

1. **Alcohol** – Any substance containing any form of alcohol, including ethanol, methanol, propanol, and isopropanol (NCGS20-4.01 (1a)).
2. **Alcoholic beverage** – “any beverage containing at least one-half of one percent (0.5 %) alcohol by volume, including malt beverages, unfortified wine, fortified wine, spirituous liquor, and mixed beverages.” (NCGS 18B-101 (4))
3. **Authenticating documentation** - A certificate of analysis or equivalent documentation provided by the manufacturer of a substance certifying chemical composition or any published spectral data from an informed treatise generally accepted in the field that identifies a chemical substance.
4. **Calibration** - Checking or adjusting (by comparison with a standard) the accuracy of a measuring instrument. Calibrations are performed by approved service contractors for all pipettes, liquid handling systems, and balances in the State Crime Laboratory Toxicology Section.
5. **Commercial reagent** - Solvent or chemical manufactured or obtained from a commercial source.
6. **Critical reagent** - Those chemicals which critically affect the quality of tests.
7. **Drug** – “a. substances recognized in the official United States Pharmacopoeia, official Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States, or official National Formulary, or any supplement to any of them; b. substances intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in man or other animals; c. substances (other than food) intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of man or other animals; and d. substances intended for use as a component of any article specified in a, b, or c of this subdivision; but does not include devices or their components, parts, or accessories.” (NCGS 90-87 (12))
8. **Impairing Substance** – Alcohol, controlled substance under Chapter 90 of the General Statutes, any other drug or psychoactive substance capable of impairing a person’s physical or mental faculties, or any combination of these substances. (NCGS 20-4.01 (14a))
9. **Limit of Quantitation (LOQ)** – The LOQ is the lowest calibrator concentration included in the calibration curve.
10. **Measurand** – the (unknown) quantity subject to measurement.

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11. **Measurement** – a process of experimentally obtaining one or more quantity values, typically of physical, chemical, or biological nature; implies comparison of quantities.
12. **Measurement Traceability** – an unbroken chain of comparisons (using acceptable and documented methods) to national or international standards (SI) with each comparison having stated uncertainties.
13. **Metrology** – the science of measurement.
14. **Metabolite** – A product of a biotransformation action on the drug.
15. **Performance check** – A test used to verify acceptable system performance.
16. **Performance verification** – The initial confirmation of the reliability of a previously or externally validated method or instrument.
17. **Prepared reagent** - A dilution or mixture of commercial reagents prepared by a State Crime Laboratory Toxicology Section Forensic Scientist.
18. **Primary reference material** - Any reference material obtained from a source other than the State Crime Laboratory and which has documentation issued by the provider authenticating its chemical composition.
19. **Primary reference standard weights** – Reference standard weights which have documentation issued by an approved vendor authenticating the calibration status.
20. **Quality control (QC) Check** - Periodic confirmation of the reliability of equipment, instrumentation, and/or reagents.
21. **Reference material** - Material sufficiently homogeneous and stable, with reference to specified properties, which has been established to be fit for its intended use in measurement or in examination of nominal properties.
22. **Reference standard** – Measurement standard designated for the calibration of other measurement standards (reference standards or equipment).
23. **Secondary reference material** - Any reference material used in the course of casework that has its chemical composition verified by reference material.
24. **Secondary reference standard weights** – Reference standard weights that have the calibration status verified by comparison to primary reference standard weights.
25. **Upper Limit of Quantitation (ULOQ)** – The ULOQ is the highest calibrator concentration included in the calibration curve.
26. **Volatile** – A substance that readily converts to the gaseous phase at low temperatures.