

## Lead and Radon Testing and Remediation Grants for Schools

### Overview

The scientific evidence is clear that exposure to lead and radon, known environmental hazards, can impact a child's ability to learn, grow, and thrive. There are proven strategies schools and early learning centers can implement to prevent exposure to children and staff. Women for a Healthy Environment, via its Healthy Schools PA program, is working to assist learning environments in reducing this exposure.

### Support Available

The following support services are available to schools and child care centers:

Free trainings on these key issues, both in-person and online	Open to everyone in the community
Free technical assistance with testing and remediation to include defining need and scope of work, limited on-site support, and communication templates	Open to schools and early learning centers
Mini-grants to offset the cost of testing and remediation of lead and radon	Open to schools and early learning centers

To request more information, email [andrewe@gbapgh.org](mailto:andrewe@gbapgh.org).

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## Mini-Grant Information

### Background

With the generous support of The Heinz Endowments, Women for a Healthy Environment is launching a "Lead and Radon in Learning Environments" initiative to help offset costs associated with testing and remediation of lead and radon in schools and early learning centers. This program is open to facilities located in the 12 county Southwestern Pennsylvania region.

### Who is eligible to apply for mini-grants?

- Licensed early learning centers (public, private, nonprofit) of any size (home and commercial buildings)
- K-12 schools (public, public charter, independent, parochial)
- Informal education centers for children (community centers, churches, after school programs)

### What is the grant for?

- There are two phases to the grants: the first for testing of lead and radon, the second for remediation of lead and radon, if there is need.

### What size grants are available?

- Grants will range from \$1,000 to \$7,500 per facility.

### **How are the grants structured & are there any requirements?**

- Grants will be awarded on a rolling basis from February 1, 2017 – December 15, 2017. Once a grant is awarded, funds will be dispersed upon verification of services performed. Funding may be delivered as 1) a reimbursement program or 2) payment made directly to the contractor performing the testing and/or remediation.
- Facilities may apply on behalf of multiple buildings; however, a separate application must be completed for each site.
- Facilities will be required to share the results of testing to receive reimbursement. These results will be held in strict confidentiality and will not be shared with the general public.
- There is no matching requirement; however, it is likely the mini-grants may not cover the full cost of testing and remediation.

### **What is the application process?**

1. Complete the online application, which can be found at:  
<https://form.jotform.com/63543244616152> (Contact the WHE office with any questions.)
2. WHE will notify facilities of if they have been awarded funding.

### **Once a grant has been awarded, then what do I do?**

We encourage you to secure bids for any lead and radon testing and to share your plan of action with WHE staff for feedback. The next step is to secure bids to implement lead and/or radon remediation.

### **Do testing and remediation have to be performed by outside parties?**

No, but it is strongly recommended that you do so, unless you are familiar with testing/remediation protocols and/or have been trained. Feel free to contact WHE staff to discuss whether you are equipped to handle this work yourself.

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