



**The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) has adopted final rules for licensed child care centers and homes to address lead in drinking water. Effective January 1, 2019, the DCFS licensing standards include the following requirements for currently licensed providers and new licensure applicants.**

- All providers must complete training on the hazards of lead and mitigation strategies
- Centers and homes constructed on or before January 1, 2000 and serving children under the age of six must:
  - Test all sources of drinking water for elevated levels of lead
  - Develop a mitigation plan, including immediate and long-term actions, for any water sources with results indicating 2.01 parts per billion (ppb) or more of lead present
  - Share lead test results and mitigation plan with DCFS and families
  - Retest water to ensure mitigation strategies remove or reduce lead to 2.0ppb or lower

**Providers must collect samples from their sources of drinking water and send samples to an approved lab by May 1, 2019.**

More information can be found on the DCFS Sunshine website (<https://sunshine.dcfs.illinois.gov>), including:

- Updated licensing standards with lead-related requirements
- List of IEPA-approved laboratories
- FAQs

Additionally, Illinois Action for Children's website has information on an approved training and resources from experts to help providers move through this process. As more training materials are identified, the website will be updated. Check out <https://www.actforchildren.org/lead-water/> for resources.