

Are there PCBs in your Lights?

Learn what to look for!

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are harmful to the environment and your health—and sometimes they're in older light fixtures.

PCBs were commonly used in fluorescent light ballasts (FLBs) between 1950 and 1980. Aging ballasts continuously release low levels of PCBs and cause higher exposure levels if they leak.

PCBs don't readily break down in the environment and can cause cancer, immune and nervous system problems, and impair normal growth and development.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Switch to newer, more efficient LED lighting to remove toxic PCBs completely. This improves the learning environment, saves energy, and ensures proper disposal of old PCB light fixtures.



Assess your building's age and examine light fixtures

- Was the building built before 1980?
- Are there any areas in your building that haven't been modernized since 1980?
- Are there fluorescent lights with magnetic ballasts or T12 (1½-inch tubular) lamps?



How can we help?

Funds are available! We can reimburse up to \$10,000 for approved projects to help remove and replace PCB-containing FLBs. Tribal schools are eligible for up to \$50,000 of reimbursement.

Check out our [PCB light replacement in schools webpage](#)¹ for best management practices and to learn if you're eligible for funds to replace PCB-containing FLBs.

¹ ecology.wa.gov/PCB-lights



Project eligibility

This program is for public, private, and tribal K-12 schools, and early learning or daycare centers located in Washington State.



Additional resources

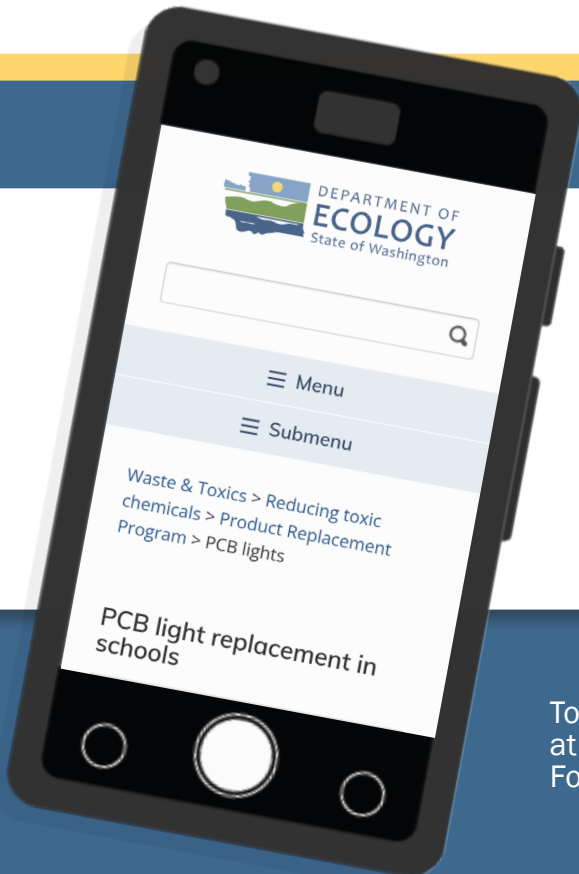
The Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction also has funding available to remove, dispose of, and replace T-12 lighting fixtures and ballasts manufactured before 1980. Learn more on their [T-12 Lighting Grant webpage](#).²

² www.k12.wa.us/policy-funding/school-buildings-facilities/grants-funding-resources-non-scip/t-12-lighting-grant



Who to contact

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SCAN FOR DETAILS:



To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6700 or email at hwtrpubs@ecy.wa.gov. For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.