

Call for Participation in the ICCP Accreditation Programs 2016-2017 Exercise

The International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP) is pleased to invite you to participate in the next Accreditation round. The ICCP has three Accreditation Programs:

- Single Coal Accreditation Program (SCAP) for both maceral group and vitrinite random reflectance analyses. In this program the ability of an analyst to identify and quantify the maceral groups and to identify and measure the vitrinite reflectance of a coal sample according to ISO standards is tested.

Organizer: Kimon Christanis (christan@upatras.gr)

- Dispersed Organic Matter Vitrinite Reflectance Accreditation Program (DOMVR). In this program the ability of an analyst to identify and measure the reflectance of vitrinite occurring as dispersed vitrinite in rocks such as carbonaceous shales or hydrocarbon source rocks is tested.

Organizer: Angeles G. Borrego (angeles@incar.csic.es)

- Coal Blends Accreditation Program (CBAP). In this program the ability of an analyst to identify the number of coals in a blend and their petrographic characteristics such as vitrinite reflectance and maceral group composition according to ISO standards is tested. Organic petrology is the only technique able to yield information of the individual component coals within a coal blend.

Organizer: Isabel Suárez-Ruiz (isruiz@incar.csic.es)

The ICCP offers discounts for those participating in more than one accreditation program and has established a procedure to facilitate payments in which a single invoice will be produced. This requires that participants fill in the registration form available in the following link www.iccop.org/accreditation/accreditation-form before the end of April 2016 in order to expedite the procedures. In addition the timing of the exercises has been spaced to reasonably distribute the analytical load of the participants along the year. The expected timing is summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. General Schedule Proposed for 2016-2017 ICCP Accreditation exercises

	SCAP	DOMVR	CBAP
Announcement, call for participants and invoicing	February to May 2016	February to May 2016	February to May 2016
Sample distribution	April to June 2016	May to June 2016	December 2016
Reception of results	July to September 2016	October 2016	January to March 2017
Evaluation, Certificates and Web	October to December 2016	December 2016	April to June 2017
Certificates Validity	01.01.2017 to 31.12.2018	01.01.2017 to 31.12.2018	01.07.2017 to 30.06.2019

Different number of samples are to be analysed in the programs depending on your previous participation. Participants entering SCAP or DOMVR programs or having lapsed for a round, have to analyse six samples, whereas continuation in the program requires the analysis of two samples. For CBAP, new entrants are expected to analyse two samples and continuation requires the analysis of a single sample.

No participation of automatic systems will be allowed in this round.

The samples for the exercises will be distributed once the organizer has been informed by the treasurer about the reception of the corresponding fee. The fees for the next Accreditation Round are summarized in Table 2. In addition, for participation in two ICCP accreditation programs a 10% discount will be applied in the two of them and for participation in the three accreditation programs a 20% discount will be applied in the three of them.

Table 2. Fees for the 2016-2017 ICCP Accreditation Programs exercise.

	SCAP		DOMVR		CBAP	
	Entry	Continuation	Entry	Continuation	Entry	Continuation
Non-Members, €	126	84	100	66	200	168
Members, €	63	42	50	33	100	84

Further details on the Accreditation Programs, evaluation procedures and screening method to limit outliers in the accreditation database can be found at the ICCP website (www.iccop.org) and can be also received by contacting the respective program organizers.

The ICCP accreditation programs have grown up and consolidated over the years and are now an efficient instrument for checking the ability and method of an analyst for petrographic analysis. If you are interested in joining the programs, please contact the corresponding organizers.

Magdalena Misz-Kennan
Chair of the Accreditation Subcommittee