



New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water Supply and Geoscience - Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Mail Code 401-03
401 E. State Street - P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
Phone (609) 292-5550 Fax (609) 633-1654
<http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/index.html>

CHECKLIST FOR COMPLETING THE CHILD CARE CENTER
SAFE DRINKING WATER REQUIREMENTS
FOR A NEW OR PROPOSED CENTER
N.J.A.C. 10:122-5.2

This checklist outlines the child care center requirements for obtaining a Certification of Acceptable Drinking Water Quality from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Bureau of Safe Drinking Water (BSDW) for a **new or proposed** child care center (if this is a renewal review, please use the checklist for license renewals).

NOTE: Child care centers receiving drinking water from a public community water system **do not** have to complete this checklist but instead are required to provide either 1) a copy of the most recent water bill or 2) a letter from the public community water system certifying service to the appropriate address.

Instructions

In order for a new or proposed child care center to receive a Certification of Acceptable Drinking Water Quality from the NJDEP, the child care center must complete and submit pages 2 and 3 of this form.

Sampling requirements, including a list of contaminants and the acceptable timeframe within which the test results are valid for the purposes of this program, may be found on page 3.

All sampling must be collected **raw** (except for lead and copper). If there is existing treatment (i.e. water softener) for a specific contaminant, a sample must be collected and analyzed for that contaminant before and after treatment. However, if the child care center is a noncommunity water system and has drinking water data following treatment, the data may be used as long as it was analyzed within the appropriate timeframe.

If sampling has occurred within the designated timeframe for any of the contaminants listed, copies of the associated drinking water analyses must be submitted along with this completed checklist. If the child care center is a public water system with its own State-issued PWSID or is served by a public “noncommunity” water system with its own PWSID, the sampling results must be submitted by the child care center’s laboratory through NJDEP’s E2 Reporting.

Review of the data will be conducted by the BSDW and if warranted, a Certification of Acceptable Drinking Water Quality will be issued.



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Child Care Center Information – NEW OR PROPOSED CENTER

Child Care Center Name: _____

Address (Street/City/Zip): _____

Director/Owner (Print): _____

Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Department of Children and Families License Number: _____

PWSID (if applicable): N J _____

Current/Proposed population (staff and children): _____

Days and Hours of Operation: _____

Are there different AM and PM sessions? Yes: _____ No: _____

Does the facility have a drinking water treatment unit (i.e. water softener)?

Yes: _____ No: _____

If Yes, what type of treatment unit and for which contaminant? _____

(Director/Owner Signature)

(Date)

**New or Proposed Child Care Center –
Required Testing for a Certification of Drinking Water Quality**

Contaminant	Sample date must be within the last	Date sampled
Coliform	90 days	
Nitrate	90 days	
Volatile Organic Chemicals	3 years	
Lead ¹	3 years	
Copper ¹	3 years	
Inorganic Chemicals		
Antimony	3 years	
Arsenic	3 years	
Barium	3 years	
Beryllium	3 years	
Cadmium	3 years	
Chromium	3 years	
Cyanide	3 years	
Fluoride	3 years	
Mercury	3 years	
Selenium	3 years	
Thallium	3 years	
Radiological Contaminants		
Gross Alpha	3 years	
Radium 226 ²	3 years	
Radium 228	3 years	
Uranium ³	3 years	

¹ The chain of custody for the lead and copper sampling must be submitted with the results. Lead and copper samples must be first draw (minimum 6 hour standing time) and from approved sampling sites. Please consult with the laboratory prior to conducting the sampling.

² Radium 226 analyses are not necessary if the concentration of gross alpha particle activity is <5 pCi/l. However, it may be beneficial for a child care center to analyze for Radium 226 instead of substituting if they are planning on renewing their license in three years and their gross alpha particle activity is < 3 pCi/l.

“If the child care center’s gross alpha particle activity is <3 pCi/l and it substitutes for radium 226, a result of 1.5 pCi/l plus the previous radium 228 result will be used to determine if sampling for radium 228 for a license renewal is required. Please refer to the two substitution examples below:

Example A (Initial Gross Alpha result = <3 pCi/l and Radium 228 = .25 pCi/l): 1.5 pCi/l (for radium 226) + .25 pCi/l for radium 228 = 1.75 pCi/l which is less than ½ the MCL of 5 pCi/l. Therefore the child care center does not have to sample for gross alpha and radium 228 until six years from the initial sampling date.

Example B (Initial Gross Alpha result = <3 pCi/l and Radium 228 = 1.1 pCi/l): 1.5 pCi/l (for radium 226) + 1.1 pCi/l result for radium 228 = 2.6 pCi/l which is greater than ½ the MCL of 5 pCi/l. The child care center would need to sample for gross alpha and radium 228 for their renewal (three years after the initial sampling date).

³ Uranium analyses are not necessary if the concentration of gross alpha particle activity is <15 pCi/l.

If you have questions regarding drinking water sampling requirements for child care centers, please refer to <http://www.nj.gov/dep/dccrequest/safedrink.html> or http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pw_child.html or contact the BSDW at 609-292-5550. You may also e-mail the BSDW at watersupply@dep.state.nj.us.