

Lead is Toxic

Lead is a metal with no health benefit. Lead is dangerous to persons of all ages and can damage kidneys, red blood cells and the nervous system. However, lead is especially dangerous to children six years of age and younger. Even the smallest amounts of lead can interfere with a child's brain development resulting in a permanent reduction in intelligence and may cause behavioral and learning problems.

Homes built prior to 1978 may have lead paint which can deteriorate and create leaded dust that can poison a child. Most children are poisoned in their own homes. The only way to protect children from lead poisoning is to remove lead hazards from their environment; and improper repair or renovation can actually make the problem worse.

Parents should make sure their homes are free from lead hazards. Maintaining intact conditions on all painted surfaces and keeping the home free of all visible dust in a pre-1978 house is vital to preventing lead poisoning.

Make sure your children receive regular lead tests from their pediatrician. All Cincinnati children should receive a lead test starting at six months of age and continuing through six years of age.

Assistance

The Cincinnati Health Department has a federal grant that can help reduce lead paint and dust hazards in residential properties. Our goal is to help create lead-safe housing for low income families with children under the age of six.

Creating lead-safe housing may involve paint stabilization, covering lead with a durable coating (called encapsulating), enclosing components containing lead (placing a durable barrier such as gypsum board or coil stock over a leaded surface) or replacing leaded components completely.

Original wood windows in older homes can be a major source of leaded dust. Window replacement with energy-efficient windows may be a treatment in this program.

Eligibility

In general, properties must meet the following criteria:

- House was built before 1978. Proof of ownership with clear title must be provided.
- Occupant makes less than 80% of the Area Median Income, which is \$56,300 for 2011.
- Home must be adequately insured and current on all taxes and utility bills.
- The property must not have any structural deficiencies or building or health code violations and must have identifiable lead hazards.

- Owner occupants must reside in the property for at least one year after receiving assistance.
- Rental units must be offered to income-qualified families with children under the age of six for three years after receiving assistance.
- Funds are available for lead hazard control work ONLY.

Programs

(up to) \$8,000 Grant Program

- Primarily for homes with existing Board of Health Hazard Control Orders.
- Rental units must be retained and made available to income-qualified families for 3 years.
- Owner-occupied units must be retained for 1 year.

(up to) \$5,000 Rebate Program

- Primarily for proactive lead work done prior to a child becoming lead-poisoned.
- Primarily for owners wanting more flexibility in addressing lead hazards.
- Rental units must be retained and made available to income-qualified families for 3 years.
- Owner-occupied units must be retained for 1 year.

Preparing & Relocating

Before lead work can begin, occupants will be expected to prepare their unit by moving all belongings to the center of the rooms where lead work will take place; boxes will be made available to help with packing items.

While lead remediation is occurring, only the contractor is allowed in the residence and occupants must relocate for one to two weeks. Owner occupants are encouraged to stay with family or friends, while tenant occupants will receive a stipend to assist them during their relocation period. During the relocation period no occupants will be

How to Apply

Potential applicants should contact the Cincinnati Lead Operations for Safe Environments (C.L.O.S.E.) at **513.357.7420** OR download the owner application and tenant packet on the web at <http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/health/pages/-36358-/>

Resources

To learn about FREE classes on lead safe renovation, to have paint chips tested at no cost or to borrow a HEPA vacuum cleaner, please contact the Cincinnati Health Department.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program and C.L.O.S.E. Grant Program
3301 Beekman St.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45225
Phone: 513.357.7420
Fax: 513.357.7205

For More Information, visit:
www.cincinnati-oh.gov
www.weknowhealthmatters.com
twitter.com/cincihealthdept
facebook.com/CincinnatiHealthDepartment

Cincinnati Health Department
3101 Burnet Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45229



We know **health** matters



Lead Hazard Reduction Grant and Rebate Information

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program & U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development