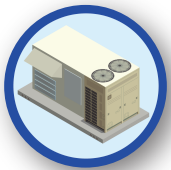


# Maintaining Safe Facilities: Air Quality

Public health guidelines assure safe air in your buildings.



## Review your HVAC system operations.

For ventilation, provide and maintain at least required minimum outdoor airflow rates. Use caution in highly polluted areas when increasing outdoor air ventilation.



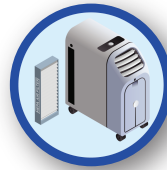
## Maintain temperature and humidity set points.

Calculate equivalent clean air supply needed for your school occupancy. Run the HVAC system at maximum outside airflow for two hours before and after your building is occupied, or 24/7, if possible.



## Focus on air filtration.

Use combinations of filters and air cleaners. The higher the MERV number, the better the air filtration.



## Refresh air exchange.

Portable room air cleaners with HEPA filters can be helpful – especially when combined with MERV-13 central air filtration. Limit re-entry of contaminated air.



## Ensure proper air distribution.

Promote mixing of air without causing strong air currents that can increase direct, person-to-person transmission.



## Reduce sick days, increase learning.

For every hour increase in the air exchange rate there is a 12% decrease in sick days in schools. Poorly ventilated classrooms showed a 5% decrease in the power of attention – roughly the same effect as skipping breakfast!



## Involve your HVAC system experts.

Verify that all systems are functioning as designed.

See videos and learn more at: [dhs.wi.gov/safekeeping](https://dhs.wi.gov/safekeeping)

