



Ohio Healthy Homes Network

2023 Annual Spring Conference

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Ohio Department of Health

Ohio

Department
of Health

Ohio Department of Health Updates

- Rule Revisions
 - Lowering elevated blood lead level
- Lead Safe Housing Fund
- Coronavirus State and Local Recovery Funds
- State Children's Health Insurance Plan (SCHIP)
 - Lead Hazard Control Program
- Collaboration with Ohio Department of Development (ODOD)

Ohio Administrative Code Rule Revisions

- Defines elevated blood lead level
 - A child with a lead level $3.5 \mu\text{g/dL} < 10 \mu\text{g/dL}$
- Defines lead poisoning
 - A child with a lead level $\leq 10 \mu\text{g/dL}$
- Updates language in the childhood lead exposure questionnaire.
- Revises the definition of public health lead investigator.
- Requires confirmatory venous draw at $3.5 \mu\text{g/dL}$.
- Requires delegated local boards of health to provide services for children with an elevated blood lead level.

3701-30-01 - Definitions

(F) "Elevated blood lead level" means a confirmed venous blood lead test level of lead in human blood of 3.5 micrograms per deciliter or greater, but less than ten micrograms per deciliter.

(N) "Lead poisoning" means a confirmed venous blood lead test level of lead in human blood of **ten** micrograms per deciliter or greater.

(S) "Public health lead investigator" means an employee or contractor of the director or a designated board of health who is a licensed lead risk assessor in the state of Ohio and is either a registered environmental health specialist, is a registered environmental health specialist-in-training, or is a person who has met the qualifications and has conducted public health lead investigations in accordance with rule 3701-30-07 of the Administrative Code prior to September 30, 2019.

Further explained

- Lowers public health response level to 3.5 µg/dL
 - Public health actions are not deemed “lead investigations.”
 - Prompts an interview and education conducted by an employee/contractor of a delegated local board of health.
- A child is considered lead poisoned when his/her level is at or above 10 µg/dL
 - Prompts the lead investigation process.
 - Must be a public health lead investigator to conduct lead investigations.

3701-30-03 Blood Lead Screening Tests

- If the blood lead screening test is conducted by capillary blood test and the result is **3.5** $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$, a confirmatory lead screening test by venous collection shall be performed as soon as possible but no later than ninety (90) days from the previous capillary test.

3701-30-06 Delegation of Authority

- Delegates the authority to respond to children with an elevated blood lead level to a local board of health who meets the OAC requirements.

3701-30-07 Public Health Actions by Blood Lead Level

- If the child has an elevated blood lead level, an interview and education is required if the child is less than 6 years of age.
 - Comprehensive questionnaire in person or on the phone.
 - Specific educational materials based on results of questionnaire.
 - Training for individuals who conduct interviews.

3701-30-07 Public Health Actions by Blood Lead Level

- Requires completion of a comprehensive questionnaire by an employee/contractor of ODH or a delegated local board of health for a child under 6 with a blood lead level of 3.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ or greater.

3701-30-07 (Cont'd)

- No changes made to lead investigation process
 - Onsite lead investigation that may prompt a public health lead risk assessment.
 - Reimbursement provided for Medicaid and non-Medicaid children.

FY 24/25 Lead Safe Home Fund

- FY24/25 funding for local high-risk communities.
- Lead Primary Prevention Activities.
- Funding available to private or non-profit organizations.
- Advocacy groups, housing or health departments, health systems, on behalf of a high-risk community.
- Competitive solicitation process.
- Submission of a work plan and budget.
- Bidders conference will be held.

Examples of Past Funded Projects

- Education and Outreach (Billboards, education events).
- Workforce Development.
 - Training sponsorship
 - Time/travel for attendees
- Demolition of pre-1978 housing.
- Supplement housing funding (HUD housing repair or LHC grant) for lead abatement or lead safe renovation.
- Equipment purchase (XRF, Cleaning kits, water filter pitchers, etc.).

Stipulations of Funding

- Limited to 10% administrative costs.
- Cannot be used for direct personnel costs and incentive purchases.

State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) Lead Hazard Control Program

- Sustained funding included in 2024-25 state budget bill
 - \$5 million per fiscal year.
 - Seeking partnerships with local HUD LHC grants.
 - Expansion to include primary prevention focus.

State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) Lead Hazard Control Program

- Eligibility criteria remains unchanged
 - A child under 19 years of age or pregnant woman enrolled in Medicaid resides or visits property.
 - Property must be built before 1978.
 - Property taxes paid or payment plan in place.
 - Scoring matrix used to determine priority for services.

Collaboration with the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD)

- Historic relationship dating back to 1990s.
- Share data, provide advice about lead abatement.
- Lead hazard control work by ODOD grantees (Community Housing and Impact Preservation Programs (CHIPs)).
- 2010 – ODOD provides match for HUD LHC grants.
- 2020 – Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) established between agencies to provide funding for workforce development.

Collaboration with the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD)

- 2019 – Governor’s Lead Advisory Committee recommendations.
 - Workforce Development
 - Mapping
- 2022 - ODH provided funding to ODOD for purchase of equipment and supplement rehabilitation funding.
- 2023 - Collaborate on projects associated with ARPA funding.

Coronavirus State and Local Recovery Funds

House Bill 45

- Also known as ARPA funds
- \$150 million allocated to the Ohio Department of Development
 - \$20 million set aside for ODH
- Planning stages

Questions?

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