



SCHOOLS INSURANCE AUTHORITY

ATTENTION:

Facilities, Risk Management, School Site Managers

Safety Bulletin – Smoke and Air Quality August 2024

Wildfire smoke can significantly degrade air quality. Follow these guidelines to help safeguard the well-being of students and staff:

- Examine your district’s policies and procedures for responding to poor air quality.
- Continuously monitor local air quality and PM2.5 levels via:
www.airnow.gov
- Conduct a full maintenance check on the HVAC system, addressing any necessary repairs and reviewing the filter replacement schedule.
- Optimize HVAC system settings to minimize smoke infiltration.
- Secure indoor spaces and ensure doors and windows remain closed during smoke events.
- Prepare alternative plans for outdoor activities such as lunch, recess, PE, and sporting activities.
- Modify work schedules and outdoor projects to protect employees from exposure.
- Recommended actions and additional resources:
 - [Guidance for Schools During Wildfire Smoke Events \(ca.gov\)](#)
 - [School Air Quality Activity Recommendations - Air Quality \(CA Dept of Education\)](#)
 - [California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 5141.1. Protection from Wildfire Smoke.](#)