

# Safe Water in Schools Act

HB 17-1306

## ANNUAL REPORT TO LEGISLATURE

February  
2021



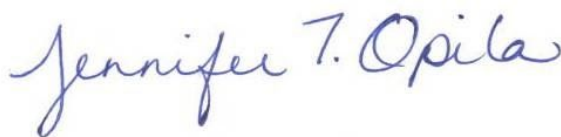
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## Foreword

The Water Quality Control Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment is pleased to submit the fourth and final annual report for the HB17-1306 “Safe Water In Schools Act” for the period of January 2019 through January 2020. This report covers all activities, lead testing results, and remedial actions for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2017-18, SFY 2018-19, and SFY 2019-20. The legislation specifically requires the annual report to document the following:

- The number, types, names, and locations of public schools that have applied for grants (Section II).
- The number of grants that have been issued, the individual amounts and total amount of grant money awarded, and the number, types, names, and locations of public schools that received grants (Section III).
- A summary of the test results (Section III).
- Any legislative proposals that the department believes to be warranted that would provide financial assistance to public schools to facilitate the testing for, or remediation of, high lead levels in drinking water (Section IV).

The annual report is due each February 1 for years 2018 through 2021 and is provided to the House [Health, Insurance & Environment Committee](#) and Senate [Health & Human Services Committee](#).



Jennifer T. Opila, Division Director  
Water Quality Control Division  
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
February 1, 2021

# I. Executive Summary

HB17-1306 “Safe Water in Schools Act” helps schools with the cost of lead testing through grant funding. Lead testing in schools is especially important because of the increased risk of delays in physical and mental development, lower IQ levels, and brain damage in young children who may be exposed to lead. Because of the length of time children spend in schools and the serious health risks associated with lead exposure, it is critical that schools, particularly elementary schools, know if lead is present in their drinking water. The legislation encouraged the department to complete all testing and analysis by June 30, 2020. The grant program sunsets on September 1, 2021.

## Who was eligible to participate in the grant program?

Under the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations, Lead and Copper Rule (Regulation 11), regulated water suppliers are required to sample lead at designated sites which are typically single- or multi-family homes. Many schools (42) are regulated as a public water system so they already test for lead in their facilities. These schools did not participate in the grant program. Similarly, some schools already tested for lead using the 1991 federal Lead and Copper Rule standards. Approximately 2,200 schools were eligible to participate in the program

The division engaged stakeholders and the Water Quality Control Commission promulgated rules concerning the grant program, and the division outreach took the form of: media announcements, site visits, and targeted correspondence to market the program.

## Supporting Health Equity and Environmental Justice

To support and promote health equity and environmental justice, a representative from the division reached out directly to 29 schools located in disproportionately impacted communities to solicit their participation in the program. During the three years of this program, of the 67 schools that participated, 19 had greater than 40% of their students enrolled in a free or reduced lunch program and three were located in disproportionately impacted communities.

## Summary of Participation and Results

### School Lead Testing Grant Program Participation

State Fiscal Year	Number of Schools who applied and received funding*	Number of School Districts represented in Applications	Total Funds Distributed
SFY 2017-18	23	2	\$76,560
SFY 2018-19	40	6 (1 District participated in SFY17)	\$154,021
SFY 2019-20	4	1 (1 District participated in SFY18)	\$17,634
<b>Total Participation</b>	<b>67 (41 Elementary and 26 non-Elementary)</b>	<b>6 (33,278 students)</b>	<b>\$248,215</b>

\*All applicants were funded at the amount requested.

## School Lead Testing Grant Program Sampling and Results

Total Number of Fixtures Sampled	Lead testing results below the recommended action level of 15 parts per billion	Lead testing results above the recommended action level of 15 parts per billion
3877	3731 (96.2%)	146 (3.8%)

The complete water quality test results are on the Water Quality Control Division's website at [www.colorado.gov/cdphe/school-lead-testing-results](http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/school-lead-testing-results)

### What action was taken when the results were above the recommended action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb)?

- Test results were provided to the local public health agency, the school's water supplier, the school board, and the department as required by Section 25-1.5-203(1)(f)(IV), C.R.S.
- Grant recipients implemented corrective actions to reduce the lead exposure risk. These actions included replacing fixtures, taking fixtures out of service, shutting off valves, installing filters, or posting "Do Not Drink" signs.

### Recommended Next Steps

This program has minimized lead exposure in participating schools. The data continues to suggest that most of the lead action level exceedances are a result of fixtures, for which corrective actions are relatively inexpensive. The division sought and received a multi-year \$1.2M Environmental Protection Agency Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Grant to continue and expand testing at schools and daycare facilities. Funding will be provided to local public health departments and county governments to promote the program and facilitate testing in their local school districts. The EPA WIIN's program is on hold due to COVID-19 closing down most schools and overwhelming local public health departments and local governments. The division is working with the EPA to extend the WIIN's grant program and implement an effective strategy moving forward. This, along with the new lead and copper rule which requires water systems to test at schools, will continue to advance the goals of HB 17-1306.

The division is not recommending any legislative proposals.

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## II. Grant Program Implementation

### Health Equity and Environmental Justice

The division is committed to ensuring health equity and environmental justice for all Coloradans. The division included financial affordability in the grant application, which included the percentage of students eligible for free and reduced lunch and the school district's median household income as a tie-breaker in the event there were more applicants than funding allowed. The division provided additional outreach to support schools in economically stressed areas, which in the context of this report is defined as a combination of health equity factors (i.e. percentage of population without a high school diploma, english as a second language, etc.) and 40 percent or higher of students on a free/reduced lunch program. This took the form of additional email correspondence as well as direct outreach.

During the three years of this program, there were a total of 67 schools that participated, of which 19 had greater than 40% of their students enrolled in a free or reduced lunch program and three were located in disadvantaged communities.

### Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement

The division conducted numerous outreach efforts to promote the grant program. These efforts included staffing conference booths, presenting at conferences and local health meetings, individual outreach such as site visits and phone calls, partnering with the Colorado Department of Education and other agencies to publish articles in newsletters, and sending out numerous email announcements. In all, the division made contact with over 14,000 individuals.

After the bill passed, the division initiated a stakeholder process to develop a strong program that would meet the intent of the legislation and the commission's procedural requirements for revising the regulation. The division solicited stakeholder participation through various newsletters, sending emails to local water providers, local public health agencies, counties, and non-governmental organizations, and through direct contact with schools and school associations both through the division's email distribution list and the Colorado Department of Education.

Stakeholders and the division agreed that the division should pursue a streamlined review process to evaluate grant applications and prioritize funding requests in case the total requested dollar amount exceeded the funds available (maximum of \$300,000 per year for the three years was delineated in statute). Three priorities were identified from the legislation's definitions:

1. Oldest elementary schools.
2. Oldest schools that are not elementary schools.
3. Other schools.

The tie-breaking criteria involve considerations of financial affordability and readiness to proceed. The financial affordability criteria include the percentage of students eligible for free and reduced lunch and the school district's median household income. Please see Appendix A for more information about the prioritization criteria.

## Rule

The Water Quality Improvement Fund was originally created in 2006 by the General Assembly to improve water quality in Colorado by using civil penalties from water quality violations to fund grants for water quality improvement projects. The Water Quality Control Commission determines how the division administers the Water Quality Improvement Fund (Regulation 55). In 2017, the Water Quality Control Commission amended the rule to include funding for the Safe Water in Schools Act through a rulemaking hearing.

## Sampling Standards

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention April 2, 2004 edition of Morbidity Mortality Weekly Review states, “Because no threshold for adverse health effects in young children has been demonstrated, public health interventions should focus on eliminating all lead exposures in children. Lead concentrations in drinking water should be below the EPA action level of 15 ppb.” As such, the division uses the value of 15 ppb in the grant program’s lead testing protocol. High quality, accurate lead testing results require using proper sampling procedures at appropriate sampling locations. To be eligible for grant funding, schools must develop a sampling plan that considers the location of plumbing fixtures, type of plumbing materials (lead lines or lead solder), and how water flows in the school’s system. The sampling plan is designed to assist with sampling, interpreting results, and determining proper remediation steps if warranted.

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## Program Year One – SFY 2017-18 Lead Testing Applications and Awards

#	School Name	School District	School Type	School Address	\$ Amount Requested	\$ Amount Awarded
1	Byers Pre-K-12	Byers SD	Pre-K - 12	444 East Front Street Byers, CO	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
2	Berthoud Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	560 Bunyan Avenue Berthoud, CO 80513	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,400.00
3	BF Kitchen Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	915 Deborah Drive Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 2,510.00	\$ 2,510.00
4	Big Thompson Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	7702 West Hwy 24 Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 2,705.00	\$ 2,705.00
5	Bill Reed Middle School	Thompson SD	Middle	370 West 4th Street Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 3,770.00	\$ 3,770.00
6	Carrie Martin Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	4129 Joni Lane Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 2,795.00	\$ 2,795.00
7	Centennial Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	1555 West 37th Street Loveland, CO 80538	\$ 3,860.00	\$ 3,860.00
8	Conrad Ball Middle School	Thompson SD	Middle	2660 North Monroe Avenue Loveland, CO 80538	\$ 3,665.00	\$ 3,665.00
9	Cottonwood Plains Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	525 Turman Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525	\$ 4,025.00	\$ 4,025.00
10	Garfield Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	720 Colorado Avenue Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 2,690.00	\$ 2,690.00
11	Ivy Stockwell Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	175 5th Street Berthoud, CO 80513	\$ 2,870.00	\$ 2,870.00
12	Lincoln Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	3312 North Douglas Avenue Loveland, CO 80538	\$ 3,065.00	\$ 3,065.00

#	School Name	School District	School Type	School Address	\$ Amount Requested	\$ Amount Awarded
13	Mary Blair Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	860 East 29th Street Loveland, CO 80538	\$ 3,680.00	\$ 3,680.00
14	Monroe Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	1500 North Monroe Avenue Loveland, CO 80538	\$ 3,560.00	\$ 3,560.00
15	Namaqua Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	209 North Namaqua Avenue Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 3,680.00	\$ 3,680.00
16	Sarah Milner Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	743 Jocelyn Drive Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 3,125.00	\$ 3,125.00
17	Stansberry Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	407 East 42nd Street Loveland, CO 80538	\$ 2,915.00	\$ 2,915.00
18	Truscott Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	211 West 6th Street Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 2,435.00	\$ 2,435.00
19	Turner Middle School	Thompson SD	Middle	950 Massachusetts Avenue Berthoud, CO 80513	\$ 2,975.00	\$ 2,975.00
20	Van Buren Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	1811 West 15th Street Loveland, CO 80538	\$ 3,065.00	\$ 3,065.00
21	Walt Clark Middle School	Thompson SD	Middle	2605 Carlisle Drive Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,800.00
22	Winona Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	201 South Boise Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 3,995.00	\$ 3,995.00
23	Laurene Edmondson ES	Thompson SD	Elementary	307 W 49th St, Loveland, CO 80538	\$ 2,975.00	\$ 2,975.00
<b>Totals</b>					<b>\$ 76,560.00</b>	<b>\$ 76,560.00</b>



## Program Year Two – SFY 2018-19 Lead Testing Applications and Awards

#	School Name	School District	School Type	School Address	\$ Amount Requested	\$ Amount Awarded
1	Animas Valley Elementary School	Durango 9-R SD	Elementary	373 Hermosa Rd. Durango, CO 81301	\$ 3,971.00	\$ 3,971.00
2	Berthoud High School	Thompson SD	High School	255 S. Cleveland Ave. Loveland, CO	\$ 4,055.00	\$ 4,055.00
3	Chatfield Elementary School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Elementary	3188 D 1/2 Rd. Grand Junction, CO 81504	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,800.00
4	Chipeta Elementary School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Elementary	950 Chipeta Ave. Grand Junction, CO 81501	\$ 3,550.00	\$ 3,550.00
5	Coyote Ridge Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	7115 Avondale Rd. Fort Collins, CO 80525	\$ 3,365.00	\$ 3,365.00
6	Crested Butte Community School	Gunnison Watershed RE-1J SD	Kindergarten to High School	818 Red Lady Ave. Crested Butte, CO 81224	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
7	Gunnison Community School	Gunnison Watershed RE-1J SD	Elementary/ Middle	1099 N. 11 <sup>th</sup> St. Gunnison, CO 81230	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00
8	Gunnison High School	Gunnison Watershed RE-1J SD	High School	800 W. Ohio Ave. Gunnison, CO 81230	\$ 4,300.00	\$ 4,300.00
9	Harold Ferguson High School	Thompson SD	High School	1101 Hilltop Dr. Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 2,375.00	\$ 2,375.00
10	High Plains School	Thompson SD	Elementary/ Middle	4255 Buffalo Mountain Dr. Loveland, CO 80538	\$ 4,070.00	\$ 4,070.00
11	Lake City Community School	Hinsdale County SD	Elementary to High School	614 N. Silver St. Lake City, CO 81235	\$ 2,842.00	\$ 2,842.00

#	School Name	School District	School Type	School Address	\$ Amount Requested	\$ Amount Awarded
12	Lake Preschool & Kindergarten	Gunnison Watershed RE-1J SD	Preschool & Kindergarten	800 N. Boulevard St, Gunnison, CO 81230	\$ 3,030.00	\$ 3,030.00
13	Loveland High School	Thompson SD	High School	920 W. 29 <sup>th</sup> St. Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
14	Lucille Erwin Middle School	Thompson SD	Middle School	4700 Lucerne Ave. Loveland, CO 80538	\$ 3,890.00	\$ 3,890.00
15	Mountain View High School	Thompson SD	High School	3500 Mountain Lion Dr. Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
16	Needham Elementary School	Durango 9-R SD	Elementary	2425 W. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave. Durango, CO 81301	\$ 4,328.00	\$ 4,328.00
17	New Emerson Elementary School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Elementary	2660 Unsweep Ave. Grand Junction, CO 81503	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 2,700.00
18	Park Elementary School	Durango 9-R SD	Elementary	510 E. 6 <sup>th</sup> Ave. Durango, CO 81301	\$ 4,328.00	\$ 4,328.00
19	Pathways School	Gunnison Watershed RE-1J SD	High School	800 N. Boulevard St, Gunnison, CO 81230	\$ 2,150.00	\$ 2,150.00
20	Pear Park Elementary School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Elementary	432 30 1/4 Rd. Grand Junction, CO 81504	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
21	Pinnacle Charter School	Charter School Institute	Elementary to High School	1001 W. 84 <sup>th</sup> Ave Federal Heights, CO 80260	\$ 2,359.00	\$ 2,359.00
22	Pomona Elementary School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Elementary	588 25 1/2 Rd. Grand Junction, CO 81505	\$ 3,850.00	\$ 3,850.00
23	Ponderosa Elementary School	Thompson SD	Elementary	4550 Florence Dr. Loveland, CO 80538	\$ 4,370.00	\$ 4,370.00

#	School Name	School District	School Type	School Address	\$ Amount Requested	\$ Amount Awarded
24	Riverview Elementary School	Durango 9-R SD	Elementary	2900 Mesa Ave. Durango, CO 81301	\$ 4,328.00	\$ 4,328.00
25	Rocky Mountain Elementary School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Elementary	3260 D 1/2 Rd. Clifton, CO 81520	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
26	Scenic Elementary School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Elementary	451 W Scenic Dr. Grand Junction, CO 81507	\$ 2,650.00	\$ 2,650.00
27	Thompson Valley High School	Thompson SD	High School	1669 Eagle Dr. Loveland, CO 80537	\$ 4,610.00	\$ 4,610.00
28	Thunder Mountain Elementary School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Elementary	3063 F 1/2 Rd. Grand Junction, CO 81504	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00
29	Tope Elementary School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Elementary	2220 N. 7 <sup>th</sup> St. Grand Junction, CO 81501	\$ 4,050.00	\$ 4,050.00
30	Wingate Elementary School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Elementary	351 S Camp Rd. Grand Junction, CO 81507	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
31	Fruita 8-9 School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Grades 8 & 9	1835 J Rd. Fruita, CO 81521	\$ 4,450.00	\$ 4,450.00
32	Palisade High School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	High School	3679 G Rd. Palisade, CO 81526	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
33	Bookcliff Middle School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Middle School	540 29 ¼ Rd. Grand Junction, CO 81504	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
34	Mt. Garfield Middle School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Middle School	3475 Front St. Clifton, CO 81520	\$ 3,100.00	\$ 3,100.00
35	East Middle School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Middle School	830 Gunnison Ave. Grand Junction, CO 81501	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00

#	School Name	School District	School Type	School Address	\$ Amount Requested	\$ Amount Awarded
36	Grand Mesa Middle School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Middle School	585 31 ½ Rd. Grand Junction, CO 81504	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
37	Redlands Middle School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	Middle School	2200 Broadway Grand Junction, CO 81507	\$ 4,550.00	\$ 4,550.00
38	Fruita Monument High School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	High School	1102 Wildcat Ave. Fruita, CO 81521	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 3,250.00
39	Central High School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	High School	550 Warrior Way Grand Junction, CO 81504	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 4,100.00
40	Grand Junction High School	Mesa County Valley 51 SD	High School	1400 N. 5 <sup>th</sup> St. Grand Junction, CO 81501	\$ 4,550.00	\$ 4,550.00
<b>Totals</b>					<b>\$ 154,021.00</b>	<b>\$ 154,021.00</b>

## Program Year Three - SFY 2019-20 Lead Testing Applications and Awards

#	School Name	School District	School Type	School Address	\$ Amount Requested	\$ Amount Awarded
1	Big Picture High School	Durango 9-R SD	High School	215 E. 12 <sup>th</sup> St Durango, CO 81301	\$ 2,660.00	\$ 2,660.00
2	Durango High School	Durango 9-R SD	High School	2390 Main Ave Durango, CO 81301	\$ 4,992.00	\$ 4,992.00
3	Escalante Middle School	Durango 9-R SD	Middle School	141 Baker Ln Durango, CO 81301	\$ 4,991.00	\$ 4,991.00
4	Miller Middle School	Durango 9-R SD	Middle School	2608 Junction St Durango, CO 81301	\$ 4,991.00	\$ 4,991.00
<b>Totals</b>					<b>\$ 17,634.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,634.00</b>

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## III. Program Results

Below is a summary of applications received and grants issued along with a summary of results, if available, for each fiscal year for which the program has issued funding.

### PROGRAM YEAR ONE: SFY 2017-18

#### Grant Applications

The division received 23 applications from two school districts.

#### Number of Grants Issued

The division issued grants to all 23 applicants, which totaled \$76,560. Combined, these grantees sampled 1,804 fixtures in 23 schools serving a total population of 7,726 students.

#### Summary of Test Results

The division received lead test results from all 23 schools that participated in SFY 2017-18. The division facilitates the accurate submission of lab results via an automated process that allows grantees to submit results according to the approved sampling plans that were submitted as part of their applications. Sample results must be analyzed by a state-certified lab, and the division generally receives results within 90 days of the lab's receipt of a sample. This timeline can vary depending on the lab used and the wait time to process samples.

#### Internal Plumbing Fixture Results for SFY 2017-18:

- Total number of samples collected: 1,893
- Total number of initial samples collected from fixtures: 1,804
- Number of follow-up samples collected: 73
- Number of remediation and other samples collected: 16
- Number of samples that exceeded the recommended action level (15 ppb): 82
- Percentage of samples that exceed the recommended action level (15 ppb): 4.5%
- Range of lead testing values: less than 2.00 ppb to 398.90 ppb
- Number of corrective actions taken: 82

Corrective actions were taken for all internal plumbing fixture sample results that came back above the recommended 15 ppb action level. Either the fixture was replaced or taken out of service or a sign was posted stating "Do Not Drink".

#### Service Line Results for SFY 2017-18:

All 23 schools sampled school service lines for lead. 43 service line samples were collected with lead results ranging from less than 2.00 ppb to 768.80 ppb. Values at 768.80 are abnormally high concentrations of lead. The division followed-up with the schools that had high lead level results and determined that the elevated service line samples have been deemed invalid due to schools not following the state's sampling protocols. These samples were taken at non-representative sample point locations and are not indicative of water quality throughout the school. To prevent further invalid test results, the division provided additional technical assistance for proper sampling techniques in the grant materials provided to schools.

The complete sampling locations and results for each school are posted on the division's website at [www.colorado.gov/cdphe/school-lead-testing-results](http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/school-lead-testing-results).

## PROGRAM YEAR TWO: SFY 2018-19

### Grant Applications

The division initially received 30 applications from six school districts. After the SFY 2018-19 report was submitted in February 2019, the division received 10 additional grant applications, for a total funding amount of \$154,021.

### Number of Grants Issued

The division received 41 applicants however, only 40 actually participated, for a total amount of \$154,021.00. Altogether, the applications identified sampling for 1,974 fixtures in 40 schools serving a student population of 24,643.

### Summary of Test Results

The division received lead test results from all 40 schools that participated in SFY 2018-19. The division facilitates the accurate submission of lab results via an automated process that allows grantees to submit results according to the approved sampling plans that were submitted as part of their applications. Sample results must be analyzed by a state-certified lab, and the division generally receives results within 90 days of the lab's receipt of a sample. This timeline can vary depending on the lab used and the wait time to process samples.

#### Internal Plumbing Fixture Results for SFY 2018-19:

- Total number of samples collected: 2,102
- Total number of initial samples collected from fixtures: 1,974
- Number of follow-up samples collected: 33
- Number of remediation and other samples collected: 51
- Number of samples that exceeded the recommended action level (15 ppb): 61
- Percentage of samples that exceed the recommended action level (15 ppb): 3.1%
- Range of lead testing values: less than 2.00 ppb to 5,652 ppb (the high level was caused by a sink that hasn't been used in a long time and has since been removed)
- Number of corrective actions taken: 49

#### Service Line Results for SFY 2018-19:

All 40 schools sampled school service lines for lead. 44 service line samples were collected, with lead results ranging from less than 2.00 ppb to 238 ppb. The only service line that exceeded the action limit was not sampled using the state's protocol. Since no other samples in that school showed lead levels above the action level, the service line sample was deemed non-representative. To prevent any further invalid test results, the division provided additional technical assistance for proper sampling techniques.

The complete sampling locations and results for each school are posted on the division's website at [www.colorado.gov/cdphe/school-lead-testing-results](http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/school-lead-testing-results).

## PROGRAM YEAR THREE: SFY 2019-20

### Grant Applications

The division received four applications from one school district. The division conducted the same level of outreach as described below and are unsure why the application numbers dropped.

## Number of Grants Issued

The division issued grants to all four applicants, which totaled \$17,634.00. Combined, these grantees will sample 183 fixtures in four schools serving a student population of 2,293.

## Summary of Test Results

The division received lead test results from two out of the four schools that participated in SFY 2019-20. The division did not receive results from two of the schools due to unforeseen circumstances caused by COVID-19. Big Picture and Durango High School had planned to sample in April 2020 but COVID-19 shut down the schools and after some discussion, it was decided that any samples taken during that period would not yield accurate results.

The division facilitates the accurate submission of lab results via an automated process that allows grantees to submit results according to the approved sampling plans that were submitted as part of their applications. Sample results must be analyzed by a state-certified lab, and the division generally receives results within 90 days of the lab's receipt of a sample. This timeline can vary depending on the lab used and the wait time to process samples.

### Internal Plumbing Fixture Results for SFY 2019-20:

- Total number of samples collected: 108
- Total number of initial samples collected from fixtures: 99
- Number of follow-up samples collected: 7
- Number of samples that exceeded the recommended action level (15 ppb): 3
- Percentage of samples that exceed the recommended action level (15 ppb): 3%
- Range of lead testing values: less than 2.00 ppb to 34.2 ppb
- Number of corrective actions taken: 3

### Service Line Results for SFY 2019-20:

The two schools sampled school service lines for lead. Two service line samples were collected, with lead results ranging from 2.5 ppb to 11.1 ppb. As a result of the previous years sampling errors at service lines, the division conducted outreach to provide additional technical assistance for proper sampling techniques.

The complete sampling locations and results for each school are posted on the division's website at [www.colorado.gov/cdphe/school-lead-testing-results](http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/school-lead-testing-results).



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## IV. Legislative Recommendations

The division is not recommending any legislative proposals.

The data continues to suggest that most of the lead action level exceedances are a result of fixtures, for which corrective actions are relatively inexpensive. The division sought and received a multi-year \$1.2M Environmental Protection Agency Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Grant to support retesting at schools that may have previously tested. Funding will be provided to local public health departments and county governments to promote the program and facilitate retesting in their local school districts. The EPA WIIN's program is on hold due to COVID-19 closing down most schools and overwhelming local public health departments and local governments. The division is working with the EPA to extend the WIIN's grant program and implement an effective strategy moving forward. This, along with the new lead and copper rule which requires water systems to test at schools, will continue to advance the goals of HB 17-1306.

## APPENDIX A - Prioritization Criteria

PRIORITIZATION FACTOR		POINTS
School age eligibility based on originally constructed date (not the average age of the buildings)		
1	Oldest school*	1 point per year from date of original construction to the year the RFA is introduced.

TIE BREAKER		POINTS
Financial /Affordability		
1	Percentage of students eligible for the free/reduced lunch program per school**	
	100% - 90%	50
	89% - 80%	40
	79% - 70%	30
	69% - 60%	20
	59% - 50%	10
	49% - 25%	5
	Less than 25%	0

School District Median Household Income (MHI)		
2	Lowest district MHI***	Schools will be ranked from lowest district MHI to the highest district MHI with the lowest taking priority.

Readiness to Proceed		
3	The time a school can start the lead testing from the date of the award letter.	
	≤ 4 weeks	5
	> 4 weeks	0

\*Data will be confirmed with Colorado Department of Education’s BEST program facility assessment.

\*\* The Free and Reduced Lunch Program totals are calculated annually using the fall pupil membership data as collected by the Colorado Department of Education.

\*\*\*The school district MHI is calculated using the latest 5 year American Community Survey data collected by the United States Census Bureau. Institute charter schools will be assigned the state average.

**NOTE:** Projects are funded based on the highest points in prioritization factor 1. If two or more projects are tied, the highest total in prioritization factor 2 scores will be used to break the tie. Should a tie between projects remain after sorting by the financial affordability scores, the school district MHI will be reviewed. Should a tie still remain, the readiness to proceed scores will be ranked from highest to lowest.