



DID YOU KNOW...

October 24, 2022

Lead Disclosure Rule

DID YOU KNOW: The [Lead Disclosure Rule](#) requires landlords to provide disclosures concerning lead paint to prospective tenants in “target housing,” which includes most houses constructed before 1978 with several exceptions: housing for elderly or disabled (unless a child under age 6 resides in the unit) and zero-bedroom dwellings.

While lead paint can affect anyone, children 6 years old and younger are at greater risk for irreversible effects. No safe blood lead level in children has been identified. Even low levels of lead have been shown to cause ill effects including to the brain and nervous system, slowed growth and development, and learning and behavioral problems. Common sources of elevated blood lead levels come from lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust, and contaminated air, water, and soil. Adults who work with batteries, do home renovations, or work in auto-repair shops are also at a higher risk of exposure.

SYMPTOMS OF LEAD EXPOSURE

Please note, if you believe your child has been exposed to lead, contact your child’s physician immediately.

Most children with any lead in their blood have no obvious or immediate symptoms. Early identification of elevated blood lead levels is key to reducing the potential long-term effects of lead exposure. If you believe that your child may have been exposed to lead, talk to your child’s healthcare provider about getting a blood lead test.¹

Symptoms include, but are not limited to:

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| Developmental delays | Seizures |
| Learning Difficulties | Vomiting |
| Irritability | Constipation |
| Loss of Appetite | Hearing Loss |
| Weight Loss | Eating things that aren’t food (Ex. Paint chips) |
| Sluggishness and Fatigue | Abdominal Pain |

¹ Many private insurance policies cover the cost of testing for lead in the blood. Children enrolled in Medicaid may be eligible for free testing.



BEFORE YOU SIGN A LEASE OR PURCHASE AGREEMENT

Ask if the property was built before 1978. If so, the landlord is responsible for providing you with the following information prior to signing a housing contract or lease agreement:

- An EPA-approved [lead hazard information pamphlet](#).
- Disclosure of any known information concerning lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards and the location of the lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards, and the condition of the painted surfaces.
- Review of all records or reports pertaining to lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards, which are available to the seller or landlord. For multi-unit buildings, this includes records and reports about common areas and other residential dwellings, provided that such information is part of an evaluation or reduction of lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards in the target housing.
- [Lead Warning Statement](#) on the contract or lease agreement that confirms the seller or landlord has complied with all notification requirements with dates and signatures of sellers or landlords before signing.
- 10-day period to conduct a paint inspection or risk assessment for lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards, which may be lengthened or shortened based upon mutual agreement by all parties.

For more information about the Lead Disclosure Rule visit HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes [webpage](#).

To report suspected violations related to HUD-assisted housing, contact our hotline at 1-800-347-3735, or visit us at <https://www.hudoig.gov/hotline>

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