

FAQ's

New Regulations Effective July 1, 2020

1. Lab Reporting- 26.02.01

Reason for lab reporting changes?

- New Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reporting requirements
- Incorporate CDC reference level
- Make minor updates and clarifications

Who do these changes affect?

- Blood lead testing labs
- Health care providers

What labs must report to MDE for each blood lead test?

- Country of birth
- Ethnicity
- Medical assistance number (if enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP)
- Healthcare provider's NPI
- Draw site's telephone number and NPI
- Lab's CLIA number
- Lab method used to analyze blood specimen
- Limit of detection for the method used to analyze blood specimen
- If reporting a "no result" test result, limit of detection for the laboratory
- For the blood lead level, numeric results comparator of "equal" or "less than" or "greater than."

2 Lead in Dust Standards -COMAR 26.02.07; 26.16.02; 26.16.05

Reasons for lead dust changes?

- Consistency with federal dust lead hazard standard

- More protective of public health and more consistent with the concept of a lower blood lead reference level

Who is affected by these changes?

- Accredited inspectors
- Labs that analyze dust samples
- Indirectly, property owners

What are the changes to the dust standards?

	Current Standard	New Standard
Floors	40	10
Window sills	250	100
Window wells	400	100

Where do the new dust standards apply?

- Identifying lead hazards during risk assessments and environmental investigations (*effective automatically under federal regulation, Jan. 6, 2020*)
- Clearance inspections for lead abatement projects
- Lead-contaminated dust tests for the risk reduction and modified risk reduction standards

3. Environmental investigations- COMAR 26.16.08

Reason for the changes?

- Required under Ch. 341, Acts of 2019- House Bill 1233
- Achieve consistency during Environmental Investigations

Who is affected by these changes?

- MDE
- Local health departments that conduct EIs (Baltimore City and Prince George's County)
- Children and families affected by elevated blood lead levels (EBLs)

What does the Environmental Investigation Process look like?

