

# NC - ARPA Frequently Asked Questions for Licensed Child Care Facilities and Licensed Family Child Care Homes

June 14, 2024

1. **Q: Can a licensed child care facility be reimbursed for asbestos and lead-based paint remediation/abatement activities both inside and outside of the facility?**

A: Yes, licensed child care facilities and family child care homes can be reimbursed for asbestos and lead-based paint remediation or abatement activities inside and outside of the licensed facility as long as the area is used or frequented by children.

2. **Q: Can a child care facility be reimbursed for outdoor playground equipment?**

A: Licensed child care facilities and family child care homes can be reimbursed for the removal of playground equipment with an identified asbestos or lead-based paint hazard located outside the facility, but the reimbursement only includes the removal of item(s) and not the replacement of playground equipment.

3. **Q: If the abatement is conducted in phases, are we able to submit previously abated documentation as well as documentation for additional work once completed in the future?**

A: Yes, but each reimbursement packet should indicate which phase is being submitted.

4. **Q: Can child care centers be exempt from inspection?**

A: Before the inspection can be exempted, documentation is required to be submitted to the Clean Classrooms for Carolina Kids to confirm the licensed child care facility or licensed family child care home was built after October 12, 1988 for asbestos and after February 28, 1978 for lead-based paint.

5. **Q: Where can we sign up to get the inspection?**

A: Visit the RTI web address and enroll at: [www.cleanwaterforuskids.org/en/carolina/](http://www.cleanwaterforuskids.org/en/carolina/)

6. **Q: Do owners have to enroll in the program even if they would be claiming an exemption (example, building is newer than 1978)?**

A: Yes, licensed child care facilities and family child care homes must enroll in the Clean Classrooms for Carolina Kids asbestos, lead-based paint and lead in water portals and submit documentation to be eligible for an exemption.

- 7. Q: Is it guaranteed that you will get your money reimbursed after a project?**  
A: No, only documented eligible expenses can be reimbursed for asbestos and lead-based paint activities and associated replacement material documented as not containing asbestos or lead-based paint above allowable amounts.
- 8. Q: I had a lot of work done 2 years before 2022 for lead paint remediation. Am I excluded from this program?**  
A: Yes, per your question, however work performed after April 29, 2022, at a licensed child care facility or family child care home can be submitted for reimbursement.
- 9. Q: Do family child care homes and child care centers in a residence have to enroll in the program?**  
A: All licensed family child care homes and child care centers in a residence are required to enroll in [www.cleanwaterforuskids.org/en/carolina/](http://www.cleanwaterforuskids.org/en/carolina/)
- 10. Q: Where can information about Asbestos and Lead Based Paint be located on the Division of Child Development and Early Education's website?**  
A: DCDEE does not have information about asbestos or lead-based paint on their web site. You can find this information at: <https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/asbestos/healthaz.html>
- 11. Q: Are Head Start facilities eligible to apply for these reimbursement funds?**  
A: If a head start facility is a licensed child care facility, then yes.
- 12. Q: When do we have to have lead or asbestos testing in our child care or school?**  
A: Enroll at the [www.cleanwaterforuskids.org/en/carolina/](http://www.cleanwaterforuskids.org/en/carolina/) by November 1, 2024 and you will be scheduled for an inspection. These inspections are free.
- 13. Q: For licensed family child care homes will the inspection be the whole house or just areas used by the children?**  
A: The inspection will include the licensed child care space and documented auxiliary space as determined by the DCDEE Lead Counselor. More information about auxiliary space is included in the answer to Question # 22.
- 14. Q: Will reimbursements be 100 percent of what has been paid providing all documents have been submitted for the work completed?**  
A: Documented eligible expenses are 100% reimbursable for licensed child care facilities and family child care homes.
- 15. Q: If my house was built after 1988, does that make me exempt?**  
A: No, licensed facilities still have to enroll in the [www.cleanwaterforuskids.org/en/carolina/](http://www.cleanwaterforuskids.org/en/carolina/) and provide documentation of year built. The documentation will be reviewed to determine if the exemption criteria is met.

**16. Q: Where do we find the number to call and let RTI know we are in the process of remodeling so we can get on the list sooner rather than later?**

A: Contact the Clean Classrooms for Carolina Kids at 1-888-997-9290.

**17. Q: Is this UEI number the same as the EIN number?**

A: No. The UEI number is the Unique Entity Identifier number needed to receive federal funds. The EIN number is your tax identification number (or, if an individual, your social security number). These are two different numbers for two different purposes. If you need to register your agency to receive a UEI, you may apply here: <https://sam.gov/content/entity-registration>. If you are unsure of whether or not your agency has a UEI and is active, you may search for your entity here: <https://sam.gov/content/status-tracker>

**18. Q: When do we have to have these inspections done?**

A: Facilities must enroll by November 1, 2024. Asbestos, lead-based paint, and lead in water inspections and testing will be scheduled for licensed facilities after enrollment through the Clean Classrooms for Carolina Kids portal. These inspections are free and the completion of these inspections is coordinated by the RTI International, the vendor contracted by the Department of Health and Human Services.

**19. Q: Where can we go to prove the year when the facility was built?**

A: Use the city or county property tax records.

**20. Q: We have an office set aside to conduct administrative duties pertaining to the child care. The office is not directly connected to the child care room or kitchen primarily used by the children; however from time to time the children may be in the office. Would this office area qualify for reimbursement if asbestos was present?**

A: If the office is part of the same licensed child care facility, then yes. If the office is located in a separate building, documentation is needed to confirm children visit that location.

**21. Q: What documentation is needed to be reimbursed if a licensed child care facility or family child care home is renting space from a property owner?**

A: A licensed child care facility or a family child care home would need to complete and submit an ARPA reimbursement packet, along with a current copy of the lease agreement signed by both parties.

**22. Q: Can my licensed child care facility or family child care home be reimbursed for auxiliary spaces?**

A: The Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE) has clarified auxiliary spaces in a letter dated May 3, 2024. A facility seeking reimbursement for asbestos or lead-based paint activities and replacement materials in auxiliary spaces will have the DCDEE lead counselor confirm auxiliary spaces. After an auxiliary space is confirmed by the lead counselor then eligible expenses can be reimbursed.