MARYLAND DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE HIGHWAY
ADMINISTRATION

MDOT State Highway Administration
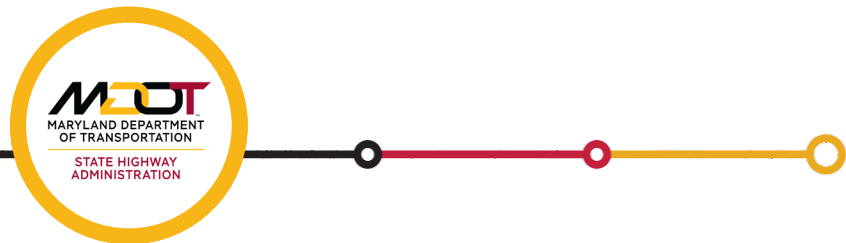
INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE PROGRAM

INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE PROGRAM

- Independent Assurance (IA) is a Federal Requirement under 23 CFR 637 to assess the application of testing and sampling procedures on materials used on construction projects part of the Federal Highway System.

- IA is accomplished through the Project or System approach.

- MDOT SHA utilizes the System approach, meaning that 80% of the Qualified Technicians are "audited" each year from January 1 to December 31.

- Qualified technicians are defined as Mid-Atlantic Region Technician Certification Program (MARTCP) certified individuals performing testing and/or sampling on Maryland's Numbered Routes, Federal and Local Aid Participation projects, and Hot Mix Asphalt Producers Quality Control staff.

INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE PROGRAM
AND MARTCP

- Independent Assurance (IA)is an assessment of a technician's application of the appropriate testing/sample procedure on a project.

- The IA Program is not involved in approving, renewing, or issues pertaining to MARTCP Certifications. Please direct such matters to your MARTCP Administrator via email at MARTCP@mdot.maryland.gov.

- MARTCP Certification renewals, due to the Personal Identifiable Information contained in the MARTCP Application are to be sent to MARTCP@mdot.maryland.gov.

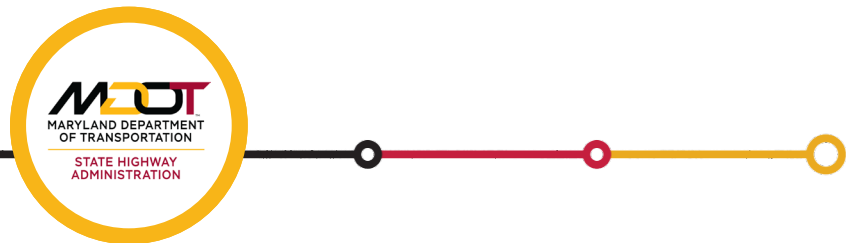# INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE PROGRAM
AND MARTCP

- An added benefit of the Independent Assurance (IA) Program, allows a MARTCP Certified technician to maintain their certifications at the state level by completing three (3) satisfactory IA Audits within their five-year certification period.

- A newly certified MARTCP technician must wait one year after receiving the certification for the audit to count towards recertification. The IA Program may conduct an audit on the technician prior to this to be compliant with 23 CFR 637. It is the individual's responsibility to request an additional audit to be eligible to renew via the IAA method, refer to current MARTCP policies for additional information.

- The third audit must be completed prior to expiring in the actual calendar year the certification expires, **i.e. 2026 expiration means the final audit is in 2026**.

INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE PROGRAM
REGIONAL AUDIT

- Is an IA Audit for individuals looking to maintain their certifications, who do not have access to materials sampling/testing on a MDOT SHA, MDTA, County or Local Aid Participation project.

The 2025 Schedule is as follows, based on demand:

- Third Thursday—March, April, May
- Second Thursday—June
- Third Thursday—August, September, October
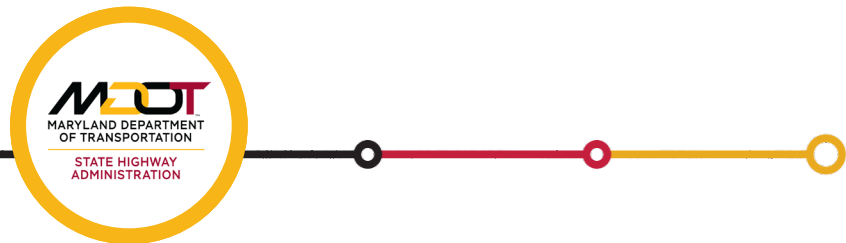- Second Thursday—November, December

INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE PROGRAM
VIRTUAL HMA AUDIT

- Is for **<u>inspectors only</u>** looking to maintain their certifications, who do not have access to HMA materials sampling/testing on a MDOT SHA, MDTA, County or Local Aid Participation project. The HMA Audit is conducted through Microsoft Teams.

  The 2025 Schedule is as follows, based on demand:

- Third Wednesday—March, April, May

- Second Wednesday—June

- Third Wednesday—August, September, October

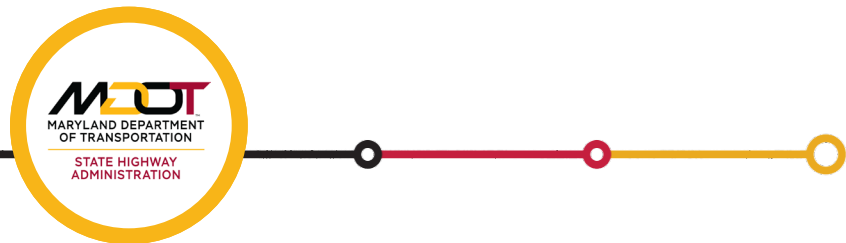- Second Wednesday—November, December

INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE PROGRAM
HMA PRODUCTION FACILITIES AUDIT

- Is for field and lab technicians at **HMA Production Facilities** looking to maintain their certifications.

- Technicians are encouraged to schedule these assessments during the production of a state approved mix design, preferably during state work.

- During state work, a sample is required. Please provide the IA Technician with the following:
  - ❑ Box Sample
  - ❑ Gradations
  - ❑ Two (2) Plugs
  - ❑ Oven Correction Factor
  - ❑ Copies of worksheets used to compute the values obtained during testing.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON PAVEMENT MARKING AUDITS

- The IA Program is responsible for HMA, Concrete, and Soils audits.
- Pavement Marking audits are the responsibility of the Pavement Marking Team, please email your request for this to sha_pmms@mdot.maryland.gov.
- If you include a request for this along with an IAA, you will be asked to send a separate request to the Pavement Marking Team.
- The IA Program will no longer be forwarding requests for Pavement Marking Audits.