

Lead Testing FAQ

Q: Do I have to test if I provide care for a relative?

A. No, you do not have to conduct testing if you provide care for all children who are related. A relative is defined as a grand-parent, great-grandparent, aunt, uncle (does not include great-aunt and great-uncle or a sibling not living in the home of the child your intent to care for.

Q: Do I have to test if care is provided in the child's home?

A. No. If you go to the child's home to provide care, lead testing is not required.

Q. Where do I order my test?

A. The Office of Child Care (OCC) provides a document that lists ORELAP accredited labs and their contact information to order lead testing kits.

Q. Where do I send the results of the lead testing?

A. Once providers receive results, they can send them to OCC at:

Mail: Office of Child Care, 700 Summer St. NE
Salem, 97301

Fax: 503-947-1428

Email: ELD.Lead@state.or.us

Q. If I had my water tested within the last 6 years by one of the labs on the ORELAP list, do I need to retest?

A. As long the fixtures being used were tested within the last 6 years (of today's date), and the analysis was performed by an ORELAP accredited lab, you should not have to retest. A copy of results needs to be submitted to OCC.

Q. If I do not use any faucets for cooking, drinking, or preparing formula and currently use only bottled water do I need to test the bottled water?

A. No, providers do not need to test bottled water. Providers will be required to fill out a declaration stating they are exclusively using bottled water for drinking, cooking, and preparing formula.

Q. If I only use the water filtered from my fridge, do I need to test that water?

A. Yes, providers need to test the filtered water from your fridge if you are using it for drinking, cooking, or preparing infant formula.

Q. What if I want to start using a faucet that hasn't been tested for drinking, cooking, or preparing formula?

A. You will need to notify OCC within 10 days, and test for lead prior to using the faucet.

Q. Can I use a filter attached to the plumbing fixture?

A. One of our mitigation options for corrective action is purchasing an approved lead filter for fixtures or faucets that test at or above 15 ppb, no retesting would be needed after purchasing and installing an NSF certified lead filter.

Q. Could I use a Brita or other filter pitcher for that water?

A. Any filters that are used must be an NSF certified lead filter. Brita is not NSF certified for lead. Providers can purchase NSF certified lead filters at Home Depot or Lowes, and Amazon.

Q. Who do I call if I have questions regarding lead testing?

A. If you have, questions regarding lead testing, contact the OCC Lead Line at 503-947-5808