

# What **childcare centers** need to know about the Pittsburgh Lead Safety Law

## Compliance starts with registering your pre-1978 child-occupied facility with the City of Pittsburgh's Permits, Licenses, and Inspections (PLI) Department

### 1. Prepare to register your facility

- Confirm your facility was constructed prior to 1978 using the [Allegheny County Real Estate Portal](#)
- Create a OneStopPGH account online at [onestoppgh.pittsburghpa.gov](http://onestoppgh.pittsburghpa.gov)
- Ensure your facility has a valid Certificate of Occupancy.
- Tips for COO: [DHS Tips](#); [DHS Starting a Childcare Manual](#)
- Tips for PLI process: [PLI Infosheet](#)

### 2. Submit your application by Dec 31, 2022

- Apply at the online OneStopPGH portal.
- What about costs and forms of payment?
  - Applications cost \$35.50 per facility.
  - Pay by e-check, debit card, or credit card.

### 3. Check your property for lead hazards

- Review the inspection results from your Certificate of Compliance ("license") from the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services: were any visual paint hazards or bare soil identified?
- Check inside: look for areas in your facility with deteriorating paint (peeling, chipping, chalking, cracking, damaged, or damp), especially those places that children can chew or that get a lot of wear-and-tear, such as: windows & window sills, doors & door frames, stairs, railings, banisters, and porches. Also look for areas where dirt and dust may be building up.
- Check outside: look for deteriorating paint on the exterior of your facility, especially on porches or near doorways. Look for bare soil anywhere on the property, especially where children spend time.
- If you find deteriorating paint, hire an [EPA-certified contractor](#) to repair the area safely.
- If you find bare soil, cover the bare soil with grass, native plants, mulch, or another groundcover.
- If you find areas with dust or dirt building up, do a deep clean. Wet-mop hard surfaces. Use a vacuum with a HEPA filter on carpets. Follow the [EPA guidance](#) on lead-safe cleaning practices.

### 4. Talk to your families

- Review this [WHE Early Learning Factsheet](#)
- Share this "[10 Ways to Protect Your Child from Lead Poisoning](#)" handout with caregivers
- Share [this link to Get Help](#)

### 5. Schedule an inspection

- Within 30 days of registering your pre-1978 child-occupied facility, schedule your inspection at OneStopPGH. You may contact your assigned inspector with any scheduling questions.
- The inspection will include:
  - An exterior assessment for bare soil around the building and for deteriorated paint
  - An interior visual assessment for deteriorated paint
  - Lead dust wipe samples on the floors and windows in at least four rooms (including the entryway, playroom, and dining areas)
  - Facility staff must be present to allow the inspector to enter.

### 6. Prepare for an inspection

- Conduct a deep clean of your facility, per the lead-safe practices mentioned above.
- Most interim controls can be completed within 1-3 days and do not require vacancy of the facility.
- Apply for local resources to assist with remediating hazards:
  - [Child Care Quality Fund \(CCQF\)](#)
  - [Childcare Reinvestment Business Fund \(CRiB\)](#)
  - [1000 Hours Initiative](#)
  - [Allegheny Lead Safe Homes](#)
  - [Other grants](#)

### 7. Review the inspection results

- Contact PLI or Get the Lead Out ([gettheleadoutpgh.org](http://gettheleadoutpgh.org)) with any questions.
- If hazards are found, meaning the lead inspection results on OneStopPGH are marked "unacceptable," repeat step 6. You have 30 days to remedy hazards and schedule a new inspection.

### 8. Complete your annual registration and request an inspection

- Complete your annual registration at least 30 days before it expires.
- Request a re-inspection every 3 years.