

Quality Care For Kids Newsletter

January 2025 | January is National Radon Action Month

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What is radon?

- Often called an “invisible killer,” radon is an odorless, colorless and tasteless gas that is harmful to people’s health.
- Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer.
- According to the EPA, the entire state of Iowa is considered at high risk for radon gas in homes.

How does radon get inside?

Radon comes naturally from the ground. It can enter and build up inside any building without warning, causing risk to all that live inside.

In nearly all cases, radon gets into homes, schools and other buildings in a few ways:

- Gaps and cracks in the foundation
- Joints connecting walls and floors
- Pipes, sumps, drains, walls and other openings



Per Iowa Administrative Code 441-109(237A), all licensed child care centers must test for radon within 1 year of opening and retest every 2 years. Centers must mitigate if radon levels are above the EPA action level. Iowa child development homes and child care homes are encouraged to test for radon.

How do I test for radon?

Contact Iowa's Radon Hotline 1-800-383-5992 to order low-cost radon test kits and find answers to your radon questions.

Visit the radon webpage on the Iowa HHS website for more information.

<https://hhs.iowa.gov/radiological-health/radon>



Help with Health and Safety Policies

Child Care Nurse Consultants (CCNC) have a new resource to help child care centers and home providers with their health and safety policies. Contact your local CCNC to learn more!



Scan the QR code to find your local CCNC or visit online at <https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/child-care/hcci>