

A RESOURCE GUIDE: CARE MANAGEMENT OF A CHILD WITH ELEVATED BLOOD LEAD LEVELS



PENNSYLVANIA TOOLKIT

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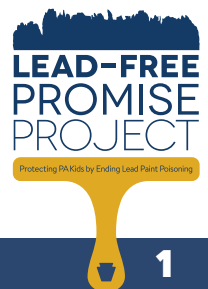
This guide was released June 1, 2021, and will be updated regularly. To report a change or discrepancy, contact the Lead-Free Promise Project at info@leadfreepa.org or 215-563-5848 x351



CHECKLIST FOR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS FOR A CHILD WITH AN ELEVATED BLOOD LEAD LEVEL

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that lead-based paint hazards in children's homes are the main source of lead poisoning – particularly deteriorated paint in the form of dust. The most important treatment for a child with an elevated blood lead level (EBLL) is to remove the child from exposure to the lead hazard, which for most children means reducing lead paint-based hazards in their home.

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- 📋 **STEP #1:** Refer for Home Lead Hazard Remediation
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RESOURCES FOR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS FOR CARE MANAGEMENT FOR A CHILD WITH AN ELEVATED BLOOD LEAD LEVEL

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines an elevated blood lead level (EBLL) as a blood lead level (BLL) equal to or greater than 3.5 mcg/dL. This value is also the action level to initiate care management as described in this resource document - because even at low levels, lead has been known to affect IQ, the ability to pay attention and educational achievement.

Note: The Pennsylvania Department of Health adopted the new lower blood lead reference value (BLRV) on January 1st, 2022, and is encouraging all county municipal health departments and health care providers to follow CDC's recommended actions based on the BLL in children with BLLs at 3.5 mcg/dL or above.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that lead-based paint hazards in children's homes are the main source of lead poisoning - particularly deteriorated paint in the form of dust. **The most important treatment for a child with an elevated blood lead level (EBLL) is to remove the child from exposure to the lead hazard, which for most children means reducing lead paint-based hazards in their home.** This resource guide is oriented to anticipate that the source of a child's exposure is lead-based paint in their home, yet it is possible that the exposure is from other sources. Other sources to be considered include soil, tableware, cosmetics such as surma and kohl, home remedies, dietary supplements of calcium, tap water, toy jewelry and exposure from parents who have been exposed to lead in the workplace.

Important Note: An EBLL is considered confirmed with one venous blood lead test equal to or greater than 3.5 mcg/dL or two capillary blood lead tests equal to or greater than 3.5 mcg/dL drawn within 12 weeks of each other. If the child has only one capillary EBLL, conduct or order a venous test or a second capillary test to confirm the result.

STEP #1: Refer for a Home Lead Test or Environmental Lead Inspection (ELI)

CHILDREN WITH MEDICAID & CHIP

- All Medicaid and some CHIP Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) pay for ELIs, and a primary care provider (PCP) has to order this inspection. See chart below for ELI company contact information.
- The PCP needs to make a paper referral using a form designated by the ELI company.
- The referral includes:
 1. a primary diagnosis code of abnormal lead level or toxic effect of lead and its compounds
 2. blood lead level of the child
 3. date of the lead test confirming that level

Note: In circumstances such as shared custody, up to **two** locations may be allowed as the child's primary residence and an ELI may be performed at each location.



PA MEDICAID AND CHIP ENVIRONMENTAL LEAD INSPECTION PROVIDERS

Health Plan	Program	Region	ELI Company Name	Phone Number	Contact Person	Email Address	Instructions
Aetna	Medicaid & CHIP	State-wide	Criterion Laboratories	(215) 244-1300	Karen Jones, Business Manager	kjones@criterionlabs.com	
		State-wide	Accredited Environmental Technologies	800-969-6238			
		Dauphin, Lebanon, Lancaster, York, Adams, Cumberland, Perry, Huntingdon, Franklin, Schuylkill, Mifflin, Juniata, Snyder, Northumberland, Montour	UPMC Pinnacle's ELI program	717-782-6443 or 717-782-4608	Joyce A. Ravinskas	pn_lead@upmc.edu	
Amerihealth Caritas	Medicaid	State-wide	Accredited Environmental Technologies	800-969-6238			
		Dauphin, Lebanon, Lancaster, York, Adams, Cumberland, Perry, Huntingdon, Franklin, Schuylkill, Mifflin, Juniata, Snyder, Northumberland, Montour	UPMC Pinnacle's ELI Program	717-782-4608 or 717-782-6443	Joyce A. Ravinskas	pn_lead@upmc.edu	
Capital Blue Cross	CHIP		Capital Blue Cross does not pay for ELIs				
Geisinger	Medicaid & CHIP	Northeast Counties (Bradford, Carbon, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Juniata, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Monroe, Montour, Northumberland, Pike, Schuylkill, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Wayne, Wyoming)	Accredited Environmental Technologies	800-969-6238			
Health Partners	Medicaid & CHIP	Philadelphia, Delaware, Chester, Montgomery, and Bucks County	Accredited Environmental Technologies	800-969-6238			
		Philadelphia County only	Philadelphia Department of Public Health	215-685-2788 Fax: 215-685-2978	Monica Crippen, RN, Community Health Nurse Supervisor		
		Montgomery County only	Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services Office of Public Health	610-970-5040 ext. 4244 Fax: 610-970-5048	Rhonda Stanek, BSN, RN	rstanek@montcopa.org	



PA MEDICAID AND CHIP ENVIRONMENTAL LEAD INSPECTION PROVIDERS (CONTINUED)

Health Plan	Program	Region	ELI Company Name	Phone Number	Contact Person	Email Address	Instructions
Highmark	CHIP	Highmark does not pay for ELIs.					
Highmark Wholecare	Medicaid	Allegheny County	Allegheny Health Department	412-350-3836	Brian Kelly		Fax a prescription including a diagnosis, lead level, and parent/guardian contact information to 412-350-2792
		Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Fulton, Franklin, Hutingdon, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry, York (outside of York City limits)	UPMC Pinnacle's ELI Program	717-782-4608 or 717-782-6443	Joyce A. Ravinskas	pn_lead@upmc.edu	Utilize the referral form on the Highmark Wholecare website: highmarkwholecare.com . Then go to Provider --> Provider Resources --> EPSDT information --> Pinnacle Childhood Lead Poisoning Program Referral Form. Fax the completed form to: 717-221-5277.
		All other counties	Accredited Environmental Technologies	800-969-6238			Utilize the referral form on the Highmark Wholecare website: highmarkwholecare.com . Then go to Provider Provider Resources --> EPSDT Information --> Accredited Environmental Technologies (AET) Environmental Lead Investigation Referral Form Please fax the completed form to 610-891-0559
Independence Blue Cross	CHIP	Independence Blue Cross does not pay for ELIs.					
Keystone First	Medicaid	Philadelphia, Delaware, Chester, Montgomery, and Bucks County	Accredited Environmental Technologies	800-969-6238			Fax referrals to Megan at 610-891-0559
		Philadelphia County only	Philadelphia Department of Public Health	215-685-2792			



PA MEDICAID AND CHIP ENVIRONMENTAL LEAD INSPECTION PROVIDERS (CONTINUED)

Health Plan	Program	Region	ELI Company Name	Phone Number	Contact Person	Email Address	Instructions
United Healthcare	Medicaid & CHIP	State-wide	Accredited Environmental Technologies	800-969-6238			
		Dauphin and Lancaster counties	UPMC Pinnacle's ELI Program	717-782-4608 or 717-782-6443	Joyce A. Ravinskas	pn_lead@upmc.edu	
UPMC	Medicaid & CHIP	State-wide	Accredited Environmental Technologies	800-969-6238			
		Allegheny County	Allegheny Health Department	412-350-3836	Brian Kelly		Fax a prescription including a diagnosis, lead level and parent/guardian contact information to 412-350-2792
		Dauphin, Lebanon, Lancaster, York, Adams, Cumberland, Perry, Huntingdon, Franklin, Schuylkill, Mifflin, Juniata, Snyder, Northumberland, Montour	UPMC Pinnacle's ELI Program	717-782-4608 or 717-782-6443	Joyce A. Ravinskas	pn_lead@upmc.edu	



CHILDREN WITH PRIVATE INSURANCE (STEP #1 CONTINUED)

- Private health insurance plans do not pay for ELIs. The family can try calling their county or municipal officials to see if they have programs available to have an ELI performed. The goal is to identify the most likely source(s) of the child's lead exposure.
- Alternatively, the family can hire an EPA Certified Risk Assessor to conduct the investigation. Refer the family to one of the ELI companies in the chart above or find an ELI company at the federal Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Directory of Certified Inspection, Risk Assessment, and [Abatement Firms](#).

STEP #2: Report EBLL Result

- **Report to the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) via PA NEDSS:** DOH considers an elevated blood lead level equal to or greater than 3.5 mcg/dL a reportable health condition. PCPs are required to report all venous and capillary lead test results regardless of lead level through PA's National Electronic Disease Surveillance System or PA-NEDSS website.

PA-NEDSS is a web-based application that establishes a near real-time, secure communication link between laboratories, hospitals, individual medical practices and the DOH. PCPs who already submit data on cases of influenza and other reportable diseases likely already have an account. If you do not have an account, visit the [PA NEDSS website](#) to register for an account. Instructions for reporting are on the website. Contact the PA DOH Help Desk for questions at 717-783-9171.

Special note: If your office uses a point of care capillary blood lead testing machine, the DOH requires that you report all BLL results through PA-NEDSS.

- For children with EBLs > 43 mcg/dL, PCPs can contact the Poison Control Center for assistance with treatment and case management at 1-800-222-1222.



STEP #3: Refer to Care Management Services via the Child's Health Plan

CHILDREN WITH MEDICAID AND CHIP

- Refer children with Medicaid and CHIP to their health plan to assist with care coordination.
- The chart directly below contains contact information for the Medicaid and CHIP plans.
- Important:** The Medicaid and CHIP plans will pay to have the child's home inspected for lead hazards, **BUT PCPs must first order/authorize this inspection** – see Step #1 for more details.

PA MEDICAID AND CHIP CARE MANAGEMENT CONTACTS

Health Plan	Program	Department	Phone Number	Contact Name	Email Address	Note
Aetna	Medicaid	Special Needs	1-855-346-9828	Patrice Faust	pxfaust@aetna.com	For additional assistance, contact Stacey Gamils, EPSDT coordinator at Sgamils@aetna.com
	CHIP	Special Needs	1-855-346-9828	Patrice Faust	pxfaust@aetna.com	For additional assistance, contact Stacey Gamils, EPSDT coordinator at Sgamils@aetna.com
Amerihealth Caritas	Medicaid	Special Needs Unit	(717) 943-1842	Jean Kline	jkline@amerihealthcaritaspa.com	
Capital Blue Cross	CHIP	Case Management Services	888-545-4512			
Geisinger	Medicaid	Special Needs Unit	(570) 214-2344	Beth Rinehimer	barinehimer@thehealthplan.com	
	CHIP	Special Needs Unit	(570) 214-2344	Beth Rinehimer	barinehimer@thehealthplan.com	
Health Partners	Medicaid	Healthy Kids Hotline	(215) 967-4690	Shatara Bowman	sbowman@hpplans.com	
	CHIP	Healthy Kids Hotline	(215) 967-4690	Shatara Bowman	sbowman@hpplans.com	
Highmark	CHIP					Providers refer members to the case management team via the Highmark Navinet Portal
Highmark Wholecare	Medicaid	Special Needs Unit	1-(800) 392-1147	Rebecca Vidak	rvidak@highmarkwholecare.com	Member Outreach Form can also be used and found on the Highmark Wholecare website.

chart continued on next page



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PA MEDICAID AND CHIP CARE MANAGEMENT CONTACTS

Health Plan	Program	Department	Phone Number	Contact Name	Email Address	Note
Independence Blue Cross	CHIP	Case and Condition Management Department	215-241-2392	Michele Ewing, Manager	N.Michele.Ewing@ibx.com	
Keystone First	Medicaid		(215) 937-8704	Maura Schaefer	mtschaef@keystonefirst.com	
United Healthcare	Medicaid	Health Services Dept.	(412) 209-0565	Christi O'Donnell, Manager	christi.odonnell@uhc.com michele.mazariegos@uhc.com	Please email both Christi O'Donnell and Michele Mazariegos
	CHIP	Health Services Dept.	(412) 209-0565	Christi O'Donnell, Manager	christi.odonnell@uhc.com michele.mazariegos@uhc.com	Please email both Christi O'Donnell and Michele Mazariegos
UPMC	Medicaid	UPMC Pediatric Care Management	1-866-778-6073		pedslead@upmc.edu	
	CHIP	UPMC Pediatric Care Management	1-866-778-6073		pedslead@upmc.edu	

ALL CHILDREN

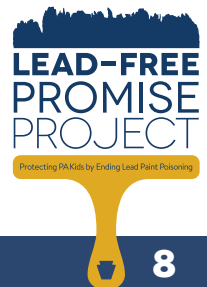
- Most county and municipal health departments also provide care management – primarily to help ensure that children with EBLLs receive follow up blood testing, but they can also refer families to other follow up services. Below is a hyperlinked list of PA county and municipal health departments.

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

[Allegheny County Health Department](#)
[Bucks County Department of Health](#)
[Chester County Health Department](#)
[Delaware County Health Department](#)
[Montgomery County Health Department](#)
[Philadelphia Department of Public Health](#)

MUNICIPAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

[Allentown Bureau of Health](#)
[Bethlehem Health Bureau](#)
[Wilkes-Barre City Health Department](#)
[York City Health Bureau](#)
[State Health Centers](#)



- For areas of the state **without** a local health department, the PA Department of Health (DOH) provides local services at State Health Centers within six health districts. Community Health Nurses are at each of the Centers, and they monitor EBLs levels $\geq 3.5\text{mcg/dL}$ in children ages 6 and under. The nurses help facilitate follow-up testing between families and their PCPs and provide families education on laboratory results, sources of lead exposure and actions to take to prevent/decrease the risk of exposure. The PA DOH and State Health Center nurses do not perform blood lead testing or conduct home inspections. Find contact information for your area below.

PA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STATE HEALTH CENTERS



NORTHWEST DISTRICT

19 McQuiston Drive
Jackson Center, PA 16113
Phone: (724) 662-6068
Fax: (724) 662-6086



NORTHCENTRAL DISTRICT

Water Tower Square
1000 Commerce Park Drive Suite 109
Williamsport, PA 17701
Phone: (570) 327-3400
Fax: (570) 327-3748



NORTHEAST DISTRICT

100 Lackawanna Avenue
Room 316
Scranton, PA 18503
Phone: (570) 892-4080
Fax: (570) 826-2238



SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

233 West Otterman St
Greensburg, PA 15601
Phone: 724-830-2701
Fax: 724-832-5327



SOUTHCENTRAL DISTRICT

30 Kline Plaza
Harrisburg, PA 17104
Phone: 717-787-8092
Fax: 717-772-3151



SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

Reading State Office Building
625 Cherry Street, Rm 442
Reading, PA 19602
Phone: 610-378-4352
Fax: 610-378-4527

**LEAD-FREE
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Protecting PA Kids by Ending Lead Paint Poisoning



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STEP#4: Conduct a Developmental Screen

- Perform a developmental screening evaluation.

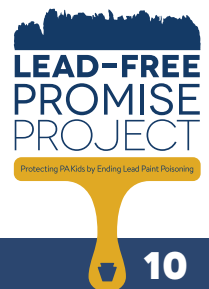
STEP #5: Refer for Home Lead Hazard Remediation

FREE REMEDIATION PROGRAMS FOR FAMILIES: THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) LEAD HAZARD CONTROL PROGRAM

- HUD Lead Hazard Control Programs are available to residents in specific counties and municipalities. See the chart below for locations to make a referral.
- **IMPORTANT NOTE: CHILDREN DO NOT NEED TO BE POISONED FOR FAMILIES TO QUALIFY FOR THESE PROGRAMS.** The Lead Hazard Control Programs will remove lead-based paint hazards from rental and owner-occupied homes of families with children under the age of six or homes with pregnant women. A household can also qualify if the young child doesn't live in the home but spends at least 60 hours/year in the home.

PRIVATE REMEDIATION COMPANIES

- If a family is not eligible for the HUD program, families can find a lead remediation company from two sources: 1) the EPA's Directory of Certified Inspection, Risk Assessment, and [Abatement Firms](#) and 2) the PA Department of Labor & Industry's [list of Certified Lead Abatement Companies](#).
- **IMPORTANT NOTE: REDUCING LEAD HAZARDS CAN BE DANGEROUS IF DONE BY AN INDIVIDUAL OR COMPANY THAT IS NOT CERTIFIED TO WORK WITH LEAD. PLEASE URGE FAMILIES TO USE A CERTIFIED ABATEMENT PROFESSIONAL/COMPANY.**



FREE HOME LEAD REMEDIATION PROGRAMS FOR HOME OWNERS AND LANDLORDS

Federal HUD and State Funded Lead Hazard Control Programs

Location	Contact Information	Website	End Date
Allegheny	Jennifer Saks (412) 350-1032 alleghenyleads@actionhousing.org Hotline Number: 412-227-5700	https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Projects-and-Initiatives/Economic-Development/Residents-Housing-Support/Lead-Safe-Homes-Program	February 2029
Allentown	Tanya Allison (610) 437-7610 ext. 2709 Tanya.allison@allentownpa.gov	https://www.allentownpa.gov/Community-and-Economic-Development/Community-Housing/CURRENT-Programs-Projects	April 2030
Bethlehem	Alayna Biltcliff 610-865-7083 abiltcliff@bethlehem-pa.gov Beth Somishka 610-865-7083 bsomishka@bethlehem-pa.gov	https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/Health-Bureau/Environmental/Lead-Healthy-Homes	January 2026
Blair County	Trina Illig (814) 693-3023 x1489 Tillig@blairco.org	https://www.blairco.org/departments/social-services/housing-rehabilitation-program	December 2026
Cambria County	Renee Daly (814) 472-6711 rdaly@co.cambria.pa.us	https://www.cambriacountypa.gov/redevelopment-authority/	N/A
Chester County	Jeanne Franklin (610) 344-6233 jfranklin@chesco.org	https://www.chesco.org/929/Childhood-Lead-Poisoning	January 2027
Delaware County	Beverly Van Horn, 724-656-0090 ext. 5909 bvanhorn@lccap.org	https://delcopa.gov/hcd/LHRP.html	April 2026
Erie City and Erie County	Holly Cook (814) 870-1547 hcook@redeveloperie.org	https://www.redeveloperie.org/lead_hazard_reduction/	April 2029
Harrisburg	Jeffrey Young 717-2557276 For general information call (717) 255-6419, fax (717) 255-6421, or email DBHDHousing@harrisburgpa.gov for additional information.	https://harrisburgpa.gov/services/building_housing/lead_safe_program.php	March 2029
Johnstown	Dave Williams (814) 539-2504 x115 Dwilliams@cojtn.com	https://johnstownpa.gov/residential-development/	October 2027
Lancaster City	Elaine Lapp Esch, eesch@cityoflancasterpa.gov For general information (717) 291-4730 OHH@cityoflancasterpa.gov	https://www.cityoflancasterpa.com/lead-hazard-control-program/	April 2029
Lancaster County	Leaha Shermeyer 717-544-5323 info@leadfreefamilies.org	https://www.pennmedicine.org/supporting-our-communities/healthy-living-environments/lead-free-families?redirect=1&referrer=pennmed&source=fsu	Continuous



FREE HOME LEAD REMEDIATION PROGRAMS FOR HOME OWNERS AND LANDLORDS

Federal HUD and State Funded Lead Hazard Control Programs

Location	Contact Information	Website	End Date
Lawrence County	Beverly Van Horn 724-656-0090 ext. 5909 bvanhorn@lcap.org	https://lccap.org/programs-services/housing/home-improvements/lead-identification-abatement/	April 2026
Mercer County	Beverly Van Horn 724-656-0090 ext. 5909 bvanhorn@lcap.org	https://www.mercercountypa.gov/FairHousing/Default.htm	April 2026
Montgomery County	Tori McQueen (610) 278-5117 x6723 tmcqueen@montcopa.org	https://www.montcopa.org/3567/Lead-Hazard-Control-ProgramTheMontgomeryCountyDepartmentofHousingandCommunityDevelopment	2027
Northampton County	Frank Brooks, (610) 829-6311 fbrooks@northamptoncounty.org	https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/Health-Bureau/Environmental/Lead-Healthy-Homes	2027
Philadelphia	(215) 685-2788	https://www.phila.gov/programs/lead-and-healthy-homes-program/	November 2026
Westmoreland County	Janet Thomas, (724) 830-3650 jthomas@co.westmoreland.pa.us	https://www.westmorelandcountypa.gov/2979/Lead-Safe-and-Healthy-Homes-Rehabilitati	April 2026

STEP #6: Refer to Early Intervention (EI) and Possibly Early Head Start

- The Early Intervention program in Pennsylvania provides individualized services and supports for children with developmental delays and developmental screening and tracking services for children at risk for delays – **and an EBL is one of six priority health conditions for a referral.** (For more information, see the EI “Help Me Grow” handout in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)).
- If a PCP identifies or suspects a developmental delay, refer the child to the [local EI program](#) or call the state referral helpline 800-692-7288.
- In addition to EI, if a child’s family income is low, PCPs can also refer a child to a local Head Start program. To see if your area has a Head Start, find your local program by calling 1-866-763-6481 or go to the [national Head Start website](#).

STEP #7: Refer to WIC

- Perform a nutritional assessment and assess risk factors for iron deficiency.
- For families with low incomes, refer the family to your [local WIC office](#) or to the state referral line at 1-800-WIC-WINS.



STEP #8: Schedule Follow Up Blood Lead Monitoring & Additional Clinical Care

- Schedule the child's follow up blood lead monitoring test – and possibly additional blood work – at intervals dependent on the child's EBLL.
- See the [clinical care management recommendations](#) as per the CDC. See [AAP guidance here](#).

STEP #9: Test Other Young Children in the Home

- If other children ages 0 to 6 years old or pregnant people live in the home, they should also be tested regardless of the results of any previous tests.

STEP #10: Parent Resource Toolkit for Children with EBLLs

- Encourage parents and caregivers to log on to paleadfree.org/prt/ to use our interactive map to find resources in their community for their child, including the resources listed in this guide.
 - Care Management Services
 - Environmental Lead Inspection (ELI) Companies
 - Home Remediation Programs
 - Additional Resources such as Early Intervention, WIC, and Head Start

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PARENT RESOURCE TOOLKIT

DID YOUR CHILD TEST POSITIVE FOR LEAD? TAKE 6 STEPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD GET HEALTHIER.

There are resources in your county. Follow the steps and click on the [interactive map](#) below to find your local resources.

Step #1: Get help with your child's care.

Step #2: Get your home tested.

Step #3: Get the lead removed.

Click on your county on the map below for specific resources for Steps 1, 2 and 3.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

PA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OVERALL HELP

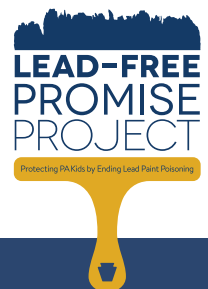
- The PA DOH Lead Line is 1-800- 440-LEAD and see the [PA DOH Help in PA](#) page site with links to statewide resources.

MID-ATLANTIC CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S HEALTH & THE ENVIRONMENT – PEDIATRIC ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALTY UNIT

- The Center is part of a national network of experts in the prevention, diagnosis, management, and treatment of health issues that arise from environmental exposures from preconception through adolescence. More information is on their website. Contact them at (610) 519-3478.

APPLICATION ASSISTANCE FOR MEDICAID AND CHIP FOR UNINSURED CHILDREN

- Almost every PA child is eligible for Medicaid or CHIP – no family makes too little or too much money to qualify. And parents/caregivers can apply at any time, 365 days of the year.
- Refer to:
 - Medicaid 1-866-550-4355 or [online](#)
 - CHIP 1-800-986-KIDS (5437) or [online](#)
 - Pennie™ 1-844-844-8040 or [online](#)



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