A Participation Overview for All Facilities: Lead-Based Paint Section

What is the Clean Classrooms for Carolina Kids™ program?
The goal of the Clean Classrooms for Carolina Kids program is to identify and eliminate exposure to lead and asbestos hazards where North Carolina children learn and play. This program helps fulfill North Carolina requirements for public schools and child care facilities related to lead in water, lead-based paint, and asbestos.

This flyer focuses on lead-based paint.

Who is involved in the program?
The Clean Classrooms for Carolina Kids program is a partnership between the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS), and RTI International. Our program is supported by our liaison, NC Department of Public Instruction.

We partner with public schools and child care facilities to check for environmental hazards, share results, and help schools take action to ensure healthy learning environments for children. Facilities’ participation in this program is FREE thanks to funding from the state and federal government.

Why is the program important?
Lead is a toxic metal, and there is no safe level of exposure. Early childhood lead exposure can cause lifelong behavioral and cognitive deficits. Children can be exposed to lead by inhaling or ingesting lead-containing materials, such as dust, paint, or soil. Lead-based paint was used in a variety of settings until it was banned in 1978.

How does the program work?
Visit our program web page at www.cleanwaterforUSkids.org/carolina to get started.

Pre-Enrollment

DEVELOP PRIMARY CONTACT
Each facility should designate a primary contact for the lead-based paint section. The designated primary contact should have access to lead-based paint-related information for the facility.

ATTEND PRE-ENROLLMENT WEBINAR
To access the online portal, facility staff must first attend a pre-enrollment training webinar that will cover lead and asbestos hazards, state requirements, personnel and facility information needed for the program, commonly asked questions, and tips for success. After attending the webinar, the attendee will receive the enrollment PIN to enroll through the online portal.

CREATE AN ONLINE ACCOUNT AND LINK TO YOUR FACILITY
Go to www.cleanwaterforUSkids.org/carolina
DOCUMENT REVIEW AND NEXT STEPS
We will review your survey and documents to determine the next steps for your facility, which could include the following:

• No Risk Assessment Needed
  – Facilities built after 1978 that provide a statement by a responsible individual attesting that no lead-based paint was used in the facility may be exempt from the required lead-based paint risk assessment.
  – Facilities that had a lead risk assessment within the past 3 years and provide the assessment report to RTI may be exempt from the required lead-based paint risk assessment.

• Risk Assessment Needed
  – If your facility is not exempt, we will help coordinate a visit from a certified risk assessor. They will assess lead-based paint hazards, which may include taking samples of paint, dust, and soil. Any collected samples will be analyzed by our laboratory.

FINAL REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS
We will provide recommendations for response actions based on the uploaded documents and risk assessment results, if conducted. If your facility has lead-based paint hazards identified, recommended response actions may include restricting access to the hazards or mitigation activities such as abatement, interim controls, or renovation, repair, and painting (RRP) activities.

TAKE ACTION
If lead-based paint hazards are identified, facilities will be notified and can choose whether to restrict access to or mitigate the hazard, with cost reimbursement available from NC DHHS. Visit the program website, www.cleanwaterforUSkids.org/carolina to learn more about funding and covered mitigation activities.

With your help, we can identify and eliminate exposures to lead-based paint hazards where North Carolina children learn and play.

COMMUNICATE
We encourage facilities to communicate with parents, staff, and students throughout the entire process. At a minimum, facilities should notify parents, staff, and students if lead-based paint hazards are identified.

For tools to aid communication with your facility’s stakeholders, please visit our Resources page on the program website.