



# EPA's Healthy Schools Checklist

EPA has created this voluntary assessment to help you reduce and prevent exposures to common environmental health hazards in your school. This fillable PDF was adapted from the quick assessment in the brochure [Sensible Steps to Healthier School Environments](#). For more information, go to EPA's [Healthy Schools website](#).

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

School/School District: \_\_\_\_\_



## Asbestos

Does the school have a readily available asbestos management plan?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Have all building operations and maintenance staff reviewed the asbestos management plan and understand how to minimize potential disturbance to asbestos-containing materials (ACM)?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ***Asthma and Asthma Triggers***

Are there policies that discourage the use of birds or furry animals such as mice, guinea pigs, and rabbits as pets in the school's classrooms?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Is the school's cleaning staff encouraged to use environmentally friendly cleaning products and "wet" dusting techniques whenever possible?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Are classrooms free of clutter? Are they dusted regularly? Are stuffed animals and pillows washed frequently?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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## ***Buses and Vehicle Idling***

Have anti-idling policies been developed and implemented for buses that serve the school?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Have anti-idling zones been established for all vehicles at the schools (school buses, delivery trucks, and parents' cars)?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Are all passenger pickup/drop off areas located away from school's air intake supply, classroom windows, and exit doors?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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### ***Carbon Monoxide (CO)***

Does the school's maintenance staff inspect and document the condition and findings for all gas-burning appliances, furnaces, and water heaters yearly to ensure they are properly operating?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Have carbon monoxide (CO) detectors been installed in the school near appliances that burn natural gas, oil, wood, or gas?

- Yes       No       N/A

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## ***Chemical Management***

Does the school conduct a yearly inventory of all chemicals present?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Does the school have a policy that prohibits any unauthorized toxic or hazardous chemicals from being brought into the school?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Are all chemicals properly labeled, stored in original containers, dated as to when they entered the school, and have accompanying material safety data sheets (MSDS) information on site?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Are all toxic or hazardous chemicals stored in appropriate containers, separated by hazard category, in a ventilated, fire resistant, and locked area or cabinet?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Does the school conduct cleanouts of all chemicals that are unnecessary, outdated and posing a health risk on a regular basis?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Does the school ensure proper training of staff involved with chemical management? Are students properly trained before handling toxic or hazardous chemicals?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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### ***Drinking Water***

If your school receives its drinking water from your own source, you are required to comply with a series of regulations under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Is the water tested according to regulations and are the results documented?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Are water faucets, fountain screens, and aerators regularly cleaned and sanitized?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Does the school have policies and procedures in place to prevent the disposal of hazardous substances down the toilets and/or dumping into storm drains?

Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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### ***Educational, Art and Science Supplies***

Does your school have a policy to ensure that art materials, school supplies, and toys purchased are labeled "Conforms to ASTM D4236"? (\*All formulations of art materials that are offered for sale to consumers of all ages in the United States must be evaluated by a toxicologist for their potential to cause adverse chronic health effects, prior to such products being offered for sale. Please see the Consumer Product and Safety Commission's [Art Materials Business Guidance](#) for more information).

After the chronic hazard review has been performed by a toxicologist, the toxicologist will then recommend the appropriate statement to label that the product conforms to ASTM D-4236.

Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Do school policies encourage minimizing exposure to hazardous materials by:

- substituting less- or nonhazardous materials where possible for classroom activities;
- prohibiting food consumption around hazardous chemicals; and
- washing hands often?

Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Is the school staff reminded to follow the precautionary recommendations listed on the labels?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Does the school have updated material safety data sheets (MSDS) for all products being used?

- Yes       No       N/A

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### ***Energy Efficiency***

Are lights turned off when not in use or when natural daylight can be used?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Are thermostats set back in the evening and at other times when the building is unoccupied?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Does the school track energy performance, perform monthly maintenance of heating and cooling equipment, educate students and staff about how their behaviors affect energy use, and use systems and controls that improve light quality, and heating and cooling as part of an energy efficiency program?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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### ***Extreme Heat Events***

Does the school advise the students to wear lightweight, light-colored and loose-fitting clothing during extreme heat events?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Does the school limit physical exertion outdoors during days with unhealthy air conditions or periods of extreme heat?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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### ***Indoor Air Quality/Ventilation***

Does the school currently implement a proactive IAQ management program such as the “Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Tools for Schools” program?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Does the school have a tobacco-free campus policy?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Does the school maintenance staff have a regular cleaning schedule for unit ventilators, supply air diffusers, return registers, outside air intakes, and commission the heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system a minimum of once every five years?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Are condensate pans clean, unobstructed and do they drain properly?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Are unit ventilators clear of books, papers, and other items and other items that would block or hinder air flow?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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**Lead**

Are the walls and interior surfaces free of cracking, chipping, or peeling paint, especially around doors or windows where painted surfaces rub together?

- Yes
- No
- N/A

Notes:

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Are exterior walls and other large structures in the school grounds free of cracking, chipping, or peeling paint?

- Yes
- No
- N/A

Notes:

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Does the school or school district provide a pre-renovation notification to staff and parents prior to construction activity?

- Yes
- No
- N/A

Notes:

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Are all demolition and renovation activities impacting lead containing paint or other building materials in the school undertaken by “certified” and properly trained contractors?

- Yes
- No
- N/A

Notes:

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Do students wash their hands before snacks, lunch, and after recess?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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### ***Mercury***

Has an inventory of all chemicals, materials, and equipment containing mercury been completed?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Does the school have a mercury spill kit and spill response plan readily available on site?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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### ***Mold and Moisture Control***

Is humidity in the school building maintained below 60%, and ideally between 30% and 50% where possible?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Does the school maintenance staff repair all leaking plumbing and roof leaks in the building as soon as possible?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Is the school building (walls/ceilings/floors) free of wetness or condensation?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Does the school maintenance staff clean and dry any wet or damp spots consistently within 48 hours?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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### ***Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs) in Caulk and Fluorescent Light Ballasts***

Has the school determined whether the fluorescent light ballasts contain PCBs? If so, have the lighting fixtures in the school been retrofitted to adequately remove potential PCB hazards using the recommendations available in the documents off of EPA's [Polychlorinated Biphenyls \(PCBs\) in Building Materials web page](#)?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Has the school followed the recommendations available in the documents off of [EPA's Polychlorinated Biphenyls \(PCBs\) in Building Materials web page](#) for potential PCB-containing caulk?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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### ***Pesticides and Pest Management***

Do all floors in food service areas and classrooms where food is served get cleaned and mopped daily?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Are all food items stored securely in sealable containers or canisters?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Is all garbage bagged, completely closed, and placed in dumpsters outside the school building daily?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Are there high-density door sweeps installed on all doors to keep out mice, rats, and roaches?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Are all open spaces around utility pipes coming into the building blocked with copper mesh wire or other material to hinder entrance into the building by pests?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Does the school have screens installed on all operable windows?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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### ***Radon***

Have all the first floor and basement classrooms of the school been tested for the presence of radon with results documented and available for public review?

- Yes       No       N/A

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If the classroom radon levels exceed four picocuries per liter (pCi/), has the school or school district installed radon mitigation systems?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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### ***UV Radiation***

Does the school post the daily UV Index to help staff protect students' overexposure to the sun?

- Yes       No       N/A

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Are students encouraged to wear protective, lightweight clothing and/or sunscreen for recess during times of peak sun intensity?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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Does the school have ample areas of shade to minimize time spent in the sunlight?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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## ***Waste Reduction***

Does the school have an active waste reduction/recycling policy in place that promotes resource conservation, the purchasing of more environmentally friendly products, pre-post waste reduction audits, student involvement, and a curriculum that supports waste reduction and recycling?

- Yes       No       N/A

Notes:

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