



## **Guidance on the Selection and Installation of Point-of-Use Filtered Bottle-Filling Stations and Filtered Faucets**

Pursuant to P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 76, Title 18 (C.18A:33-8.1 to 18A:33-8.4)

This guidance document is intended to assist public school districts in developing plans for the installation and maintenance of point-of-use filtered bottle-filling stations and filtered faucets in school buildings as part of the School Lead Filters Program.

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### **Equipment Selection**

- **Point-of-use filtered bottle-filling stations** must:
    - Be designed to fill drinking bottles or other containers for personal water consumption and include a drinking fountain.
    - Be connected to the building's potable water distribution system;
    - Have a light or other device to signal when filters require replacement;
    - Be certified to meet NSF/ANSI standard 53 for lead reduction and NSF/ANSI standard 42 for particulate removal; and
    - Have a flow rate through the station that is paired to the specified flow rate of the filter cartridge.
  - **Point-of-use filtered faucets** must:
    - Be certified to meet NSF/ANSI standard 53 for lead reduction and NSF/ANSI standard 42 for particulate removal; and
    - Be connected to the building's potable water distribution system.
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### **Siting and Access**

In planning installation, districts should consider:

- Placement in high-use and high-visibility areas, such as cafeterias, hallways, gymnasiums, and near classrooms;
- Equitable access for all students;
- Accessibility for individuals with disabilities, consistent with applicable State and federal requirements; and
- Replacement or supplementation of existing drinking fountains, where appropriate.

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## **Installation and Maintenance**

Districts should develop procedures to:

- Install units in accordance with manufacturer specifications and applicable plumbing codes;
- Regularly inspect and maintain equipment to ensure proper operation;
- Replace filter cartridges in accordance with manufacturer recommendations; and
- Maintain records of filter replacement and maintenance activities.

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## **Implementation Considerations**

Districts are encouraged to:

- Prioritize improvements in buildings with documented water quality concerns or elevated lead levels.
- Coordinate installations with other facility upgrades when feasible.
- Utilize available grant funding under the School Lead Filters program and the Securing Our Children's Future Bond Act.

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This guidance is advisory in nature and is intended to support local planning and implementation consistent with the requirements of P.L.2025, c.76.