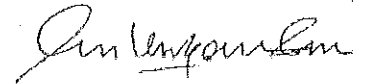


To: All Licensed Day Care Providers, Day Care Homes, Group Day Care Homes and Day Care Centers.

From: DCFS Day Care Licensing Advisory Council

CC: George Vennikandam



Date: March 14, 2017

Re: Important Information about Water Testing

In recent weeks, you may have received a flyer in the mail, or have been contacted by companies or individuals offering to test your drinking water for lead. The letters may have stated that Illinois law now requires that licensed day care centers, day care homes and group day care homes are required to test their drinking water for lead by the end of 2017. **Please be advised that this information is inaccurate.**

Section 225 ILCS 10/5.9 specifically states:

Sec. 5.9. Lead testing of water in licensed day care centers, day care homes and group day care homes.

(a) On or before January 1, 2018, the department, in consultation with the Department of Public Health, shall adopt rules that prescribe the procedures and standards to be used by the department in assessing levels of lead in water in licensed day care centers, day care homes, and group day care homes constructed on or before January 1, 2000 that serve children under the age of 6. Such rules shall, at a minimum, include provisions regarding testing parameters, the notification of sampling results, training requirements for lead exposure and mitigation.

(b) After adoption of the rules required by subsection (a), and as part of an initial application or application for renewal of a license for day care centers, day care homes and group day care homes, the department shall require proof that the applicant has complied with all such rules.

DCFS is currently working with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to determine how best to adopt rules and procedures to be used by the department in assessing levels of lead in water in licensed day care centers, day care homes and group day care homes constructed on or before January 1, 2000 that serve children under the age of 6. At this time DCFS has not yet finalized such rules and procedures.

DCFS Day Care Licensing will notify you in writing once we have determined any applicable changes to our policies and procedures regarding assessing levels of lead in water in licensed day care centers, day care homes and group day care homes constructed on or before January 1, 2000 that serve children under the age of 6. If you have any questions and/or concerns regarding such matters please do not hesitate to contact your DCFS day care licensing representative or DCFS Day Care Licensing at DCFS.DayCareLicensing@illinois.gov.