

# Instructions for Sampling Drinking Water in Childcare Facilities for Lead



## BEFORE SAMPLING YOU SHOULD KNOW:

- Sampling should occur at each faucet that could be used for drinking, cooking or medical uses, like kitchen and bathroom sinks and water fountains.
- Each fixture must be sampled twice:
  - a. First sample before any flushing
  - b. Second sample after running tap 30 seconds.
- Ensure water has been idle and unused in pipes and fixtures for at least eight hours, but not more than 18 hours.
- 250 mL bottles must be used.

## COLLECTION

### First Draw Sample

1. Remove the bottle cap and place bottle under faucet.
2. Turn faucet to cold water position as if filling a glass of water.
3. Fill the bottle to the neck.
4. Screw the cap back on. Check that it is firmly on.
5. Fill out bottle label.

### Flush Sample

6. Let the cold water run down the drain for 30 seconds.
7. Repeat steps 3-5 above using a second bottle.
8. Fill out the chain of custody form.
9. Place the samples and form in the shipping box and tape it shut.

## SHIPPING OR PICKUP

- **Shipping:** Apply provided shipping label and drop off at shipping facility within one week.
- **Pickup:** Email or call UMass and inform them that the sample is ready for pickup.

- \* **Do NOT collect samples on Mondays or after extended holiday/break periods.**
- \* **Do NOT run the faucet before collecting first sample.**
- \* **Do NOT flush plumbing fixtures in advance of sampling.**
- \* **Facilities should develop a program to routinely flush plumbing fixtures after extended school closings.**

**Questions?** Contact Program Partner UMass at [lccadep@umass.edu](mailto:lccadep@umass.edu) or 413-545-0840 or MassDEP at [program.director-dwp@mass.gov](mailto:program.director-dwp@mass.gov)

Video Instructions: <https://tinyurl.com/yc6kxvr>



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection  
Drinking Water Program