

# EARLY ADOPTERS

## State Approaches to Testing School Drinking Water for Lead in the United States



### STATE PROFILE **New Jersey**

#### **Summary of Program Features**

New Jersey initiated a school drinking water lead testing policy in January 2016. This summary is based on a review of program documents collected between January 2018 – June 2018 and communication with New Jersey state contacts.

# School Drinking Water Testing Policy/Program Overview

Policy/Program Feature	Information from Policy/Program Documents	Additional Information from Communication with State
<i>Background</i>		
<b>Name</b>	New Jersey Administrative Code 6A-12.4 Safe Drinking Water <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Date(s) of Water Policy/Program</b>	January 1, 2016 to July 13, 2017 (extensions granted through July 13, 2018) <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Issuing Authority</b>	State government: New Jersey State Board of Education <sup>1-3</sup>	
<b>Agency Responsible for Program Management</b>	New Jersey Department of Education Protection <sup>1</sup> and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection <sup>3</sup>	New Jersey Department of Education is responsible for program management <sup>4</sup>
<b>Policy or Program</b>	Policy <sup>1-3</sup>	
<b>One-time or Surveillance Program</b>	Surveillance <sup>1,2</sup>	
<b>Mandatory/Voluntary for Schools</b>	Mandatory <sup>1-3</sup>	
<b>Partnership with Local/Community Water Supplier/System</b>	Yes, encouraged <sup>3</sup>	
<b>Other Key Partnerships</b>	Not specified	
<b>References or Uses the EPA 3Ts</b>	Yes <sup>3</sup>	
<i>Program Coverage</i>		
<b>School Type (Public, private, charter)</b>	Public, private and charter schools <sup>1,2</sup>	Public, private, charter and non-public <sup>4</sup>
<b>Grade Levels</b>	Not specified	
<b>Includes Testing for Lead</b>	Yes <sup>1-3</sup>	
<b>Includes Treatment/Remediation</b>	Not specified	
<b>Schools Eligible to Participate</b>		
<b>All schools</b>	Not applicable	Yes <sup>4</sup>
<b>OR (select all that apply)</b>		
<b>Schools of a certain building age</b>	Not specified	
<b>Schools that serve certain ages/demographics</b>	Not specified	
<b>Schools that are their own local/community water supplier</b>	Not specified	
<b>Schools that use local/community water supplier</b>	Not specified	
<b>Schools that have not received a waiver</b>	Not specified	
<b>Other</b>	Yes <sup>1,2</sup>	Yes, schools that have not received a waiver or exemption <sup>4</sup>
<i>Funding</i>		
<b>Funding Source</b>	Yes, schools are reimbursed by state <sup>1,2</sup>	
<b>Funding Amount</b>	Not specified	\$10 million <sup>4</sup>
<b>Covers Sampling at Taps</b>	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes <sup>4</sup>
<b>Covers Testing in Lab</b>	Yes <sup>1,2</sup>	
<b>Covers Treatment/Remediation</b>	Not specified	No <sup>4</sup>

# Sampling Information

Policy/Program Feature	Information from Policy/Program Documents	Additional Information from Communication with State
<i>Background</i>		
<b>Sampling/Testing Process One-Time or Recurring</b>	Recurring (every 6 years) <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Number of Buildings/Facilities Sampled (All or a Portion?)</b>	A portion (where students and staff have access to drinking water) <sup>1</sup>	A portion (all buildings where students and staff have access to)
<b>Types of Taps Sampled</b>	Drinking <sup>1-3</sup> and cooking <sup>1,3</sup>	
<b>Number of Taps Sampled Per School/ Building (All or a Portion?)</b>	A portion (those that are accessible to students/staff and are used for drinking)	

## *Initial Sampling at Taps*

<b>Stagnation Period</b>	8 to 48 hours <sup>1,3</sup>	
<b>First Draw</b>	Yes <sup>1,3</sup>	
<b>Flushing Period</b>	Not specified	
<b>Second Draw (Flushed Sample)</b>	Not specified	
<b>Additional Initial Samples</b>	Not specified	
<b>Sample Size of Water</b>	250 mL <sup>1,3</sup>	
<b>Action Level for Lead</b>	15 ppb <sup>1-3</sup>	

## *Action Required When Samples Exceed Action Level for Lead*

<b>Follow-Up Draws</b>	Yes, if initial results are elevated <sup>3</sup>	
<b>Flushing Period</b>	30 seconds <sup>3</sup>	
<b>Sample Size of Water</b>	250 mL <sup>3</sup>	
<b>Additional Draws</b>	Not specified	

# Testing/Remediation/Communication Information

Policy/Program Feature	Information from Policy/Program Documents	Additional Information from Communication with State
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## *Testing*

<b>Type of Lab Used for Testing</b>	State-certified lab <sup>1-3</sup>	
<b>Sample(s) that Require Action if Results are Elevated</b>	First draw <sup>1-3</sup>	

## *Remediation*

<b>Short-Term Measures</b>	Yes, EPA-approved measures are listed <sup>3</sup>	
<b>Long -Term Measures</b>	Yes, EPA-approved measures are listed <sup>3</sup>	

## *Communication*

<b>Groups Notified of Test Results</b>	School staff, <sup>1,3</sup> parents, general public, <sup>1-3</sup> government <sup>1,2</sup> and students <sup>3</sup>	Results above action level – parents, staff of specific building, government and general public are notified; All results – general public on district website <sup>4</sup>
<b>Type of Results Shared (outlet level, building level, school level)</b>	Not specified	Outlet level <sup>4</sup>





## Sources:

1. New Jersey State Board of Education. *Safe Drinking Water*; 2016. New Jersey Administrative Code 6A:26-12.4. <http://www.state.nj.us/education/code/current/title6a/chap26.pdf>. Accessed March 1, 2018.
2. State of New Jersey Department of Education. Testing for Lead in School Drinking Water. NJ.Gov. <http://nj.gov/education/lead/>. Accessed March 5, 2018.
3. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Overview Lead in Drinking Water at School Facilities. March 2017. <http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pdf/techguide.pdf>. Accessed March 1, 2018.
4. Email Communication with New Jersey Department of Education Contact. June 2018.

## Citation:

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