



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: May 25, 2022

To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Administrators for Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities, State Funded Early Childhood Centers

Route To: Business Administrators, Certified Educational Facilities Managers

From: Kevin Dehmer, Assistant Commissioner/Chief Financial Officer  
Division of Finance and Business Services

Deadlines: Testing of Lead in School Drinking Water: **June 30, 2022**  
Submission of Statement of Assurance to the NJDOE: **June 30, 2022**  
Submission of Reimbursement Application to NJDOE: **August 31, 2022**

## 2021-2022 Testing for Lead in School Drinking Water

This notice is to provide a reminder that all public school districts, charter schools, renaissance schools, jointure commissions, educational services commissions, approved private schools for students with disabilities and state-funded early childcare facilities are required to test for lead in school drinking water during the 2021-2022 school year by no later than June 30, 2022. **Testing during the 2021-2022 school year must be completed regardless of any prior testing.**

After the completion of water testing in accordance with [N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4](#) and receipt of results, the following actions must be completed:

1. **Facility Level Reporting:** Make all drinking water testing results available at each school facility.
2. **Exceedance Notification Letter:** For any drinking water sample results that exceed the action level of 15 µg/l [ppb], provide written notification of the exceedance to the parents/guardians of all students attending the facility and facility staff. Use the [Exceedance Notification Letter Template](#) to meet this requirement.
3. **Website Reporting:** Post water testing results and exceedance notification letters on the entity's website. (Do not submit test results and notices to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE)). This requirement must be met to complete the Statement of Assurance described in action item 4.
4. **Statement of Assurance (SOA):** Complete and submit the [online Statement of Assurance \(SOA\)](#) by **June 30, 2022** confirming that (1) drinking water testing for lead was completed as required, (2) notifications were provided to all parties, and (3) alternate drinking water continues to be made available to all students and staff where water quality exceeds the permissible lead level. Website link(s) for the posted test results and exceedance notification letters, if applicable, are required as part of the SOA. **The website address(es) entered in the SOA must provide direct access to the water testing and exceedance notification documents.** Links to the entity's homepage must contain the direct link for navigation to lead testing results and exceedance documents.
5. **Reimbursement:** If reimbursement for drinking water testing is desired, complete and submit the [Reimbursement Request application](#) to the NJDOE by **August 31, 2022**. (State-funded early childcare facilities funded through the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act grant, are eligible to be reimbursed for water supply testing and analysis conducted between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, as approved by the NJDOE and subject to available funds.)

More information regarding Testing for Lead in School Drinking Water rules, submission requirements, and links to guidance documents can be found on NJDOE's [Testing for Lead in School Drinking Water webpage](#).

Technical questions regarding lead sampling and testing requirements should be emailed to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) at [watersupply@dep.nj.gov](mailto:watersupply@dep.nj.gov). Questions regarding NJDOE Testing for Lead in School Drinking Water rules, submissions and reimbursement should be directed to [leadtesting@doe.nj.gov](mailto:leadtesting@doe.nj.gov).

c: Members, State Board of Education  
Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education  
Christine Norbut Beyer, MSW, Commissioner, Department of Children and Families  
NJDOE Staff  
NJDCF Office of Licensing  
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