



# **PUBLIC HEALTH**

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## *School Health and Safety Regulations in Other States*

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## Sources

- National Conference of State Legislatures, Environmental Health Legislation database
- Environmental Law Institute, IAQ database
- HealthySchools.org
- Variety of other advocacy organizations
- Federal government reports and surveys



## Items not included

- Mandated studies more than five years old
- Labor standards for all work sites
- Standards for all government buildings
- Green/LEED/HP/sustainable protocols in numerous states (CA, CO, WA, DC, HI, IL, MA, MD, NH, NJ, PA)—health can be secondary to sustainability and efficiency.



## Site assessment

- **Arizona:** Requires a site assessment for all school construction.
- **Connecticut:** Phase I ESA required for school building projects.
- **New Jersey:** Restrictions on use of moderate and high-hazard (e.g., industrial) sites for school and child care construction.



## Inspections

- **Arizona:** Randomized, unannounced to verify compliance with facilities master plan.
- **California:** Annual self-inspections using state-developed Facilities Inspection Tool.
- **Connecticut:** Self-inspect new/remodeled facilities every 5 years and evaluate IAQ.
- **Indiana:** Complaint-based by Department of Health if school IAQ problems reported.



## Inspections (continued)

- **Maine:** Commissioner of Education may inspect if asked by districts, parents (60%) or voters (20%).
- **New York:** Annual and five-year self-inspections, report, annual safety rating.
- **Ohio:** Local PH annual inspections with oversight by State Health Department.
- **North Carolina:** Annual PH sanitary survey



## Financing—additional support

- **Connecticut:** Grants for imminent and substantial IAQ risks, as certified by DPH, that cost more than \$100,000 to address.
- **Maine:** Revolving fund loans for repair and renovation give priority to IAQ fixes.



## Financing—additional requirements

- **Minnesota:** School health and safety revenues available for schools that have health and safety programs for HVAC upgrades, mold
- **Vermont:** State school construction money tied to EH rules for IAQ plans, ventilation design, commissioning, low VOC materials, sufficient time for off-gassing



## Indoor air quality—construction

- **Arizona:** Construction must incorporate Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractor National Association guidelines
- **Connecticut:** Public school construction must incorporate SMACNA guidelines.
- **Minnesota:** School plans must explain how IAQ was considered; new HVAC must provide filtration.



## Indoor air quality monitoring

- **New Jersey:** Mandatory comprehensive maintenance plans must provide for IAQ monitoring; Dept. of Health and Senior Service to establish minimum contaminant levels specific to children.
- **Maine:** Commissioner of Education may test IAQ when asked by districts, parents (50%) or voters (20%).



## HVAC operation & maintenance

- **Arizona:** Operated for school activity hours
- **California:** Functional and unobstructed.
- **Connecticut:** Plans include maintenance training; schools implement IAQ programs.
- **Maine:** Must meet outdoor air requirements in effect at time of construction; operate during school activity periods; inspected annually and maintenance records kept.



## Maintenance spending oversight

- **Maine:** State requirements for maintenance and capital improvement spending.
- **Massachusetts:** Minimum state standards for spending on maintenance.
- **California:** If schools lose state matching funds because of a failure to spend on deferred maintenance, they must publicly justify their actions.



## Promote EPA Tools for Schools

- **Alabama:** House resolution urging adoption and implementation
- **New Mexico:** \$300,000 allocated in 2007 and 2008 for schools to implement Tools for Schools to improve IAQ; \$27,000 appropriated in 2007 for related school health assessments.
- **California:** Schools urged to adopt TfS



## Drinking water testing

- **Massachusetts:** Requires drinking water testing for lead.
- **Minnesota:** Manual (strong guidance)
- **New Hampshire, South Carolina, Vermont:** Require testing for child care.
- Many recommend testing or provide TA; half do nothing; several monitor locals; 14 targeted or one-time testing (GAO, 2004)



## Mold

- **California:** Schools required to be in good repair, which includes being free from water damage or sign of mold or mildew.
- **Tennessee:** Commissioner of Education must adopt mold abatement guidelines



## Relocatable classrooms

- **Maryland:** Board of Public Works has regulations for IAQ in portable classrooms.



## Technical support

- **Maine:** State agency provides oversight, mitigation services to schools for lead, asbestos, and IAQ.
- **Vermont:** DOH/Dept. of Buildings and General Services provides clearinghouse, TA, training, model policy, reports annually.
- **Indiana:** School Air Quality Panel develops quality improvement plans, best practices



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# Radon

- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Florida
- Illinois
- New Jersey
- New York
- Rhode Island
- Ohio



## Green cleaning

- **Illinois:** Establish green cleaning policy and purchase products based on state guidelines amended annually.
- **New York:** State to develop guidelines for environmentally sensitive cleaning and maintenance products for use by schools.
- **Maine:** Publishes guidelines on green cleaning products/procedures for schools.



# Integrated pest management

- Minnesota
- Michigan
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- Several states recently considered or are considering legislation.



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