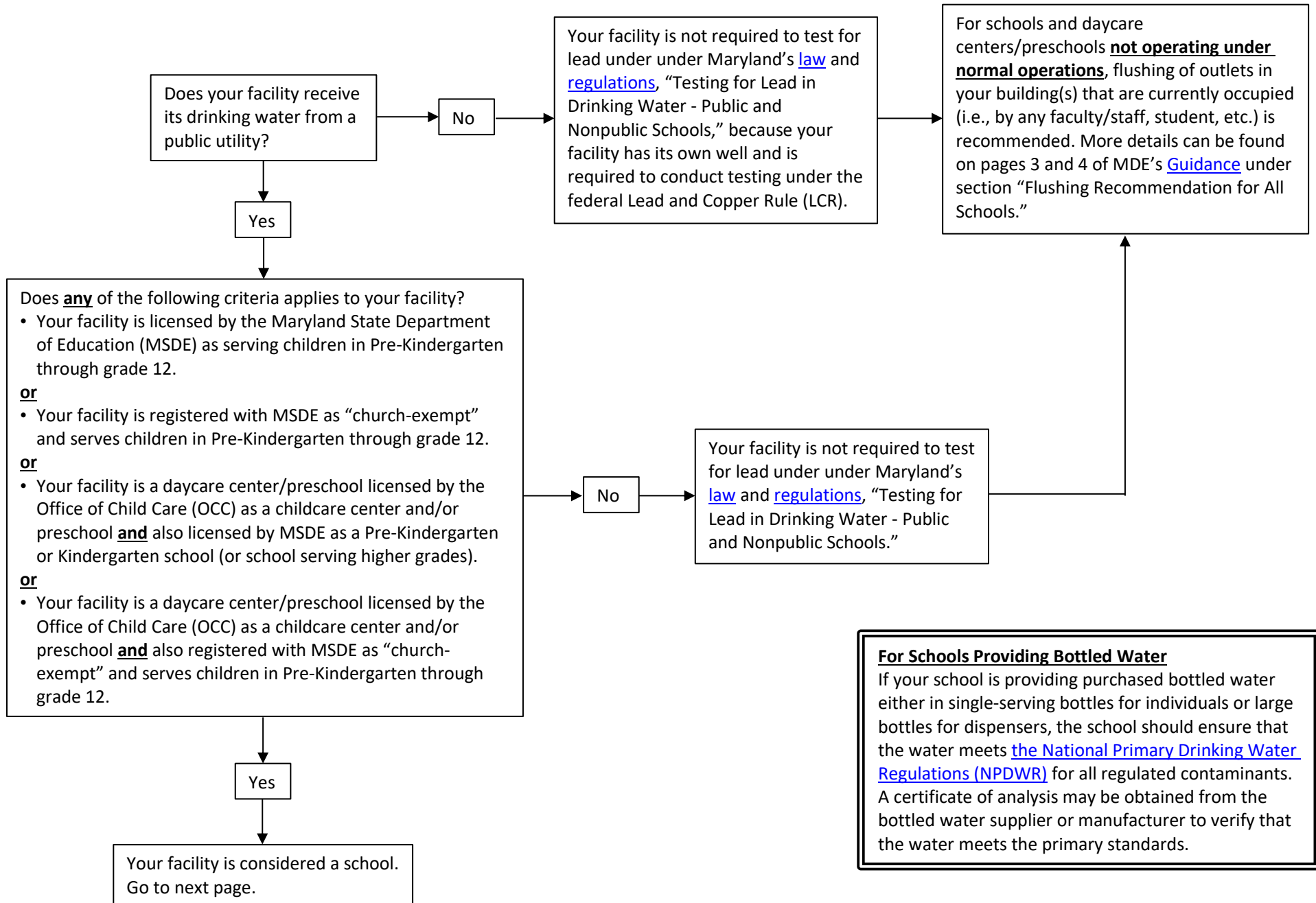
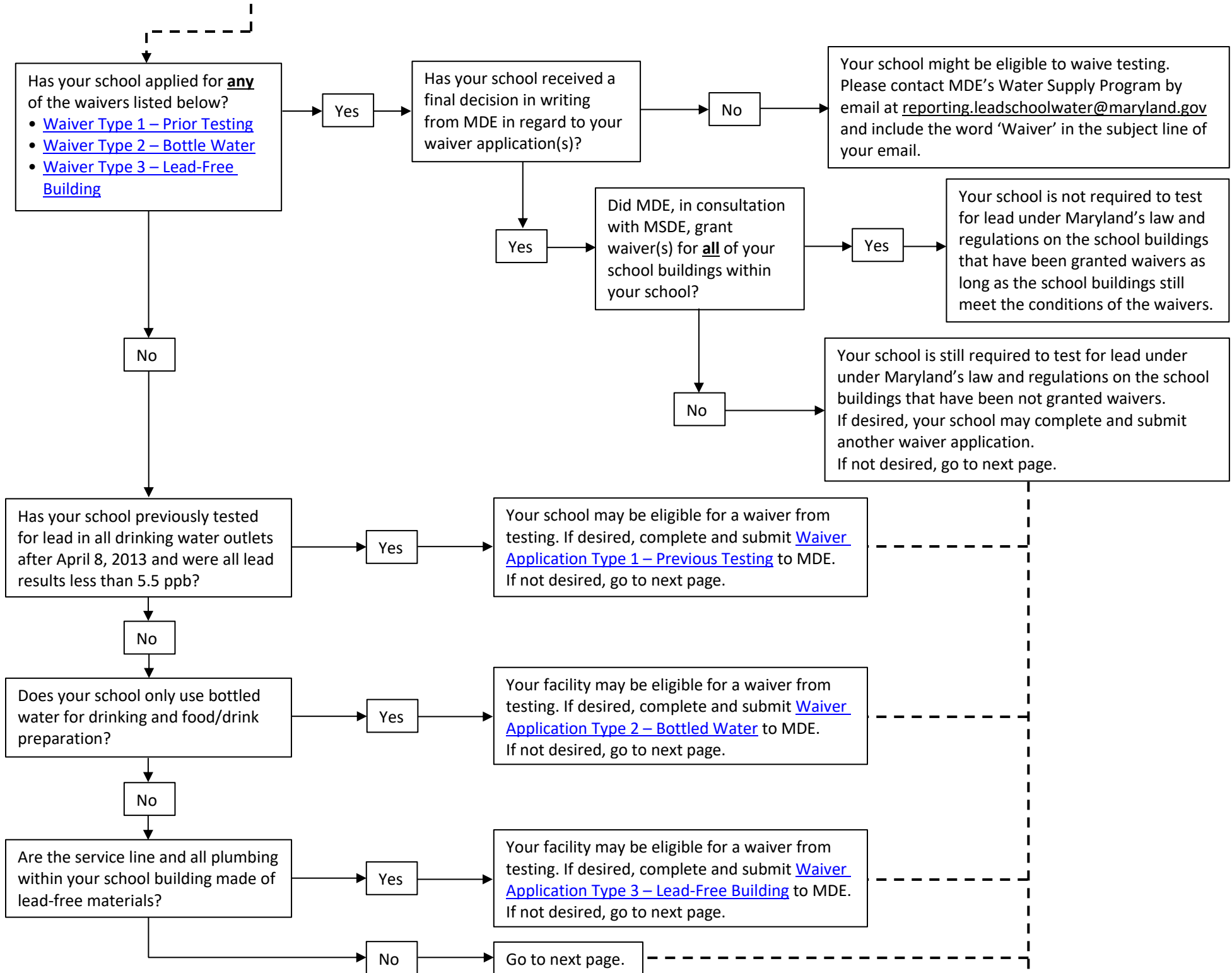


Flowchart for Testing for Lead in Drinking Water and Recommendation on Flushing Outlets in Schools during the 2020-2021 Academic School Year





Does your school meet **any** of the following scheduling criteria below?

- Your school has building(s) originally constructed before 1988, **and**
 - Your school has not performed a complete round of standard lead testing under Maryland’s law and regulations.
- or**
- The lowest grade your school serves is between Pre-Kindergarten to grade 5, **and**
 - Your school has not performed a complete round of standard lead testing under Maryland’s law and regulations.
- or**
- Your school’s most recent complete round of standard lead testing under Maryland’s law and regulations occurred during the 2017-2018 academic school year and the samples were collected **on or before** January 1, 2018.
- or**
- The lowest grade your school serves is between grades 6 to 12 and the oldest school building at your school was constructed in 1988 or later, **and**
 - Your school has not performed a complete round of standard lead testing under Maryland’s law and regulations, **and** has not been granted a 3-year testing deferral by MDE, in consultation with MSDE.
- or**
- Your school has building(s) that was/were put into service and occupied after the effective date of the regulations (i.e., April 9, 2018) and before the end of the 2019-2020 school year, **and**
 - Your school serves students in any grades between Pre-Kindergarten and grade 12, **and** has not performed lead testing under Maryland’s law and regulations within 1 year of occupancy.
- or**
- Your school has building(s) that has/have substantive plumbing upgrades or renovations before the end of the 2019-2020 school year, **and**
 - Your school serves students in any grades between Pre-Kindergarten and grade 12, **and** has not performed lead testing under Maryland’s law and regulations within 1 year of the upgrades or renovations.

Yes

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No

Did your school’s most recent complete round of standard lead testing under Maryland’s law and regulations occur during the 2017-2018 academic school year **and** were the samples collected **between** January 2, 2018, and July 1, 2018?

Yes

Your school is scheduled to perform the next round of standard lead testing within 3 years and 6 months (i.e., 42 months) of the most recent complete round of standard testing.

Will your school be in session and/or be occupied **before** the latest date on which your next round of standard lead testing must occur (i.e., 3 years and 6 months from the most recent complete round of testing)?

No

For schools and daycare centers/preschools **not operating under normal operations**, flushing of outlets in your building(s) that are currently occupied (i.e., by any faculty/staff, student, etc.) is recommended. More details can be found on pages 3 and 4 of the accompanying guidance under section “Flushing Recommendation for All Schools.”

Your school is not scheduled to test for lead under under Maryland’s law and regulations during the 2020-2021 academic school year.

Your school is still scheduled to perform the next round of standard lead testing within 3 years and 6 months (i.e., 42 months) of the most recent complete round of standard testing, and should conduct testing on all drinking water outlets in all occupied school buildings during the regular school year and while school is in session.

Yes

Your school is scheduled to conduct the complete round of standard testing with all samples collected by the end of current testing period (i.e., July 1, 2021) or by the end of the 2020-2021 school year, whichever occurs sooner.

If your school anticipates any practical difficulties conducting the standard lead testing during the 2020-2021 school year, please contact the Water Supply Program's Lead in Drinking Water Division at 410-537-3729 or via email at reporting.leadsschoolwater@maryland.gov.

Will your school be operating at normal capacity **before** the end of this testing period (i.e., July 1, 2021) or before the end of this school year, whichever occurs sooner?

No

Your school should conduct the standard lead testing on all drinking water outlets that are accessible to students and/or staff in all occupied school buildings as soon as possible with additional steps as follows:

- Prior to collecting samples, schools should flush these outlets that have low usage, or that are not already being used daily or flushed daily.
- The flushing on each of these outlets should be for at least 30 seconds daily for 2 weeks (excluding weekends), when possible.

If, at any point during the testing period, your school has any previously inaccessible drinking water outlets that have become accessible in any occupied school buildings, your school must conduct testing on these outlets with samples collected by the end of current testing period (i.e., July 1, 2021) or by the end of the 2020-2021 school year, whichever occurs sooner. Prior to collecting samples, schools should also flush these outlets for at least 30 seconds daily for 2 weeks (excluding weekends), when possible.

If your school is not currently occupied and will not be occupied before the end of this testing period (i.e., July 1, 2021) or before the end of this school year, whichever occurs sooner, please contact the Water Supply Program's Lead in Drinking Water Division at 410-537-3729 or via email at reporting.leadsschoolwater@maryland.gov.

Yes

Your school should conduct the standard lead testing on all drinking water outlets in all occupied school buildings without any additional steps as soon as these conditions are met.

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The lead Action Level under Maryland law ([Chapter 386 \(House Bill 270\), Acts of 2017](#)) of 20 parts per billion (ppb) (i.e., greater than or equal to 20.5 ppb) is effective through May 31, 2021. Effective June 1, 2021, the lead Action Level is 5 ppb (i.e., greater than or equal to 5.5 ppb) under Maryland law ([Chapter 237 \(House Bill 636\), Acts of 2021](#)).

The sample results exceeding the lead Action Level of 5 ppb is interpreted as results of 5.5 ppb or greater.

Collect first draw samples from all outlets used for drinking and/or food/drink preparation (i.e., consumption outlets), including ice machines and hot drink machines, and outlets not used for drinking and/or food/drink preparation (i.e., non-consumption outlets) that are not [signed as not a drinking water outlet](#). Submit samples within 14 days of sample collection to a State-certified laboratory for analysis.

Do any sample results **exceed** the lead Action Level?

No

Report all sample results as shown on official laboratory report to MDE, MSDE, and your local health department within 30 days of samples being analyzed by the laboratory, using the following forms:

- [Sample Collection Form](#)
- [Laboratory Results Reporting Form](#)
- Official laboratory report signed by the Laboratory Director

Certify to MDE, MSDE, and the appropriate local health department that all drinking water outlets were tested in accordance with the regulation and provide other required information using the [Lead Sample Summary Certification Form](#) within 30 days after the samples were analyzed or 30 days after the end of the school calendar year in which the samples were collected.

Repeat testing of all the outlets in a 3-year cycle.

Yes

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Your facility may be eligible for a waiver from future testing if the most recent first-draw samples from **all** drinking water outlets have lead levels **less than** 5.5 ppb.

If desired, **complete and submit** [Waiver Application Type 1 – Prior Testing](#) to MDE and MSDE.

If an outlet has an elevated level of lead (**All of the following must be performed**)

Close off access to water from the outlets that are used for consumption within 24 hours of receiving laboratory report with elevated levels of lead.

For non-consumption outlets, within 24 hours of receiving laboratory report with elevated levels of lead, either signage must be posted or access to the outlets must be closed.

Collect a flush sample from each outlet with an elevated level of lead within 5 school days of receiving laboratory report with elevated levels of lead, and submit samples within 14 days of sample collection to a State-certified laboratory for analysis.

Report all sample results to MDE, MSDE, MDH, and your local health department within 30 days of samples being analyzed by the laboratory, using the following forms:

- [Sample Collection Form](#)
- [Laboratory Results Reporting Form](#)
- Official laboratory report signed by the Laboratory Director

Send notification of elevated lead results to parents, teachers, and staff within 10 school days of receiving laboratory report with elevated levels of lead.

Submit [Certification of Elevated Lead Sample Result Notice](#) to MDE and MSDE within 30 days of sending notification of elevated levels of lead.

Post sample results on school website within 30 school days of receiving laboratory report with elevated levels of lead.

Report all sample results to MDE, MSDE, MDH, and your local health department within 30 days of samples being analyzed by the laboratory, using the following forms:

- [Sample Collection Form](#)
- [Laboratory Results Reporting Form](#)
- Official laboratory report signed by the Laboratory Director

Certify to MDE, MSDE, and the appropriate local health department that all drinking water outlets were tested in accordance with the regulation and provide other required information using the [Lead Sample Summary Certification Form](#) within 30 days after the samples were analyzed or 30 days after the end of the school calendar year in which the samples were collected.

Submit [Remedial Plan of Action Form](#) to MDE and MSDE within 30 days of receiving laboratory report with elevated levels of lead.

Perform remediation on outlets with elevated levels of lead.

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Drinking water outlets with lead results of greater than 5 ppb (i.e., greater than or equal to 5.5 ppb), but less than 20 ppb, are subject to required remediation by August 1, 2022, under legislation ([House Bill 636](#)) passed in 2021, if laboratory analysis of these samples was performed on or before June 1, 2021, including samples analyzed prior to the passage of the Bill.

