

JPMA Certification 2.0 Frequently Asked Questions



1. Why did JPMA decide to enhance the Certification Program?

With increased regulatory scrutiny, the juvenile products manufacturing industry demanded a turnkey solution to respond to the increased testing responsibility at the state and federal levels. Additionally, the industry has been incurring the expense and burden to meet all requirements and duplicative testing through major retailer programs for many years. The JPMA Certification Program is a natural program to fulfill requirements and reduce duplicative testing.

2. Can a manufacturer complete testing in their own facility?

Third party testing using an appropriately accredited independent laboratory must be completed when participating in Certification 2.0. The law permits a laboratory that is owned, managed, or controlled by a manufacturer or a private labeler, to apply for CPSC approval if it puts extra safeguards in place. These labs, known as “firewalled labs,” may only be accredited by order of the CPSC. If you operate a firewalled lab, you can conduct testing for specific tests that the CPSC has accredited your lab to perform. Test results must be transferred to the Program Administrator to fulfill the program requirements.

Additionally, manufacturers can still utilize their own labs for quality checks and internal testing outside of JPMA Certification.

3. Which laboratories are supporting Certification 2.0?

SGS serves as the Program Administrator and Principal lab. BV and ITS are Supporting Labs in the program. Testing results from BV and ITS must be transferred to the principal lab (SGS) in order to fulfill the requirements of the program. As the law denotes, JPMA also accepts test results from CPSC accredited third party laboratories under the Certification 2.0 Program. Testing results can be transferred to the JPMA supporting labs or principal lab for acceptance. Details on this can be found in the [JPMA Procedural Guide](#).

4. The Procedural Guide states that you must choose which laboratory you want to work with for Certification in each product category. Does this mean that we need to choose one lab for all of our testing in a particular category?

Participants have the flexibility of choosing one laboratory for each product category they participate in. For example, if a program participant makes cribs and play yards, they need to choose one test laboratory for all of their crib testing and one test laboratory for all of their play yard testing. Participants can use any of the laboratories, but if they use BV, ITS or a CPSC Accredited lab, they must have their test results transferred to SGS.

5. I don't sell to the mass retailers. What's in it for me?

Certification 2.0 is a one stop shop and includes requirements for all the mandatory federal, state and ASTM standards for your products. JPMA has negotiated protocol testing price discounts with SGS, BV and ITS for participants in the program. JPMA has used a subset of product categories to analyze the cost savings for members and non-members, and found that by participating in the JPMA Certification Program you will benefit from more testing (mandatory, federal, state, ASTM *and* mass retailer) for less costs. These cost savings include approximately 20% - 50% discounts depending on product category and membership status. Regardless of whom you currently sell to, program participants win when it comes to testing prices. Additionally, if your future goals are to sell to mass retailers, you can assure them that you are already meeting their requirements by participating in JPMA Certification 2.0.

6. What are the cost implications for participating in Certification 2.0?

Members who participate in the JPMA Certification Program pay a reduced participation fee per product category. Non-members may also participate for a higher fee. Additionally, JPMA has negotiated protocol testing price discounts with SGS, BV and ITS and these represent best industry pricing. JPMA has developed the protocols in such a way that they are applied in the most economic way to benefit you. Please note that not all protocols are applicable to every product and some products require different testing based on the material content of the product. It is best to obtain a quote for your product from the participating laboratories to determine the applicable cost.

7. What is a pre-market sample? Does the sample have to come from the actual production line?

Pre-market sample must be a representative sample as defined by the CPSC which states that a representative sample is identical to the certified production product in all material respects. For Production Surveillance, a representative sample is one that is known to be representative of the population of products manufactured since the last periodic test (or since the pre-market certification for the first periodic test).

The Participant must retain evidence identifying the pre-market sample in such a way to describe the design of the sample tested. This can be done by (a) retention of the tested sample, or (b) sample from the same production lot or (c) documentation that defines the design of the model (e.g. - Bill of Materials, drawings of the complete sample, etc.). The manner and means of describing the sample selected are at the option of the Participant.

Program Participants will be required to certify by signature via the Test Request Form that the sample is representative of the population of products manufactured since the last periodic test.

8. Where can I locate the JPMA Certification Program Protocols?

The JPMA Certification Program Protocols can be found in the Certification Participants Group on www.jpma.org after logging in to your account or by contacting JPMA at 856-642-4416.

9. If I have product already on the market that is not JPMA certified, can I still have it tested and certified to 2.0? If so, is Pre-Market Certification relevant?

In many cases Pre-Market Certification is exactly that, a certification of the product before it hits the market. However, Pre-Market Certification is also required for any participant to enter into the JPMA Certification Program. It allows the laboratory to ensure that products are actually meeting the standards and protocols and are therefore compliant with JPMA Certification 2.0.

10. Are retailers currently accepting JPMA Certification 2.0?

JPMA continues to work with retailers to outline JPMA Certification 2.0 and discuss their acceptance of the program. This is a major goal of the JPMA Board

of Directors and they are engaged in discussions with retailers to address the duplicative testing concerns that our industry faces.

However, as of 2014, Wal-Mart has accepted the JPMA Certification 2.0 program, to the end that as the two protocol requirements line up, those test reports will be accepted by Wal-Mart so that the product will not be required to undergo duplicative testing. Wal-Mart does have additional testing protocols that are not included in the Certification 2.0 program and successful testing to those protocols must be completed for Wal-Mart.

11. If I test under a retailer program, can I transfer the test results to comply with Certification 2.0?

JPMA has written Section 4.8 of the [JPMA Procedural Guide](#) to guide participants on the rules for transferring test results. The laboratory must ensure that these outlined requirements are met in order to fulfill the program requirements. JPMA has engaged and is in ongoing discussions with major retailers to reach agreement that the Certification 2.0 test results can be accepted by them. While we believe it is possible to transfer testing results for Certification 2.0, we encourage all manufacturers to review their contracts with the retailers to ensure the manufacturer is the owner of their test reports, therefore allowing for that report to be transferred fulfilling the Certification 2.0 requirements.

12. How many samples do I need to send to the lab for testing?

Please see the Test Request Form, which is included as an appendix to the [JPMA Procedural Guide](#) for instructions on how many samples to submit for each product category. Note that sending less than the requested number of samples can result in a delay in your testing process. If you have questions or would like to confirm the number of samples you should send, you should always discuss with your lab representative during the quote process.

13. I am new to the Certification Program; how do I apply?

In order for a manufacturer to have their products JPMA Certified, they must submit an application and contract to the Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association (JPMA) to participate in the certification program. Participants can be either a member or non-member of the association. Applicants can visit the complete the [online application](#) and/or contact JPMA at 856.642.4416 or via email at jpma@jpma.org.

14. I've been through initial testing, what do I do if I have a new product I am bringing to market?

Anytime you are bringing a new product to market, you must conduct Pre-Market Certification as outlined in the [JPMA Procedural Guide](#). This includes products in categories that you are already certified in. Please note that failing to conduct Pre-Market Certification for a product category you are already certified in is a violation of the program requirements and will result in corrective action notification from JPMA.

15. Can I just certify one model in my line?

If a manufacturer wants to participate in a specific product category of the Certification Program, then all of their models in that category must be tested and pass the JPMA Protocols to be certified.

16. How does JPMA plan to market the Certification Program?

JPMA has dedicated a great deal of resources in order to market the Certification Program to consumers, retailers, government officials, manufacturers and the media. This is by far the most the association has ever dedicated to this effort and the plan is aimed at gaining consumer recognition of the JPMA Certification Seal and educating them on the safe selection and use of juvenile products.

17. I make products that JPMA does not currently certify. Will JPMA expand the program at any point to include more product types?

Program expansion is a goal for JPMA. We are reviewing options for how we can expand the program to test or certify products that do not have an ASTM standard, the foundation on which the JPMA Certification Program has historically been built. More information will be shared as it becomes available.