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OVERVIEW

- Background on Lead in Schools
 - Implementing the EPA's 3Ts Guidance Program: *Training, Testing, Taking Action*
 - Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Grant (SDWA 1464(d)): *Lead Testing In Schools*
 - Memorandum of Understanding 2019
 - Current Initiatives
 - Forthcoming Objectives
- Funding for Water Systems: Water Infrastructure funding transfer act (S. 1689)
- Collaboration with Federal Partners – HUD
- Optimization –Based Approach for Reducing DBPs

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CHALLENGES FACING SCHOOL DRINKING WATER EFFORTS



While the Safe Drinking Water Act requires lead testing for the approximately 7000 schools or child care facilities that have their own water supply, there are approximately 98,000 public schools and 500,000 child care facilities not regulated under the SDWA.

Challenges facing these facilities includes:

- Availability of funding resources
- The lack of knowledge needed to develop and implement drinking water programs for their facilities, including
 - testing drinking water
 - Taking any follow up actions needed
 - Communication with communities throughout the process



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OGWDW PROGRAM STRATEGY FOR SCHOOLS



- **Provide Grant Funding:** Award WIIN Lead Testing in Schools grant funding in FY2020 and track progress of testing summary collection as programs are implemented, identifying challenges and best practices for long-term progress and a streamlined process.
- **Expand Training:** Training will be offered on a regular basis that provides information about testing and remediating lead in drinking water in schools and child care facilities, including technical assistance to regions, states, utilities and the school community. This includes webinars to support 3T activity.
- **Broaden Technical Assistance and Support:** Continuance of technical assistance to states, education associations and water associations to implement lead in drinking water testing programs and leverage partner relationships.
- **Implement Steps Towards Long-Term Sustaining Actions:** Support and resource undertakings to implement identified actions towards long-term adoption of the newly established or expanded lead reduction in drinking water at schools/child care facilities.

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NEW!

EPA
OFFICE OF GROUND WATER AND DRINKING WATER

3Ts Audience Factsheets

- 3Ts for Child Care Facilities
- 3Ts for Tribal Schools
- 3Ts for Public Water Utilities

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EPA
OFFICE OF GROUND WATER AND DRINKING WATER

EPA PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

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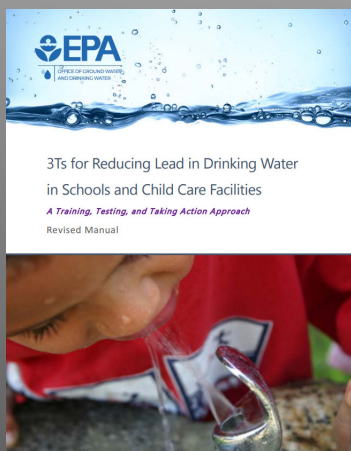
LEAD TESTING IN SCHOOLS & CHILD CARE PROGRAM SDWA §1464(D)



- All 50 states and DC are participating in grant program.
 - Approximately \$43.7 million in funding.
 - The tribal allotment - \$875K.
- The goals of this program include:
 - Reducing children's exposure to lead in drinking water;
 - Encouraging efficient use of existing resources and exchange of information;
 - Develop strategies to provide funding for schools unable to pay for;
 - Utilize the 3Ts model or model no less stringent to establish best practices;
 - Collaborate with partners and foster sustainable partnerships; and
 - Enhance community, parent, and teacher cooperation and trust.

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3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities: **TRAINING – TESTING – TAKING ACTION**



← New 3Ts Manual

3Ts 7-Module Toolkit →

Training school and child care officials to raise awareness of lead in drinking water.

Testing drinking water in schools and child care facilities to identify potential lead problems.

Taking action to reduce lead in drinking water.

- Module 1** Communicating the 3Ts
- Module 2** Learning About Lead in Drinking Water
- Module 3** Planning Your 3Ts Program
- Module 4** Developing a Sampling Plan
- Module 5** Conducting Sampling & Interpreting Results
- Module 6** Remediation & Establishing Routine Practices
- Module 7** Recordkeeping

<https://www.epa.gov/safewater/3Ts>

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POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR REDUCING LEAD IN DRINKING WATER IN SCHOOLS AND CHILD CARE FACILITIES



- **Goal:** help schools and child care providers identify potential funding sources for lead remediation and water quality-related projects.
- This guide includes:
 - 4 federal programs
 - 79 state programs
 - 115 foundations/companies providing funding opportunities.
- This document also provides information on national foundations, corporations, and state and federal agencies that have a strong commitment to supporting school and child care improvement initiatives.



MOU ON REDUCING LEAD LEVELS IN DRINKING WATER IN SCHOOLS AND CHILD CARE FACILITIES



Released October 3rd 2019

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



- **Outreach and network building** via webinars with Federal partners, including the Department of Education and USDA. The EPA partnered with these Departments to highlight the impacts of lead exposure on the learning environment and steps other agencies can take to integrate lead testing and reduction programs into school emergency management planning and emergency operations plans. EPA discussed the tools available to support states and localities with lead testing and reduction.
- The EPA hosted **the MOU Partners Meeting** to begin identifying challenges, solutions, and resources focused on protecting children from lead in drinking water. It supports the EPA's efforts under the Federal Lead Action Plan and the implementation of the WIIN grant for testing in schools and child care facilities. This meeting kicks off many future collaborative activities under the new MOU.
- The EPA opened the application process for the **WIIN Lead Testing in Schools Grant Program** and has begun making awards to participating states.
- The EPA released its **interactive funding resource reference** dedicated to finding financing for action after testing for lead in schools and child care facilities. It is a source of federal, state, foundation and business funding, which can support the implementation of the WIIN grants by covering remediation costs.

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CURRENT INITIATIVES FOR SCHOOLS



- **FAQs for States Implementing a 3Ts Program:** In January 2019, the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA) and the Agency identify common questions and potential areas of confusion in the new revised 3Ts program.
- **Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities Workgroup:** This national workgroup continues the conversation about lead in schools and child care facilities and looks for better ways to implement the program.
- **Ongoing technical assistance and support** is offered to states, schools, and water systems implementing a lead in drinking water testing program. The EPA reviews SOPs, provides feedback, and responded to inquiries related to lead in drinking water in schools.
- **EPA's Interactive State Map and 3Ts Case Studies:** EPA is working with states, child care facilities, school districts and water utilities to highlight lead in drinking water in school and child care facility reduction case studies.

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NEXT STEPS FOR SCHOOLS



- **Continue to Award WIIN Grants** – Complete actions to award funding grants to all 51 participating recipients of the WIIN grant funds for testing.
- **Establish Drinking Water Lead Testing Programs in Schools** – The Agency is working with states to establish or expand school testing programs through the Lead Testing in Schools and Child Care Programs Drinking Water grant. Expected to complete actions for all 51 of the participating states, including the District of Columbia.
- **Technical training and support** – The **EPA and the American School Health Association (ASHA)** are working to coordinate future training sessions during the ASHA conference season. Audience includes public education officials, public health officials and nurses in schools and school districts, and academic institutions that provide CEs towards medical, public health professions.
- **Track Implementation Progress** - The EPA's establishment of the grant and the supporting HQ/Regional teams will track the progress of the grantees and identify any challenges to establishing long-term programs. This includes testing report summaries; implementing supporting grant communication; and expanded actions following testing to support a long-term active strategy towards reducing lead in schools, etc.
- **Support AWIA technical assistance requirements** - Develop resources, training materials/tools to assist with implementation of activities to prioritize objectives to meet the AWIA requirements.

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NEW FUNDING FOR WATER SYSTEMS: WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING TRANSFER ACT (S. 1689)




- In October 2019, WIFTA was signed into law
- Provides a temporary additional transfer authority from CWSRF to DWSRF for lead-related threats to public health in drinking water
- Allows up to 5 percent of the cumulative CWSRF federal grants to be transferred to the DWSRF
- Funds may be transferred up through October 4, 2020
- Funds can only be used for lead-related, DWSRF eligible projects
- Funds must be used as additional subsidy (principal forgiveness, negative interest, or grants)
- States should carefully consider this temporary authority to address lead issues in their state


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FUNDING FOR WATER SYSTEMS: COLLABORATION WITH HUD




- EPA and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) encourage and support communities to prioritize infrastructure improvement projects including those that remove lead service lines and reduce lead exposure.
- EPA and HUD have launched a new website that summarizes available federal programs that help finance or fund lead service line (LSL) replacement.
- The new resource also includes case studies demonstrating how cities and states have successfully leveraged federal resources to support LSL replacement projects.



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QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

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