

Division of Legislative Services

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> Focused Review: Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Staff Presentation February 13, 2025

Why We Did This Review

- Focused review-initiated March 2023 on Delaware's lead poisoning prevention efforts.
- Requested Review Objectives: gather research and information on Delaware's lead poisoning prevention program in 3 specific areas:
 - Screening access at ages 12 and 24 months.
 - Water Testing Program in Delaware schools.
 - o Available funding.
- 2 major statutory updates during our review, June 2023:
 - **SB 134** JLOSC updates to include focused review.
 - SB 9 Created Lead-Based Paint Program within the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Act.
- Presentation originally scheduled for 2024, continued to 2025.
- 2024 first full year of program updates from SB 9.





Background on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

- No safe levels of lead in the blood.
- CDC Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (1988) to support state programs in identifying, monitoring, and responding to cases of elevated blood lead levels in U.S. children.
- Delaware's Lead Poisoning Prevention Act created in 1994.
- Key Act **Modifications**:
 - 2021: Expanded screening at 12 & 24 months, defined "screening" and "testing."
 - 2023: Established the Lead-Based Paint Program.

Access to Lead Screening for Children



- Delaware's programs follow CDC guidance and include:
 - State Lead-Based Paint Program.
 - Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.
- Delaware's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Act and DPH regulations provide program requirements and functions.
- Statutory Issues Identified:
 - Missing references to Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.
 - 。 Ambiguities around "universal reporting system."
 - Need for clarification and streamlining of annual reporting.

CDC and Advisory Committee Support

- **CDC program support, Cooperative Agreements** focus on:
 - Raising awareness.
 - Increasing screening access.
 - ^o Improving case management.

CDC Advisory Committees' Role:

- Engaging stakeholders and experts to improve public health.
- Offer valuable scientific and technical advice on preventing childhood lead poisoning.
- Providing advice and recommendations to the Federal government.

Delaware's Advisory Committee:

- ^o Created in 2001, modified in 2019, 2021, and 2023
- Established to provide advice and
- recommendations in similar CDC structure.





2023 Advisory Committee Modifications

- Temporary advisory duty to report with plan to screen all pre-1978 built rental properties for lead-based paint hazards
 - Due Jan 2024, completed Dec 2023.
- Expanded from 9 to 14 members.
- Added "oversee" duties for the State Lead-Based Paint Program.
 Differs from:
 - CDC advisory committee structure.
 - $_{\odot}~$ Its established duties in §2605(a).
 - $_{\odot}~$ Established DHSS and DPH oversight duties in §2608.
 - Rules for the Delaware Lead-Based Paint Abatement and Remediation Fund under §2613.
- Recommendation: Clarify advisory committee's duties in statute to align with CDC standards and improve program efficiency.

Water Testing Program in Delaware Schools

- Initial testing of water testing in schools (2020).
- **\$1.5M allocated** for retesting (2022-2023).
 - BATTA Environmental followed EPA's '3-Ts' guidance for sampling.
- Key Findings:
 - Lead levels above EPA's threshold at multiple sites.
 - DOE recommended 'Filter First' approach.
- Ongoing testing and monitoring through DPH and DOE launch of "Filter First" approach.



Available Funds

- Delaware Fiscal Year 2024-2025: \$4.5M (Remediation).
 \$1.9M (Prevention).
- SB 9 created Delaware Lead-Based Paint Abatement and Remediation Fund.
 - Expenditure rules and annually funding requirement.
 - Proposed Governor's budget must include a proposed appropriation to the Fund.
- Federal Funds: \$31M+ (HUD, EPA, CDC).

CDC Support:

- Cooperative agreements, current funding cycle is September 2021–2026.
- \$540K current annual funding for prevention activities.
- Strengthened outreach, CDC supported data system, statute and regulation updates.
- Cooperative agreements and projects are ongoing.

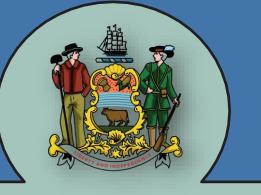




Staff Recommendation

Technical Corrections & Clarifications

- Clarify and update statutory references:
 - State Lead-Based Paint Program.
 - Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.
 - Universal reporting system.
- Streamline annual reporting requirements for easier access and transparency.
- Update advisory committee duties to align with CDC standards.



Joint Legislative Oversight & Sunset Committee







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Review Highlights

Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Focused Review, Released: February 2025

Key Findings

→ Access to Screening at 12 and 24 months.

- The CDC established the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program to reduce lead exposure and provides program guidance and funding support to states.
- Delaware's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Act guides all lead poisoning prevention programs.
 - The Act includes the Delaware State Lead-Based Paint Program and Childhood Lead Poisoning Advisory Committee ("advisory committee").
 - o Items for clarification identified throughout the Act.
 - Applying technical corrections and clarifications provides clear guidance for the program.

→ Water Testing Program in Delaware Schools.

- October 2020: Lead levels exceeded 7.5 parts per billion in 149 sites in 49 Delaware schools, all schools retested by 2023.
- September 2023: DOE announced "Filter First" approach which may require plumbing replacements or filter installations, other schools may require extensive and costly repairs.

➔ Analysis of Funds Available.

- Delaware Fiscal Year 2024-2025:
 - Residential Lead Remediation \$4.5M
 - Childhood Lead Poisoning Program \$1.9M
- Federal Funds:
 - o US HUD \$1.5M (2024)
 - EPA \$28.99M (May 2024)
 - o CDC \$540K (annual)

Staff Recommendation

➔ Technical corrections and clarifications to the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Act (Chapter 26 of Title 16).

- Clarify the state 2 programs: State Lead-Based Paint Program and Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.
- Update and combine annual reporting requirements.
- Clarify and update duties of the advisory commission and DPH staff support.

WHY WE DID THIS REVIEW

The Joint Legislative Oversight and Sunset Committee ("JLOSC") voted on March 2, 2023, to have their staff perform a focused review on the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.

OBJECTIVES

- Evaluate lead poisoning screening for 12 and 24-month-old children
- ➔ Assess the Water Testing Program in Delaware schools
- ➔ Analyze funds available

BACKGROUND

1994 - Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Act created.

- Mandated blood lead screening for all 12-month-old children in Delaware.
- Required all childcare facilities to collect verification of screening or a certificate stating religious beliefs.

2021 - Modified screening requirements.

- Aimed to simplify requirements and process for health care providers to eliminate confusion.
- Mandated lead poisoning screenings for children 12 and 24 months old.
- Created definitions such as:
 - "Screening" defined as a capillary (finger or heel prick) blood lead test.
 - "Testing" defined as a venous blood lead test.

2023 - Act modified created State Lead-Based Paint Program.

- Tasked to eliminate lead-based paint.
- Screen properties for lead-based paint where a child with high blood lead levels resides.

Delaware Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program:

- Provides and promotes access to early lead poisoning screening.
- Childhood blood lead surveillance and reporting for the State of Delaware.
- Outreach and education.



JLOSC Staff Recommendation #1

After review of information collected on the 3 assigned objectives, staff recommend that JLOSC consider sponsoring a bill making technical corrections and clarifications to the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Act, in Chapter 26 of Title 16.¹

Using this staff report as a guide, the bill should revise the relevant provisions of the Delaware Code ("Code") covering topics such as:

- Clarifying the State Lead-Based Paint Program and Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.
 - Updating definitions.
 - Clarifying duties under each program.
 - Clarifying the "universal reporting system" used by the Division of Public Health to collect and maintain program data.
 - Clarifying public information.
- Updating, clarifying, and combining annual reporting requirements for the Division of Public Health and Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Advisory Committee.
- Clarifying and updating duties of the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Advisory Committee.
 - Clarifying and updating staff and data support provided by the Division of Public Health.

¹ JLOSC and Delaware Department of Health and Social Services staff will work together to develop statutory revisions, and JLOSC staff will engage stakeholders as appropriate.

Provided as handout with staff reprot to JLOSC members during 2/13/2025 meeting

Part II

Regulatory Provisions Concerning Public Health

Chapter 26

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Act

§ 2601. Short title; definitions.

(a) This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Act.

(b) For purposes of this chapter:

(1) "Department" means the Department of Health and Social Services.

(2) "Elevated blood lead level" means a blood lead level that meets or exceeds 3.5 micrograms per deciliter or a blood lead level established by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's blood lead reference value, whichever is lower.

(3) "Lead-exposure site" means the location where a child was most likely exposed to lead.

(4) "Program", used as a proper noun, means the Delaware State Lead-Based Paint Program created under § 2607 of this title.

(5) "Screening" means a capillary blood lead test, including where a drop of blood is taken from a finger or heel of the foot.

(6) "Testing" means a venous blood lead test where blood is drawn from a vein.

(69 Del. Laws, c. 310, § 1; 83 Del. Laws, c. 75, § 1; 84 Del. Laws, c. 102, § 1.)

§ 2602. Physicians and health-care facilities to screen children.

(a) Every health-care provider who is the primary health-care provider for a child shall order lead poisoning screening of the child, under regulations adopted by the Division of Public Health, at or around 12 and 24 months of age.

(b) [Repealed.]

(c) (1) If screening under subsection (a) of this section determines that a child has an elevated blood lead level, the health-care provider shall order testing under regulations adopted by the Division of Public Health.

(2) A health-care provider is encouraged to use the health-care provider's clinical judgement to determine when testing should be used in lieu of screening under subsection (a) of this section.

(d) All laboratories and health-care providers involved in blood lead level analysis, including screening and testing, shall participate in a **universal reporting system** as established by the Division of Public Health. The **universal reporting system** shall include the lead screening and testing results of all children, regardless of age.

(e) Nothing in this section may be construed to require any child to undergo screening or testing if the child's parent or guardian objects on the grounds that the screening or testing conflicts with the parent's or guardian's religious beliefs.

(f) [Repealed.]

(g) Every health-care provider who is the primary health-care provider for a child shall report the results of lead poisoning screening on electronic forms to be developed by the Division of Public Health. The forms must contain provider information and the date of the screening. The forms shall be completed at well visits for children at or around 12 and 24 months of age, and for every other instance of screening. The Division of Public Health shall determine in what manner the forms shall be reported to the Division.

(69 Del. Laws, c. 310, § 1; 70 Del. Laws, c. 186, § 1; 77 Del. Laws, c. 402, §§ 1, 3; 83 Del. Laws, c. 75, § 2; 84 Del. Laws, c. 189, § 1.)

§ 2603. Screening prior to child care or school enrollment.

(a) For every child who has reached the age of 12 months, child care facilities and public and private nursery schools, preschools, and kindergartens shall require proof of screening for lead poisoning for admission or continued enrollment.

(b) Except in the case of enrollment in kindergarten, the screening under subsection (a) of this section may be done within 60 calendar days of the date of enrollment.

(c) A child's parent or guardian must provide 1 of the following:

(1) A statement from the child's primary health-care provider that the child has received a screening for lead poisoning.

(2) A certificate signed by the parent or guardian stating that the screening is contrary to the parent's or guardian's religious beliefs.

(d) The Division of Public Health shall ensure that all school nurses have access to data that confirms or denies whether each enrolled child has been screened for lead poisoning and the results of all lead screenings or tests. A record of the proof of screening shall be kept in each student's school health record. Results must be in micrograms per deciliter and provided by Jan 1, 2025.

(e) By November 1 of each year, all school districts and charter schools must report to the Division of Public Health the number of students enrolled in kindergarten who have not met the requirements under subsection (c) of this section.

(f) Any contracts or computer upgrades must continue to include lead results.

(69 Del. Laws, c. 310, § 1; 74 Del. Laws, c. 76, § 1; 83 Del. Laws, c. 75, § 3; 84 Del. Laws, c. 189, § 2; 84 Del. Laws, c. 308, § 1.)

§ 2604. Reimbursement by third-party payers.

Blood lead testing, screening, screening-related services, and diagnostic evaluations as required by § 2602 of this title are reimbursable under health insurance contracts and group and blanket health insurance under §§ 3337 and 3554 of Title 18, respectively.

(69 Del. Laws, c. 310, § 1; 83 Del. Laws, c. 75, § 4.)

§ 2605. Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Advisory Committee.

(a) The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Advisory Committee ("Committee") is established to advise on the implementation of

this chapter and to make any necessary recommendations for the implementation of this chapter or improvements of the processes to be followed by the agencies responsible for the implementation of this chapter.

(b) The Committee shall annually prepare and distribute a report to the General Assembly regarding this chapter, the intervention activities, studies of incidence, the State Blood Lead Screening Program, and monitoring and implementation of regulations promulgated under this chapter. (c) The Committee consists of the following:

- (1) The Secretary of the Department of Education.
- (2) The Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services.
- (3) The Secretary of the Department of Services for Children, Youth & their Families.
- (4) The Director of the Delaware State Housing Authority.
- (5) The President of the Delaware Association of School Administrators.
- (6) The President of the Delaware Association of Realtors.
- (7) A Delaware pediatric provider, appointed by the Governor.
- (8) Five members, appointed by the Governor, with at least 1 from each county.
- (9) One member, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (10) One member, appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
- (d) A member serving by virtue of position may appoint a designee to serve in the member's stead and at the member's pleasure.
- (e) The Committee shall elect a Chair and a Vice Chair from among the Committee's members.

(f) The Committee may form advisory subcommittees, which may include individuals who are not members of the Committee, to assist the Committee in its duties.

(g) The Department shall provide staff support for the Committee.

(h) The Committee shall oversee the Program, including to ensure that funds in the Delaware Lead-based Paint Remediation and Abatement Fund are spent appropriately and that lead-based paint remediation and abatement activities are taking place in a timely manner given funds available.

(i) The Committee is a public body.

(73 Del. Laws, c. 46, § 2; 70 Del. Laws, c. 186, § 1; 82 Del. Laws, c. 17, § 1; 83 Del. Laws, c. 27, § 1; 84 Del. Laws, c. 102, § 2.)

§ 2606. Annual report.

The Division of Public Health shall annually, on or before January 1, provide a report on elevated blood lead levels to the General Assembly by delivering a copy of the report to the Secretary of the Senate, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, and the Director and the Librarian of the Division of Legislative Services.

(83 Del. Laws, c. 75, § 5; 84 Del. Laws, c. 255, § 22.)

§ 2607. Delaware State Lead-Based Paint Program.

(a) A program is created in the Department to be known as the Delaware State Lead-Based Paint Program.

(b) Subject to subsection (c) of this section the Program shall exist and operate independently of any other lead-based paint abatement or remediation program in this State.

(c) The Program shall coordinate its efforts with any other lead-based paint abatement or remediation program in this State to ensure efficient use of Delaware state.

(84 Del. Laws, c. 102, § 3.)

§ 2608. Oversight of Delaware State Lead-Based Paint Program.

(a) The Department shall operate the Program.

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(a) The Department shall operate the Program.

(b) The Secretary of the Department shall appoint an employee of the Department as the Program Director.

(c) The Program Director shall have full authority and responsibility for the Program. The Secretary may use discretionary funds allocated to the Department to provide contract support to the Program, however, the Program Director and Secretary of the Department are ultimately responsible and accountable for the Program.

(84 Del. Laws, c. 102, § 3.)

§ 2609. Public information.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by the Freedom of Information Act, Chapter 100 of Title 29, and subsection (b) of this section, all communications with the Program are public records under the Freedom of Information Act, Chapter 100 of Title 29.

(b) This section does not apply to confidential health information.

(84 Del. Laws, c. 102, § 3.)

§ 2610. Division of Public Health duty to investigate.

The Division of Public Health shall do all of the following within 60 days of receiving notification through the **universal reporting** system established by this chapter that a child has an elevated blood lead level:

(1) Determine the residential address of the child from birth through the date of testing.

(2) Make a determination as to the child's lead-exposure site.

(3) Determine the owner of the child's lead-exposure site and obtain contact information for the owner of the lead-exposure site.

(84 Del. Laws, c. 102, § 3.)

§ 2611. Division of Public Health duty to notify.

Within 10 days of determining a child's lead-exposure site and the owner of a lead-exposure site under § 2610 of this title, the Division of Public Health shall communicate all of the following to the Program:

(1) The location of the lead-exposure site.

(2) The contact information for the owner of the lead-exposure site.

(84 Del. Laws, c. 102, § 3.)

§ 2612. Remediation and abatement duties of Delaware State Lead-Based Paint Program.

(a) Within 10 days of receiving the information under § 2611 of this title, the Program shall do all of the following:

(1) Inform a parent or guardian of a child with an elevated blood lead level of the child's elevated lead blood level, lead-based paint assessment, abatement or remediation efforts that may be undertaken under this chapter, and recommendations with respect to medical treatment of the child.

(2) Cause a contractor who is qualified under Delaware state regulations to conduct a lead risk assessment of a lead-exposure site that was constructed before January 1, 1979. The lead risk assessment must meet the lead-exposure paint inspection and lead hazard screen standards established under 24 C.F.R. § 35.110, must include paint testing and dust sampling and analysis as described under 40 C.F.R. § 745.227(c) and (d), and must, where indicated, include soil sampling and analysis as described under 40 C.F.R. § 745.227(d).

(3) If the lead risk assessment under paragraph (a)(2) of this section indicates the presence of a lead-based paint hazard, as defined at 40 C.F.R. § 745.65, inform the owner of the lead-exposure site that lead-based paint abatement or remediation efforts, to be funded by the State except under subsection (b) of this section, may be undertaken, and that the owner of the lead-exposure site is required to take all steps necessary to make the property accessible and available to individuals conducting lead-based paint abatement or remediation work for the Program.

a. The owner of the lead-exposure site shall take all steps enumerated by the Program to make the property accessible and available.

b. The Program shall keep records of all identified lead-exposure sites where a lead risk assessment indicates the presence of a lead-based paint hazard and of any remediation or abatement activities initiated by the Program.

c. The annual report required under § 2606 of this title must include information on the number of lead-exposure sites with identified lead-based paint hazards that have been, and have not been, the subject of lead-based paint remediation or abatement efforts.

(4) Provide adequate advance notice to a resident of a lead-exposure site that the lead-exposure site is uninhabitable due to leadbased paint abatement or remediation efforts by the Program.

(5) Provide reasonable alternative lodging for a resident of a lead-exposure site when the lead-exposure site is uninhabitable due to lead-based paint abatement or remediation efforts by the Program. Alternative lodging must be sufficient to ensure that the resident does not suffer disproportionate injuries because of displacement. The Program shall pay the resident's cost for meals and transportation during displacement.

(6) Assume all costs associated with abating or remediating any lead-based paint hazard in a lead-exposure site being abated or remediated by the program under paragraph (a)(3) of this section.

(b) The failure of an owner of a lead-exposure site to comply with the deadlines established by the Program under paragraph (a)(3) of this section constitutes a criminal nuisance which adversely impacts the community under § 7111 of Title 10. A finding by a court of competent jurisdiction that a failure to comply with the deadlines established by the Program under paragraph (a)(3) of this section has resulted in a criminal nuisance results in the owner's forfeiture of the owner's right to state-funded abatement or remediation under this section and in the owner's assumption of the cost of abatement or remediation unless the court specifically orders otherwise.

(c) All lead-based paint abatement or remediation work conducted under this section must be performed by a contractor who has been certified by the State to perform the abatement or remediation and must be awarded under a competitive bid process overseen by the Program. A contractor may submit bids to perform lead-based paint abatement or remediation work under this section before the contractor's certification on commitment to be certified before the performance of any abatement or remediation work. The Program may not pay a contractor for lead-based paint abatement or remediation work unless the contract is certified as required by this subsection.

(d) Competitive bid invitations issued by the Program for lead-based paint abatement or remediation must contain all of the following:

(1) Provisions requiring verification by bidders of procedures to be used for risk assessment.

(2) Provisions requiring verification by bidders of procedures to be specified by the Program to limit the generation of lead dust, contain lead dust within work areas, conduct daily and final cleanings, and perform clearance testing.

(3) Provisions requiring verification by bidders of procedures regarding treatment of exteriors, including siding and carpentry repairs, porch repairs, and garage repairs.

(4) Provisions requiring verification by bidders regarding the testing and treatment of soil.

(5) Provisions requiring verification by bidders of procedures regarding interior treatment, including initial and daily cleaning; repairs and component replacements; paint stabilization treatment of windows, doors, stairs, walls, ceilings, hard surface and basement floors, and radiators; and final cleaning.

(e) (1) A county or municipal government entity notified by the Program that a property is designated as a lead-exposure site and is to have lead-based paint abated or remediated shall grant priority status to any approvals needed by any applicant for any abatement or remediation work that must be performed.

(2) A contractor whose request for project approval is not approved or denied within 30 days by the county or municipal government entity shall report the delay to the Program.

(3) The Program shall make a public report by January 1 of each calendar year to the Governor and General Assembly of each delay reported under paragraph (e)(2) of this section.

(f) (1) The owner of any multi-unit property or property that has been rented to a third party in the year before notification under paragraph (a)(3) of this section, for which abatement or remediation work has been performed at State expense under this chapter, is prohibited from increasing the rental fee assessed to any tenant on that property for 3 years from the date of notification under paragraph (a)(4) of this section.

(2) The owner may pay the Program's estimated cost of abatement or remediation, including estimated costs associated with paragraph (a)(5) of this section, within 30 days of notification by the Program of that estimated cost.

(3) If the owner remits the payment under paragraph (f)(2) of this section to the Program within 30 days of notification, the prohibition on rental fee increases under paragraph (f)(1) of this section does not apply to the owner.

(84 Del. Laws, c. 102, § 3.)

§ 2613. Delaware Lead-Based Paint Abatement and Remediation Fund.

(a) A special fund of the State is created under the Department to be known as the "The Delaware Lead-Based Paint Abatement and Remediation Fund" ("the Fund"). All appropriations and other moneys, including gifts, bequests, grants, or other funds from private or public sources specifically designated for the Fund must be credited to the Fund. The State Treasurer shall credit interest to the Fund on a monthly basis consistent with the rate established by the Cash Management Policy Board. The Fund may not lapse or revert to the General Fund.

(b) Moneys from the Fund may only be expended on the following:

(1) Payment to contractors for conducting lead risk assessments.

(2) Payment to contractors for the abatement or remediation of lead-based paint on properties specifically approved for abatement or remediation by the Program.

(3) Temporary lodging of persons temporarily displaced during the abatement or remediation of lead-based paint at a lead-exposure site.

(4) Payments to third parties necessary to oversee proper administration of funds under paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this section.

(c) Moneys from the Fund may not be used to supplant any funds from any federal, state, or local government entity.

(d) Each submission of a proposed budget from the Governor to the General Assembly under § 6335 of Title 29 must contain a specific proposed appropriation to the Fund.

(84 Del. Laws, c. 102, § 3; 84 Del. Laws, c. 295, § 140.)

§ 2614. Provisional certification of contractors.

(a) The Department may grant provisional certification for abatement and remediation work conducted under this chapter to an individual who has been certified to conduct equivalent abatement and remediation work in another state with certification standards the Department finds to be at least as stringent as the standards enforced by this State.

(b) A provisional certification issued under subsection (a) of this section is valid for 1 year.

(c) During the provisional certification under subsection (a) of this section a contractor must receive appropriate certification as required under the law of this State.

(d) Nothing in this chapter prohibits the Department from granting reciprocal certification to an individual who is certified to perform equivalent work in another state with certification standards the Department finds to be at least as stringent as those enforced by this State.

(e) The Department may require proof of knowledge of standards and practices as a condition of provisional or reciprocal certification under this section.

(84 Del. Laws, c. 102, § 3.)

§ 2615. Universal reporting system requirement.

The **universal reporting system** established under § 2602 of this title must require that a child's health-care provider provide to the Division of Public Health the lead level found in the blood of each child who is screened or tested.

(84 Del. Laws, c. 102, § 3.)

§ 2616. Regulatory authority.

The Department may adopt regulations to administer, implement, and enforce this chapter.

(84 Del. Laws, c. 102, § 3.)