

## LEAD INSPECTOR

**Certifying Authority** Rita Gergely  
Lead Poisoning Prevention Program  
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**Legal Authority** Code of Iowa, Chapter 135.105A

**Job Description** Lead inspectors conduct lead inspections, risk assessments, lead hazard screens and visual risk assessments.

"Lead inspection" means a surface-by-surface investigation to determine the presence of lead-based paint and a determination of the existence, nature, severity and location of lead-based paint hazards in a residential dwelling or child-occupied facility. Inspectors provide a written report explaining the results of the investigation and options for reducing lead-based paint hazards to the person requesting the lead inspection.

"Risk assessment" means an investigation to determine the existence, nature, severity, and location of lead-based paint hazards in a residential dwelling or child-occupied facility. Inspectors provide a written report explaining the results of the investigation and options for reducing lead-based paint hazards to the person requesting the lead inspection.

"Lead hazard screen" means a limited risk assessment activity that involves limited paint and dust sampling.

"Visual risk assessment" means a visual assessment to determine the presence of deteriorated paint or other potential sources of lead-based paint hazards in a residential dwelling or child-occupied facility. Inspectors provide a written report explaining the results of the investigation and options for reducing lead-based paint hazards to the person requesting the visual risk assessment.

**Education &  
Experience  
Required**

Applicants must meet one of the following criteria:

- 1) A bachelor's degree and one year of related experience (e.g., lead abatement, environmental health, public health, housing inspection, building trades).
- 2) Associate's degree and two years of related experience (e.g., lead abatement, environmental health, public health, housing inspection, building trades).
- 3) High school diploma and three years of related experience (e.g., lead abatement, environmental health, public health, housing inspection, building trades).
- 4) Certification as an industrial hygienist, professional engineer, registered architect, registered sanitarian, registered environmental health specialist, or registered nurse.

Specific Required Training Program:

Applicants must successfully complete an Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)-approved training program. To be approved for the training of lead inspectors prior to March 1, 1999, a course must be at least 24 instructional training hours with a minimum of eight hours devoted to hands-on training activities. Beginning March 1, 1999, a course must be at least 40 training hours with a minimum of 12 hours devoted to hands-on training activities. Lead inspector training courses shall cover at least the following subjects (requirements ending in an asterisk (\*) indicate areas that require hands-on activities as an integral component of the course):

- a. Role and responsibilities of an inspector.
- b. Background information on lead and its adverse health effects, how children and adults are exposed to lead, and how to prevent lead exposure to them.
- c. Background information on federal, state, and local regulations and guidance that pertain to lead-based paint and lead-based paint activities.
- d. Lead-based paint inspection methods, including selection of rooms and components for sampling or testing to determine if a property is free of lead-based paint as specified in the Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Hazards in Housing (1995, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development), and methods to determine if lead-based paint hazards are present in a property.\*
- e. Paint, dust, and soil sampling methodologies.\*
- f. Clearance standards and testing, including random sampling.\*
- g. Collection of background information to perform a risk assessment.
- h. Sources of environmental lead contamination such as paint, surface dust and soil, and water.
- i. Visual inspection to identify lead-based paint hazards.\*
- j. Lead hazard screen protocol.
- k. Visual risk assessment protocol.
- l. Sampling for other sources of lead exposure.\*
- m. Interpretation of lead-based paint and other lead sampling results, including all applicable federal, state, and local guidance or regulations pertaining to lead-based paint hazards.\*

- n. Development of hazard control options, the role of interim controls, and operations and maintenance activities to reduce lead-based paint hazards.
- o. Preparation of the final inspection report.
- p. Record keeping.
- q. The course shall conclude with a course test and, if applicable, a hands-on skill assessment. The student must achieve a score of at least 80 percent on the examination and successfully complete the hands-on skill assessment to successfully complete the course.

**Continuing Education** Applicants must complete an IDPH-approved 8-hour refresher course every three years. This course shall cover at least the following subjects:

- a. A review of the curriculum topics of the initial certification course for the appropriate discipline as listed in subrules 70.4(3) to 70.4(8).
- b. An overview of current safety practices relating to lead-based paint activities in general, as well as specific information pertaining to the appropriate discipline.
- c. Current laws and regulations relating to lead-based paint activities in general, as well as specific information pertaining to the appropriate discipline.
- d. Current technologies relating to lead-based paint activities in general, as well as specific information pertaining to the appropriate discipline.
- e. The course shall conclude with a course test and, if applicable, a hands-on skill assessment. The student must achieve a score of at least 80 percent on the examination and successfully complete the hands-on skill assessment to successfully complete the course.

**Examination** After completing an approved course, applicants must take and pass the state certification exam.

**Fees** Application: \$50  
 Duration: One year  
 Renewal: \$50  
 Exam: None

**SOC Code, Title, & Avg. Hourly Wage** 19-2041 – Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health (\$22.07)

**Number of Licenses Issued** Total number of licenses active as of December 31,  
 2001: 60  
 2000: 46