

**BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PROPOSAL TO CHARGE FEES
WHEN ISSUING MARYLAND STATE LEAD CERTIFICATES**

Landlords are required by state law to obtain Maryland State Lead Paint Risk Reduction Certificates (“Lead Certificates”) before renting properties to tenants. The Lead Certificate states that the property has acceptable levels of lead risk under Title 6, Subtitle 8 of the Environment Article. Accordingly, the State of Maryland certifies individuals and entities, including local governments, to visually inspect and test properties for elevated lead levels (“Dust Test”) and if the property is considered at a safe level, issue Lead Certificates. The State does not provide free Dust Tests. Currently, The Baltimore Health Department’s Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (“CLPPP”) is qualified by the State to issue Lead Certificates.

The Baltimore City Health Department (the “Department”) proposes to charge reasonable fees sufficient to cover the costs of performing Dust Tests and issuing Lead Certificates. Charges are proposed pursuant to the attached Schedule A.

The Department further proposes that the Health Commissioner (or his or her designee) may waive the charges under Schedule A if: (1) the landlord requests a waiver; and (2) after consideration of the ability of the landlord to pay the fee, and other relevant factors, the Health Commissioner (or designee) determines that the waiver would be in the public interest.

The Department will receive and consider public comments regarding the proposed fees for a period of 30 days, ending March 2, 2007. You may submit your comments in writing to Madeleine Shea, Assistant Commissioner for Healthy Homes at 210 Guilford Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21202.

Before the proposed fees take effect, the Department will submit them to the Board of Estimates for its approval.

SCHEDULE A

LEAD CERTIFICATION SCHEDULE OF FEES

Visual Inspection: \$65.00

Dust Sample: \$15.00 per sample

*Note: If the rental property is abated per a Baltimore City Lead Violation Notice and therefore already has passed a dust test, then the administrative fee to issue a Lead Certificate is \$75.00.