

Lead Hazard Risk Assessment

Frequently Asked Questions

General

What is Act 893 (2026): Lead Hazard Risk Assessment?

Act 893 (2026) amends Louisiana's lead hazard data collection program (R.S. 30:2351.28). It requires certain facilities that serve young children, including early childhood and prekindergarten programs, to complete a lead hazard risk assessment before beginning operations*.

Why was this law passed?

This law is intended to identify and address lead hazards in paint, dust, and soil before children are present at newly-operational facilities and to strengthen coordination between the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), and the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) in tracking that data.

When does Act 893 take effect?

August 1, 2026.

Who is Covered

Does Act 893 apply to my facility?

The law applies if your facility is one of the following meets the definition of a “child occupied facility” and begins operating on or after August 1, 2026:

- A proposed (not yet licensed) early learning center
- An early childhood care and education center subject to federal daycare licensing requirements
- A public prekindergarten program that is part of a public elementary school
- An approved nonpublic prekindergarten program that is part of an approved nonpublic elementary school

My facility has been open for years. Do I need to do anything?

No. Act 893 applies to facilities beginning operations on or after August 1, 2026. It is not retroactive for facilities already operating, unless you undergo major renovation or remodeling, or a lead hazard is discovered on your premises after opening.

I run a nonpublic school facility with an approved prekindergarten program. Does this apply to me?

Yes, only if your prekindergarten program is part of an approved nonpublic elementary school and begins operating on or after August 1, 2026.

My facility or grounds were already inspected or remediated years ago. Do I still need a new risk assessment?

If your facility or grounds has already been inspected, has already had a risk assessment, or has been the subject of lead abatement or remediation since 1978, a new risk assessment is not required for those portions. Only portions that have not previously been addressed are subject to Act 893.

What's Required

What do I actually need to do before I can open?

1. Hire an [accredited risk assessor](#). Make sure you ask for the assessor's accreditation to keep in your records.
2. Complete a risk assessment covering lead hazards in paint, dust, and soil.
3. If you are an early childhood center, attach the results to your original license application.
4. Keep documentation of compliance available up request.

Who do I submit the risk assessment results to?

Results must be submitted, prior to license issuance, to DEQ, LDOE, by filling out the Lead Risk Assessment Notification form. For licensing applications, upload your risk assessment results along with your licensure application.

If the assessment result shows:

Hazard - you will need to upload documentation from DEQ showing the hazard has been addressed.

No Hazard - upload just the form.

Where do I find a qualified risk assessor?

DEQ provides prospective owners, operators, and governing authorities with a [list of accredited persons](#) qualified to perform lead risk assessments.

What happens if the risk assessment finds a lead hazard?

DEQ notifies LDOE, and LDH. Your facility cannot begin operating until lead hazard control methods have completed and confirmed by DEQ.

What happens if no lead hazard is found?

Once DEQ, LDOE*, and LDH have received the report showing no lead hazards, no further testing is required to open the facility.

Renovations and Ongoing Obligations

Do I need to test again after I've opened?

Generally, no unless you undertake a major renovation or remodeling or a lead hazard is later discovered on the premises. In either case, further testing may be required.

What records do I need to keep?

You must maintain documentation demonstrating compliance with applicable federal and state lead hazard requirements and make it available upon request. It is also recommended to keep a copy of the risk assessor's accreditation.

Facilities Not Licensed by LDOE

My facility doesn't require licensure from LDOE. Am I still covered?

The LDOE will publish information about risk assessment requirements so you have access to the same guidance.

Where to Get Help

Risk assessment/ lead testing questions:

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality- DEQ-LeadNotificationActivity@LA.GOV

***NOTE:** An applicant submitting a lead hazard risk assessment as a condition of facility licensing pursuant to La. R.S. 30:2351.28 is not relieved of responsibility for the condition of the premises and violation of state and/or federal laws pertaining to lead hazards at the facility and grounds in paint, dust and soil and is subject to the legal consequences of such violation(s). LDOE, in approving the application, assumes no responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of the report submitted or the failure of the party performing the risk assessment to comply with professional standards applicable to lead hazard risk assessment.