

## **MANDATORY BLOOD LEAD TESTING QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR KINDERGARTEN SCHOOL PROGRAM**

We would like to offer the school kindergartners' program, a list of questions and answers regarding the Mandatory Blood Lead Testing in Iowa.

### **What is the kindergartner blood lead testing match about?**

Since July 1, 2008, the legislature requires all children entering kindergarten to have at least one blood lead test. Find IAC 641, Chapter 67 [here](#). We match the names of your kindergartners with the names of all kindergartners who shows at least one blood lead test in our database.

### **How does the matching process work for the kindergartner blood lead data collection?**

We send a spreadsheet with the instructions to the Iowa schools via secure email to be filled it out with the students' and school's information. After we receive this information, the Health Department completes an electronic match with our database. When the match is completed, the Department sends a list back to the school with a list of children who did not have a match in our database meaning that they may need a blood lead test.

### **What is the period for this process?**

- Collection of data: From September to November 30
- Results from Health Dept. to schools: Mid December-Mid January
- Letter from schools to parents: Mid January

### **Who are the kindergartners that I need to report for this blood lead data match?**

All kindergartners enrolled on the current school year, regardless if they are home schooling, have or not a blood lead test, or have requested an IDPH exemption.

### **Who are the kindergartners that I don't need to report for this blood lead data match?**

Do not report the names of the children whom you received notarized copies for low risk and religious exemptions. The low risk exemption must be signed by a Health Department's authority.

### **Can children in pre-kindergarten, junior kindergarten, etc. be part of the data collection?**

No, the requirement does not apply to them.

### **Would my school need to collect blood lead tests from kindergartners?**

No, unless your school chooses to. You are not required to collect blood lead tests prior, during or after your kindergartner is enrolled in the new school year.

**If my Kindergartner received a blood lead test at early age, would they need to be retested?**

No, there is no need of an additional test.

**If a parent states that, his/her kindergartner does not need a blood lead test, what should I do?**

Have them contact us by the email and phone number below.

**I will not be involved with the kindergartner's school data for this school year, what should I do?**

Have your school email us with the following information:

- Name of the new person
- Name of the school
- School district/School building # (8 digits total)
- Email address
- Phone number

**Do you want to know more about the Mandatory Blood Lead Testing?**

Visit <https://idph.iowa.gov/Environmental-Health-Services/Childhood-Lead-Poisoning-Prevention/Providers-Labs-and-Schools/School-Lead-Screening>

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