

Take Action Challenge

PUT WATER IN YOUR WELLNESS POLICY

500 Points

Add specific water-related language ensuring access to free, clean and safe drinking water throughout the childcare or workplace day. For examples of model school wellness policy language and a fact sheet about enforcing wellness policies, see ChangeLab Solutions, *Model Wellness Policy Language for Water Access in Schools* http://changelabsolutions.org/publications/wellness-policy-water

CHECK ON TAP WATER SAFETY

500 Points

Download and read this guide to learn about assuring tap water safety in your facility:

EPA, Drinking Water Best Management Practices for Schools and Childcare Facilities Served by Municipal Water Systems http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/drinkingwater/schools/upload/epa816b13002.pdf

EDUCATE ABOUT DRINKING WATER

500 Points

Give this bookmark (English or Spanish) to parents, providers and co-workers: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/cpns/Documents/EC-Bookmark-Drink-ENG.pdf https://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/cpns/Documents/EC-Bookmark-Drink-SPA.pdf

DISPENSE WATER, IN A CHILD-FRIENDLY WAY, THROUGHOUT THE DAY

1,000 Points

The Child Nutrition Act requires access to water throughout the day. Here are some popular user-friendly approaches for the childcare setting:

- 1. Put child-sized pitchers on the table and offer cups so children can pour their own water. Providing a vessel near a water source allows students to take more than just a sip or two at a time, increasing overall consumption.
- 2. Station an Igloo-type cooler for water access outside along with cups and/or reusable water bottles.
- 3. Provide each child with a re-fillable water bottle
 - o Fill it at a sink with child-friendly taps and stepstool OR a bottle filling station.
 - O Store reusable water bottles at school and clean bottles regularly. Keeping reusable water bottles at school overnight decreases the likelihood that the bottles will be lost.
 - Teach bottle hygiene to parents and professionals. Reusable bottles must be properly cleaned and fully air-dried at least once per week to prevent development of odors or bacteria. See page 51 of <u>Water Works: A Guide to Improving Water Access and Consumption in Schools to Improve Health and Support Learning</u>.