



FACTSHEET: AB 2370

Water Testing Requirements and How to Apply for Free Services

What are the basic requirements in AB 2370 concerning lead in drinking water?

Assembly Bill 2370, Chapter 676, Statutes of 2018, requires that Licensed Child Care Centers (CCC) operating in buildings constructed before January 1, 2010 must have their drinking water tested for excessive lead levels¹ by January 1, 2023. This requirement applies to centers only, not to Family Child Care Homes. If lead levels in water exceed an Action Level of 5 parts per billion, centers are required to take certain actions. More details are included in the Written Directives, which were released by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS).

¹ For more information, see the CDSS Provider Information Notices 21-21 CCP at: www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/CCLD/PINs/2021/CCP/PIN-21-21-CCP.pdf.



More resources are available at: www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-care-licensing/water-testing-information.



Which centers will receive free testing services and how are they identified?

Per Senate Bill 862, Chapter 449, Statutes of 2018,² funding assistance for eligible CCCs is prioritized based on a combination of factors, such as economic need and age of the children served. To determine eligibility and priority, all CCCs are encouraged to apply at:

<https://ab2370assistance.owp.csus.edu>.



² http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB862



Prioritization of Child Care Centers will include the following:

- CCCs that serve infants (0 to 2 years old)
- Those that own and operate only one center
- Those with at least 50% of the children receiving subsidized care

How do centers apply for State Water Board grant assistance?

The initial application and status for all grant applicants is available at <https://ab2370assistance.owp.csus.edu/>.



Who receives the funds and what services will it cover?

A grant team, led by the Office of Water Programs (OWP) at Sacramento State, receives funding from the State Water Board and CDSS to support testing, fixture replacement, and retesting for centers meeting eligibility for funding assistance. OWP has partnered with the California Rural Water Association (CRWA) to provide testing services, which includes both sample collection and laboratory analysis, as well as with the Resource & Referral (R&R) Network and certain R&R agencies to assist in outreach to centers.

How do centers find qualified samplers?

For centers that receive free sampling services, the grant team will directly work with CRWA to contract with samplers for the centers; therefore, those centers should not seek out and hire a water sampler. For centers funding their own sampling work, a list of samplers who are willing to assist centers with sampling is available at

https://ab2370assistance.owp.csus.edu/resources/External_Samplers_Directory/.



All samplers must complete the External Water Sampler Self-Certification Form

<https://cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/Additional-Resources/Forms-and-Brochures/2020/I-L/LIC9275.pdf?ver=2021-06-23-144511-693>.



Will all centers be eligible for funding for new fixtures?

No. Only centers that receive free sampling services and have an exceedance are eligible for reimbursement of new fixture costs, as funds allow. The grant team will provide more direction to such centers after initial sampling results are available.

What is the impact of COVID?

The grant team will comply with all current state and local orders regarding the COVID public health emergency. Providing clean drinking water is an essential service, which allows the grant team to continue to work. All recommended local public health department safety procedures for social and physical distancing will be implemented to minimize risks of exposure to the virus and protect the sampling professional, center staff, and children.

Contacts:

Centers with general questions about AB 2370 should email: cccwatertesting@dss.ca.gov

Centers with questions on applying for services should email OWP at: ab2370assistance@owp.csus.edu.

Centers that have received written confirmation that they are eligible and approved to receive services should email questions regarding sampling appointment and scheduling to CRWA at: ab2370leadsampling@calruralwater.org.

Assistance is also available at your Resource and Referral Agency.

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