

Selecting a Lead Abatement Contractor

This checklist is provided to help property owners ensure that the lead contractor they hire is trained, qualified, and capable of providing services.



New Hampshire
Childhood Lead Poisoning
Prevention Program

Licensing

Abatement contractors must be properly trained and they must be licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services. A license alone, however, does not ensure the quality of work. The attached list of New Hampshire licensed lead abatement contractors is provided for your convenience. You can call the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 1-800-897-LEAD to verify a license status or to check the contractor's violation status.

Scope of Work

The property owner should always have a written contract with the contractor prior to the start of any work. For lead hazard control work, the contract should specify that the work will pass a clearance inspection. Find out who will be covering the costs associated with failing a clearance test. Consider making the final payment conditional upon passing a clearance test.

The following payment schedule is suggested:

- 1/3 as a down payment
- 1/3 when the job is completed
- 1/3 when the unit passes final clearance testing.

Finding the Right Lead Abatement Contractor

Questions to consider asking that may help you choose a qualified contractor:

- How many years of experience does the contractor have?
- How many lead abatement jobs has he/she completed?
- Does the contractor carry general liability or errors and omissions insurance? It is important for the consumer to be protected in the case of a worker's compensation claim.
- Ask the contractor to provide references from the last 3 jobs *completed*. This request will prevent a contractor from providing biased references.
- Will the estimate include the cost of a "passing" clearance test?

Questions to ask prior clients:

- What work did the contractor complete?
- Did the contractor complete all the agreed-upon tasks?
- Was he/she on time and within the agreed-upon budget?
- Did the contractor perform satisfactory clean-up?
- Would you choose to hire this contractor again?
- Are you satisfied with his/her work? If not, why not?

Consider getting at least 3 estimates before making your selection.



Division of Public Health Services  NH Department of Health & Human Services



1-800-897-LEAD (5323)

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