



Housing Choice Voucher Program

New State Lead Law Guidance

Rhode Island's new lead law (216-RICR-50-15-3) mandates landlords with units built before 1978 to register their property to a statewide rental registry, have a Certificate of Lead Conformance (CLC), and maintain lead-safe environments for tenants. Failure to comply can lead to fines, liability damages, and loss of eviction rights.

RI Rental Registry

The Rhode Island Rental Registry is a state-wide database for property owners to register their rental properties and provide lead documents. This registry is managed by RI Department of Health.

- All landlords must be registered and upload the correct Lead documents required or face fines.*
- For more information: <https://health.ri.gov/lead-poisoning/ri-rental-registry>.

**Note: This fine is through RIDOH and is NOT from RIHousing*

Certificate of Lead Conformance (CLC)

The CLC is an official document that certifies that your pre-1978 rental property has passed a lead hazard inspection. It proves that the property is safe from, or has mitigated, lead hazards.

- If a dwelling is built before 1978, a valid lead conformance is needed.
- Only a licensed lead inspector can perform the inspection to obtain the CLC.
- Any hazards found must be fixed within 30 calendar days if a property fails inspection. After the corrections, the property must be reinspected by a lead inspector to issue a valid CLC.
- For RIHousing HCVP Landlords, a Certificate of Lead Conformance is required when a brand-new tenant moves into a unit.
- RIHousing will also require HCVP landlords to provide an updated Certificate of Lead Conformance once the initial CLC has expired.

RIHousing Policy

RIHousing requires a valid Certificate of Lead Conformance for buildings built before 1978, regardless of the age of the residents currently living in the unit. **The CLC is now required at initial and annual inspections.**

The owner must schedule a lead inspection within 30 calendar days of submitting an RFTA. Providing documentation of the scheduled appointment to RIHousing may be requested. This includes confirmation of inspection appointment must be generated by the licensed lead inspector and must include the address, unit #, and scheduled inspection date. If the inspection is scheduled after 30 calendar days, the owner will have to resubmit a brand-new RFTA.

- If a unit fails, a reinspection by a lead inspector and a CLC report that the unit passed must be provided within 45 calendar days of the notice of the failed inspection.
- Once the CLC expires OR there is a change of tenant, the owner must provide a copy of the CLC within 90 days after expiration. Failure to do so could result in RIHousing not releasing Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) until proper documentation is submitted or terminating the HAP Contract with 30 days' notice.

*Questions about RIHousing's Lead Certification Policy?
Email us at landlords@rihousing.com*