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<https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/index.html>

CHECKLIST FOR COMPLETING THE CHILD CARE CENTER
SAFE DRINKING WATER REQUIREMENTS
N.J.A.C. 3A:52-5.3(i)(5)(iii)

This checklist outlines the child care center requirements for obtaining a Certification of Acceptable Drinking Water Quality from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Bureau of Safe Drinking Water (BSDW) for a child care center.

NOTE: Child care centers receiving drinking water from a public community water system (CWS) **do not** need to obtain a Certification of Acceptable Drinking Water Quality for Child Care License renewal and therefore **do not** need to complete this checklist. Instead, pursuant to Department of Children and Families (DCF) regulations at N.J.A.C. 3A:52-5.3(i)(5), applicants are required to certify in writing to DCF that the center provides a potable water supply from a CWS. In addition, N.J.A.C. 3A:52-5.3(i)(5)(i) requires that child care facilities supplied by a CWS sample for lead and copper. A list of certified laboratories for lead and copper can be obtained by phoning NJDEP's Office of Quality Assurance at (609) 292-3950 or a list of drinking water certified lead labs is available at <https://www13.state.nj.us/DataMiner>. Click "Search by Category", then select "Certified Laboratories" from the drop-down list, then click "Drinking Water Certified Lead Labs". Lead and Copper sample results must be submitted directly to DCF.

Instructions

In order for an existing child care center to receive a Certification of Acceptable Drinking Water Quality from the BSDW for their license renewal, the child care center must complete and submit page 3 of this form.

Sampling requirements, including a list of contaminants and the acceptable timeframe within which the test results are valid for the purposes of this program, may be found on page 4. Note: If a new well has been drilled or changes were made to the existing well (i.e. well deepened, pump replaced, etc.), then all contaminants listed on page 4 must be sampled and analyzed.

Samples for child care certification should be collected at the point of entry to the distribution system for all parameters, with the exception of coliform bacteria, *E.coli* (if applicable), lead and copper, disinfection byproducts (if applicable), and disinfectant residuals (if applicable). Raw samples may be used in place of point of entry samples, but they are not specifically required for child care certification.

If the child care center is part of a larger entity that comprises a public non-community water system, at least some of the bacteriological and lead and copper samples must be collected from within the child care center itself, regardless of sample sites identified as part of approved sample plans for Safe Drinking Water Act compliance. For those instances, please contact BSDW for case-specific guidance.

Furthermore, we recommend that lead and copper samples be collected at all faucets and other sources used for drinking water (e.g., drinking water fountains) or food preparation,

Please note, if drinking water data (excluding radiological results) was used for a previous drinking water quality certification it may not be used towards a drinking water quality certification renewal.

Please note that N.J.S.A. 30:5B-5.5 requires all child care centers that receive their own water supply from a well prepare a Water Quality Report. All detections of contaminants in the water supply must be included regardless of whether or not any results exceed any applicable standards. The Water Quality Report must be posted in at least one conspicuous location within the child care center. Additionally, 40 CFR 141.85(d) requires that lead consumer notices be provided to persons served by the water system. A Water Quality Report template, which includes required Lead Consumer Notice language, is available for your use on the Child Care Certification portion of the Division of Water Supply & Geoscience website at https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/pw_child.html. For license renewals, a copy of your most recent Water Quality Report will be needed before the BSDW can issue a Certification of Acceptable Drinking Water Quality. In addition, for non-transient non-community water systems, BSDW requires that the Certification Form- Consumer Notice of Lead Tap Water Monitoring Results (Form BSDW-54) has been submitted for your most recent lead results. That form can be found at <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/dws-sampreg.html> under Lead & Copper – Lead Consumer Notice Templates.

All sample results should be submitted by the laboratory using the BSDW's E2 electronic reporting system. Please see page 2 of the E2 Quick Reference Guide for details:
https://nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pdf/e2_quick_ref.pdf

BSDW will review results and, if acceptable, a Certification of Acceptable Drinking Water Quality will be issued. Please be advised that public water system compliance monitoring data may also satisfy child care certification sampling requirements. If you are unsure what sampling is needed, please contact the BSDW for assistance.

If you have questions regarding drinking water sampling requirements for child care centers, please refer to <https://www.nj.gov/dep/dccrequest/safedrink.html> or https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pw_child.html or contact the BSDW at 609-292-5550. You may also e-mail the BSDW at watersupply@dep.nj.gov.



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**CHECKLIST FOR COMPLETING THE CHILD CARE CENTER
SAFE DRINKING WATER REQUIREMENTS**

Child Care Center Name: _____

Address (Street/City/Zip): _____

Director/Owner (Print): _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email Address: _____

PWSID number: N J _____

DCF license number: _____ SRP PI Number: _____

Is this an application for a new/proposed center or for license renewal? (Check one) NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

Is the center affiliated with /on same property as any other business (e.g., a church, a shopping center/strip mall, professional bldg.)? YES: _____ NO: _____ 'No' should only be checked when center is sole business in a stand-alone building.)

If YES, list here: _____

Total Current Population of Child Care Center: # of children: _____ # of staff: _____

Days and Hours of Operation: _____ Are there different AM & PM sessions? YES: _____ NO: _____

If YES, list how many stay full day: # of children: _____ # of staff: _____ (if additional space is needed to clarify different numbers of children/staff for different days and/or sessions, please attach additional page with a detailed breakdown.)

Does the facility have a drinking water treatment unit for the well water (e.g., water softener)? YES: _____ NO: _____

If YES, what type of treatment unit(s) and for which contaminant(s)? _____

If applicable, date of previously issued Certification of Acceptable Drinking Water Quality: _____

Did the Certification acknowledge contaminants above the maximum contaminant level and/or action level? YES: _____ NO: _____

If YES, list the contaminant(s) and actions taken (e.g., treatment installed, public education) to address these contaminants (attach additional page if needed). _____

Since obtaining the Certification, have there been changes to the well or treatment processes (e.g., new well / replacement well drilled, change in pump capacity, change in well depth)? YES: _____ NO: _____

If YES, describe. _____

(Director/Owner Signature)

(Date)

CHILD CARE CENTER REQUIRED TESTING

Contaminant	Sample date must be within the last	Date sampled
Coliform	90 days	
Nitrate	90 days	
Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOCs)	3 years	
Lead¹	3 years	
Copper¹	3 years	
Inorganic Chemicals (IOCs)		
Antimony	3 years	
Arsenic	3 years	
Barium	3 years	
Beryllium	3 years	
Cadmium	3 years	
Chromium	3 years	
Cyanide	3 years	
Fluoride	3 years	
Mercury	3 years	
Selenium	3 years	
Thallium	3 years	
Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOCs)		
1,2,3-Trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP)	3 years	
Ethylene Dibromide (EDB)	3 years	
1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP)	3 years	
Per & Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs)		
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) ²	3 years	
Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS) ²	3 years	
Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA)	3 years	
Radiological Contaminants³		
Gross Alpha	See below ³	
Radium 226 ⁴	See below ³	
Radium 228	See below ³	
Uranium ⁵	See below ³	

¹The chain of custody for the lead and copper sampling must be submitted with the results. Lead and copper samples must be first draw (minimum 6 hour standing time) and from approved sampling sites. Discuss with the laboratory prior to sample collection.

² Monitoring for PFOA and PFOS is required for all certifications issued on or after January 1, 2021.

³ Renewal sampling requirements for radiological contaminants (*for child care centers that have NOT had a change to their well and/or treatment since the last renewal*) can be determined by using the charts below.

⁴ Radium 226 analyses are not necessary if the concentration of gross alpha particle activity is < 5 pCi/L. However, with regard to future repeat sampling frequency, it may be beneficial for the child care center to analyze for Radium 226 instead of substituting if the gross alpha result is < 3 pCi/L and Radium 228 is < 1 pCi/L or even < 2.5 pCi/L. See examples on page 4 for more information and discuss the pros and cons of possible substitution with your laboratory.

⁵ Uranium analyses are not necessary if the concentration of gross alpha particle activity is < 15 pCi/L.

Gross Alpha and Combined Radium MCLs and MDLs

	MDL	½ the MCL	MCL
Gross Alpha	3	7.5	15
Combined Radium 226 & Radium 228	1	2.5	5
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL); Method Detection Limit (MDL); picocuries per liter (pCi/L)			

Sampling Frequency Determination

Previous Sampling Result	Sampling Due
> MCL	Quarterly
> ½ the MCL but ≤ MCL	In 3 years
≥ MDL but ≤ ½ the MCL	In 6 years
< MDL	In 9 years

However, if based on previous results, different radiological contaminants are required to be repeated at different frequencies (e.g., 3 yrs for gross alpha vs. 9 yrs for radium), sampling for all radiologicals must be conducted during the earlier due date.

Examples regarding Radium 226 substitution as affects future repeat sampling for radiologicals

Example 1 Gross Alpha <3 pCi/L and Radium 228 <1 pCi/L

When Gross Alpha is <3, the only substitution value that can be used for Radium 226 is 1.5. That value (1.5) is greater than the MDL of 1, which means (in accordance with the above charts) that the minimum possible repeat frequency is 6 years. Whereas, if Radium 226 was analyzed instead of substituting and was <1, then a repeat frequency of 9 years is possible.

More specifically:

Example 1A – using substitution for Radium 226:

Gross Alpha = 2.87, Radium 228 = 0.25 (a result below MDL is considered non-detect or 0), Radium 226 substitution = 1.5
 $1.5 (\text{sub Ra226}) + 0 (\text{Ra228}) = 1.5$. The combined radium result of 1.5 is greater than the MDL of 1, but less than ½ MCL so sampling is due again in 6 years.

Example 1B – same results above, but no substitution:

Gross Alpha = 2.87, Radium 228 = 0.25 (a result below MDL is considered non-detect or 0), Radium 226 = 0.46 (a result below MDL is considered non-detect or 0)
 $0 (\text{Ra226}) + 0 (\text{Ra228}) = 0$. The combined radium result is less than the MDL of 1, so sampling is not due again until 9 years.

Example 2 Gross Alpha <3 pCi/L and Radium 228 <2.5 pCi/L

When Gross Alpha is <3, the only substitution value that can be used for Radium 226 is 1.5. If Radium 228 is above the MDL of 1 but below ½ the MCL value of 2.5, then substitution can still affect whether sampling is due again in 3 years vs. 6 years.

More specifically:

Example 2A – using substitution for Radium 226:

Gross Alpha = 2.65, Radium 228 = 1.2, Radium 226 substitution = 1.5
 $1.5 (\text{sub Ra226}) + 1.2 (\text{Ra228}) = 2.7$. The combined radium result of 2.7 is greater than ½ the MCL value of 2.5, but less than the MCL of 5, so sampling is due in 3 years.

Example 2B – same results above, but no substitution:

Gross Alpha = 2.65, Radium 228 = 1.2, Radium 226 = 1.1
 $1.1 (\text{Ra226}) + 1.2 (\text{Ra228}) = 2.3$. The combined radium result of 2.3 is less than ½ the MCL value of 2.5, so sampling is due in 6 years.