

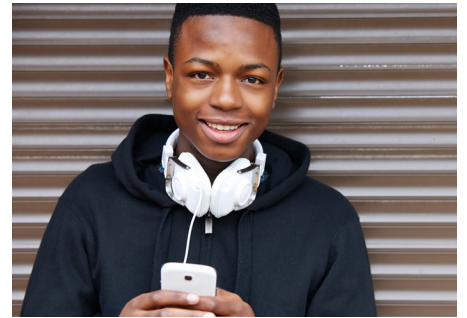
LEAD-FREE



Lead In Schools

Lead-Free New Jersey is committed to the full elimination of lead exposure risk for children in public and private schools, head start centers, and other childcare facilities.

Lead contamination is especially concerning for children as a result of their rapid mental and physical development. The risks for even a small amount of lead include behavioral, neurological and mental disabilities, and hearing and speech problems.



Children that experience lead toxicity might suffer from behavioral and physical challenges

Lead exposure in children may lead to:

- reading difficulties
- poor vocabulary
- attention problems
- poor fine-motor coordination
- greater school absenteeism
- lower class ranking and greater likelihood of dropping out of high school



Symptoms of lead poisoning may include:

- tiredness or restlessness
- headache
- stomachache
- constipation
- irritability
- poor appetite

More severe symptoms may include:

- vomiting
- loss of sight or hearing
- lapses in consciousness



As more lead accumulates, children may become clumsy and weak, and they may lose previously-acquired skills.

WHAT TEACHERS NEED TO KNOW

Note changes in behavior or physical appearance over time.

Children affected by lead toxicity may:

- Fail to finish class assignments
- Disrupt their classes
- Perform poorly in school
- Be unable to tolerate frustration
- Have problems learning
- Be easily distracted
- Need a lot of supervision
- Have problems with other children
- Frequently call out in class
- Have difficulty staying seated
- Have difficulty concentrating

*Children who have not been affected by lead may show any of these symptoms for various reasons.



TESTING FOR LEAD IN SCHOOLS

Starting in the 2021-2022 school year, the New Jersey Board of Education mandated lead testing every three years for drinking and cooking water in public schools. The school districts are required to develop a lead sampling plan for the collection and third-party lab certified analysis.

Schools are required to submit lead tests to the state and to make the test results publicly available on the school or district's website.

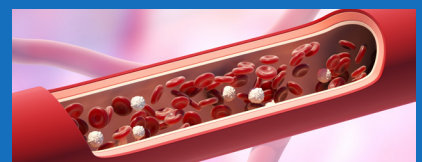
Summary of New Jersey Department of Education test results



Lead testing requirements apply to:

- All New Jersey public school districts
- Charter schools
- Renaissance school projects
- Jointure commissions
- Educational services commissions
- Receiving schools
- Approved private schools for students with disabilities acting under contract to provide educational services on behalf of New Jersey public school districts
- State-funded early childcare facilities (including contracted childcare and Head Start programs)

NJ requires schools to post test results and directly notify parents when results are above 15 parts per billion.



Lead-Free New Jersey is committed to educating and empowering residents and stakeholders to develop a comprehensive suite of solutions for the remediation of lead in paint, water, and soil from homes, schools and childcare centers. **Join us to GET THE LEAD OUT.**

