autoclave cycles sterilizing media and various lab utensils.
- The Triage personnel collect ten to fifteen 31-gallon containers of biohazard waste daily from around the entire complex and keep it securely contained for professional removal. Lab Support is inspected annually by the Department of Health to maintain the Biomedical Waste Operating Permit.
- The S&R/Supply Department sends out 200 to 300 pieces weekly consisting of supply orders, lab results and other various shipments that are packaged and shipped out by courier to County Health Departments, clinics, and hospitals across the state. They ship out 400,000 Infant Screening Forms for newborn testing across the State of Florida annually. The mail room will meter approximately 20,000 pieces of mail every month.
- Over 1.2 million bar-coded and non-bar-coded accessioning labels are printed annually by the S&R/Supply Department for the 3 Bureau of Public Health Laboratories.

**Contributing to a Healthier Florida  
One Test at a Time**