

Updated SWAMP QAPP Advisor

What is it?

SWAMP developed the QAPP Advisor to assist project managers in developing their Quality Assurance Project Plans or QAPP. A QAPP defines procedures and criteria that will be used for a specific project. It includes criteria for data quality acceptability, procedures for sampling, testing (including deviations) and calibration, as well as preventative and corrective measures. The responsibilities of project participants also are described in a QAPP, as are sampling sites, organisms to be sampled, and the number of analyses to be conducted. Similar to income tax software, the SWAMP QAPP Advisor is a web-based application that guides you through the 24 elements of a QAPP providing explanation and examples of the content needed for each element. The Advisor also assists users in determining which elements apply to their project and which do not. The Advisor provides common information required for all QAPPs as well as advice and reference materials to help users produce a scientifically defensible and approvable QAPP.

Why is it important to the State?

The tool makes development of an approvable QAPP simple. In the past, many staff hours have gone into guiding project development of QAPPs. This allows for SWAMP's limited staff and monitoring resources to be directed to priority needs.

Why is it important to me?

Project applicants will appreciate the time the QAPP Advisor saves them. The general public will appreciate the effort that SWAMP puts forward to maximize resources and to increase the amount of data available for assessments and management decisions.

How will this information be used?

QAPPs document methods of data collection, storage, analysis and verification to ensure that data are of sufficient quality to meet the monitoring project objectives. All monitoring projects funded by SWAMP or US EPA must have an approved QAPP. The SWAMP QAPP Advisor will be used to create superior QAPPs.

To access the SWAMP Advisor click here.

SWAMP ADVISOR

The California Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program's (SWAMP) expert system for preparing Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs) correctly, consistently, and cost-effectively.

Main Menu

Which Element Group Do You Wish to Work With?

0.0 - Main Menu. Please select "Group A Elements" from the menu. The other menu selections (except the "Exit" choice) are currently placeholders for future expansions of the SWAMP Advisor and do not provide any advice yet.

- Group A Elements (1 - 9): Project Management
- Group B Elements (10 - 19): Data Generation & Acquisition
- Groups C and D Elements (20 - 24): Assessment, Data Validation, and Reconciliation With Your Requirements
- I'm finished and I'd like to exit the SWAMP Advisor

Starting Menu Choices

This expert system is designed so that you may use it to complete any part of the 24 elements required for a QAPP in order to begin work on a grant or project under the authority of SWAMP.

U.S. EPA divides the 24 elements into four main groups. We have combined the elements in Groups C and D because there are only a few elements in each. From this menu you may select one of the groups or exit the SWAMP Advisor.

