



What is Disadvantaged Community Assistance for the Lead Sampling Program?

The Indiana Finance Authority (“IFA”), with assistance from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, developed the Lead Sampling Program (“LSP”). The purpose of the program is to help school and child care facilities assess if there is a presence of lead in the drinking water within their buildings. Recently, the IFA secured a US EPA grant to assist Indiana school and child care facilities located in Disadvantaged Communities remove, replace, and otherwise remediate drinking water fixtures, pipe, plumbing components, and lead service lines that test at or above the 15 parts per billion (“ppb”) action level.

How does the state determine if a school or child care facility is located in a Disadvantaged Community?

Grant eligibility is specific to individual facilities. An eligible facility must meet at least one of the IFA’s three criteria of a Disadvantaged Community:

1. Located in or serve a community with a Median Household Income (“MHI”) below \$46,588 according to the 2016-2020 American Community Five Year Survey
2. Located in or serve a community with a monthly residential drinking water bill greater than \$45.00 per month (for 4,000 gallons)
3. Located in or serve a community where the annual residential drinking water bill divided by the MHI is 1% or greater.

Who is eligible for the program?

Specifically, all public and private-non-profit K-12 schools that are recognized by the Indiana Department of Education and meet at least one of the above Disadvantaged Community criteria are eligible to apply. Additionally, all child care facilities that are recognized by the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration and meet at least one of the above Disadvantaged Community criteria are eligible to apply.

What does the program provide?

Costs related to the removal, replacement, and otherwise remediation of drinking water fixtures, pipe, plumbing components, and lead service lines that test at or above 15 ppb and meet the priorities of the IFA. Assistance will be provided to high-priority fixtures, such as drinking water fountains and other primary sources of drinking water. Assistance to infrequently used fixtures (e.g., kitchen kettles), fixtures not intended to be a source of drinking water (e.g., bathroom sinks), and other low-priority fixtures (e.g., ice makers) will be considered a low priority for grant assistance. Documentation of costs for materials and supplies must include itemized invoices or receipts; documentation of labor cost must include an itemized contract and invoices. Please note, the IFA cannot reimburse a facility for its own labor force to perform the work. In addition, a licensed plumber is required to complete the work and facilities must follow state procurement requirements, if applicable.

What is the process?

Submit an application to the LSP, which can be done on the [IFA website](#). The IFA will review applications and notify participants regarding eligibility for grant funds. Once an eligible participant has identified its remediation needs, the IFA will work with the participant and the IFA’s contractor(s) to complete the work.

When can I apply for this program?

The IFA will accept applications on an on-going basis until funding is fully subscribed.

For more information: Visit the Lead Sampling Program website: <https://www.in.gov/ifa/lead-sampling-program/phase-ii-2019-current/>