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SECRETARY FOR
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State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Drinking Water

**ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE STATE WATER BOARD EFFORTS TO
ENCOURAGE SCHOOLS STATEWIDE TO TEST FOR LEAD**

This announcement is being distributed to all Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP)-accredited laboratories. As part of the Division of Drinking Water’s (DDW) public health mission, the State Water Resources Control Board is encouraging California schools to have their drinking water tested for lead. With national events highlighting the dangers of lead in drinking water supplies, the State Water Board has emphasized this effort to ensure the water that comes out of schools’ taps is safe.

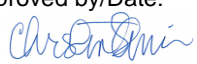
According to the California Department of Education (CDE), there are 9,000 K-12 schools in the state, many of which are served by permitted community water systems. CDE will notify schools of the recommendation to test for lead in the near future.

Division of Drinking Water School Lead Sampling Permit Amendment

DDW will issue an amended permit to all community water systems currently serving a school on December 20, 2016. Pursuant to the amended permit, water systems in California are required to test the schools in their service area for lead if sampling is requested by the school’s officials. The water system will be required to collect up to 5 samples at each school requesting assistance. To view the sampling plan and protocols, visit the [DDW website](#). **Please note that this website will not be available until December 20, 2016.**

What Laboratories Need to Know if Asked to Analyze for Lead

Any laboratory analyzing for lead using test methods EPA 200.8, EPA 200.9, and/or SM 3113B, must be ELAP-accredited and be able to achieve a Practical Quantitation Level of 5 ug/l (ppb). A list of ELAP-accredited laboratories for each method is attached to this announcement and posted to the ELAP website: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/elap>. If laboratories are not currently certified to analyze for lead by ELAP and would like to participate in the lead sampling efforts, they must apply for certification by submitting an application. Visit the Application Instructions page on the ELAP website for information.

Approved by/Date: 	December 19, 2016
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How Laboratories Will Upload Data

Laboratories analyzing for lead in schools will upload the results to DDW's Water Quality Information Replacement (WQIR) database using existing data submittal methods [the Write-On system or Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS)] using new Primary Station (PS) codes. The samples must be labeled using the following sample ID format:

<water system No.>-<school ID>-<sample ID> (i.e. 1710001-005-1)

It is important that the sample ID format be recognized as a school lead sample and not a water system's routine compliance sample labeled using a PS Code format (i.e <water system No.>-<Facility ID>).

Contact Information

For additional information, contact the School Lead Sampling Specialist at DDW-PLU@waterboards.ca.gov or by phone (916) 449-5577.