

# **City of Richmond**

## **Lead Based Paint Hazard Control Program**

### **Program Information and Eligibility Guidelines**

The RVA Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control (LBPHC) Program is a HUD-funded 3-year program to control health hazards caused by lead based paint in homes and apartments built before 1978 where children under 6 or pregnant women reside. This Program is administered by the City of Richmond in partnership with the Richmond City Health District (RCHD), local non-profit project: HOMES, and the City's Lead-Safe and Healthy Home Initiative (LSHHI).

Lead from paint in older homes can pose a serious health hazard. Children are especially at risk. Small amounts of lead in a child's bloodstream can affect a child's developing brain and can lead to a wide range of symptoms, from headaches and stomach pain to behavioral problems and anemia. In pregnant women, lead can result in complications to a pregnancy in addition to adverse pre-natal effects on the child's development.

#### **Key Eligibility Criteria for the Program:**

1. You must live in a home built before 1978. This is the year that lead-based paint was made illegal.
2. The household must include a child under 6 or pregnant woman who have tested positive for an elevated blood lead level in the last 6 months. (Venous blood test administered by a healthcare professional)
3. You can participate in the program whether you own your home or rent your home.
4. The income of all household members 18 or older must total no more than 80% of the area median income for Richmond (see [AMI Chart](#)).
5. You must be current on your City property taxes and mortgage. If you are a renter, you must be in good standing with your landlord.

#### **Other important things to know when considering whether to apply:**

1. The methods of controlling lead-based paint hazards will be determined by the program administrators based on the safety objectives of the program. The program participant will not be able to select the contractor and will have limited choices for finish options for work being performed in terms of paint color etc.
2. None of the assistance from this program comes in the form of cash or direct payment to participants.
3. Richmond City Health District will conduct a Lead Risk Assessment of the home to determine the location and extent of any existing lead hazards. If lead paint hazards are found, the RCHD, may or may not issue a Notice of Violation (NOV) against the owner of

the property. The issuance of an NOV plays no bearing on the acceptance or rejection of your application to receive assistance through the program.

4. All occupants in the dwelling will need to temporarily relocate while the lead hazard control measures are completed to ensure occupant safety for a period of approximately 10 days.
5. A 3-year deed of trust will be placed on the property receiving program assistance. This means that if the property is sold within 3 years of assistance, the owner of the property must reimburse the City for the costs of the lead hazard control work.

### **First Steps to Applying for the program:**

1. **Get Tested** - If your child under 6 has not been tested for lead within 6 months, **contact your healthcare professional to have your child tested or get yourself tested if you are pregnant and living in pre-1978 housing.** For information on where to get tested. The Richmond City Health District can refer you to resources by calling (804) 205-3727 or emailing [Yvonne.Johnson@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:Yvonne.Johnson@vdh.virginia.gov).
2. **Contact RCHD** - **Once you have been tested, if your test is 5 micrograms per deciliter or above ( $\geq 5 \mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$ ) contact the Richmond City Health District immediately to get started.**
3. **Complete a Pre-application** - **The Richmond City Health District will work with you to complete a pre-application. You will need to have the following documentation ready to complete the pre-application:**
  - a. Driver's license or other State issued ID for all applicants at current address
  - b. Income – Most recent consecutive pay stubs covering at least 60 days (or equivalent of 2 months) of income or equivalent statement for all other income sources (This includes: Benefit Award Letter, Social Security Statement, Payroll Check Stubs, Retirement Pension/Annuities, Veterans Benefits, Supplemental Security Income (SSI))
  - c. Most recent bank statement for all checking and savings accounts (3 consecutive monthly statements)
  - d. Blood lead test result (venous draw) acquired from your child's physician.