



# Attention

## Landlords and Property Owners with Child Care Center Tenants:

California Assembly Bill (AB) 2370, Chapter 676, Statutes of 2018 requires licensed child care centers (CCC) to test all of their drinking water fixtures for lead. Specific details are in the [written directives](#) issued by the California Department of Social Services.

### *What is the problem?*

Drinking water fixtures and piping, particularly older faucets, can be a substantial source of lead. Identifying fixtures that contribute lead to drinking water can help CCCs identify how they can reduce lead exposure to children. Child care centers are required to take action if any fixture dispenses water with a concentration of lead that exceeds 5 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ). This testing program will identify fixtures that require action. Fixtures that exceed action levels cannot be used until replaced and retested.

## Here are the basics:

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### *Which CCCs must comply?*

All CCCs operating in buildings constructed before January 1, 2010 (Family Child Care Homes are not required to test their water for lead).

### *What must CCCs do?*

The CCC must test for lead in water dispensed from all cold water fixtures used for drinking or food preparation, including all faucets, fountains, coolers, bubblers, bottle filling stations, etc.

### *What are the deadlines?*

Initial water samples must be collected for testing before January 1, 2023, and testing must be repeated every five years after the initial sample.

### ***Is there available \*funding?***

As of January 2021, funding is limited and CCCs must meet certain criteria to be eligible for assistance. Among the criteria, each CCC must affirm that their rental agreements allow access to the property for testing. If not allowed in their agreement, CCCs must obtain permission from landlords. CCCs can apply for assistance at <https://ab2370assistance.owp.csus.edu/>.

### ***Can anyone collect and analyze samples?***

No. The CCCs must use an external (not a CCC employee) water sampler who has met all the requirements of the state's [water sampler certification checklist](#). In addition, the testing laboratory used must be currently accredited by California's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP).

### ***What do landlords need to do?***

You will need to allow tenants to provide access to the building and property for inspections and sampling by a qualified third-party sampler (if not already allowed by your lease agreement). This allows your tenants to continue operating their facilities uninterrupted. If exceedances are identified, you may also need to coordinate with your tenant to replace water fixtures that do not meet requirements with fixtures that do. We encourage you to discuss all of this with your tenant to ensure allowances are made for scheduling, testing, and possible fixture replacement.

### ***Contacts:***

Centers with general questions about AB 2370 should email:

[cccwatertesting@dss.ca.gov](mailto:cccwatertesting@dss.ca.gov)



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