TO: ALL CHILD CARE FACILITY LICENSEES

FROM: PAMELA DICKFOSS
Deputy Director
Community Care Licensing Division

SUBJECT: WRITTEN DIRECTIVES FOR LEAD TESTING IN CHILD CARE CENTERS WILL BE DELAYED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 2019 (COVID-19).

Provider Information Notice (PIN) Summary
PIN 20-12-CCP announces a delay in publishing written directives as mandated by Health and Safety Code section 1597.16 due to the COVID-19 pandemic for Child Care Centers only.

Lead Testing Requirement for Child Care Centers only.

Health and Safety Code section 1597.16 requires that all licensed Child Care Centers (CCCs) only, constructed before January 1, 2010 test their cold-water outlets used for drinking and/or cooking for lead within a three-year window between January 1, 2020 and January 1, 2023. Subsequent testing must occur every 5 years after the date of the first test. Only CCCs are required to test drinking and cooking water for lead. This requirement does not apply to Family Child Care Homes (FCCHs).

CCC Directives
The Child Care Program Office will publish and post written directives outlining the process and requirements facilities must follow when testing their facility’s water for lead, including detailed water sampling instructions. These directives have been delayed due to COVID-19, but when complete, the Department will publish and post the directives in a forthcoming Provider Information Notice (PIN) on the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) website.

The written directives will provide specific steps for the collection and testing of water samples, and the communication of test results to parents, guardians, and CDSS. The directives will also outline the requirements for corrective action plans if an exceedance of lead is discovered.
For further information on lead and the lead requirements, please see Provider Information Notice # 20-01-CCP

If you have any questions, please contact your Local Regional Office.