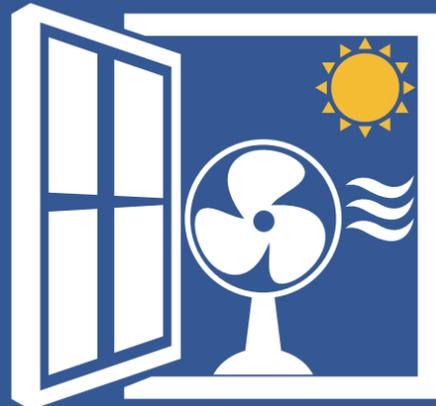
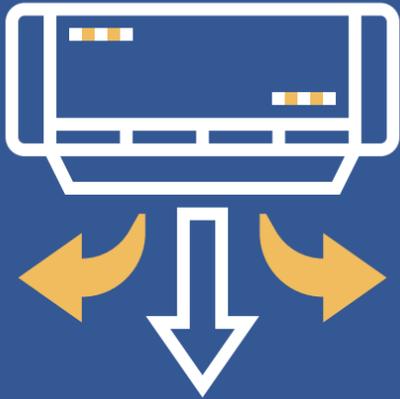


# Improving Indoor Air Quality during COVID-19

## Childcare & School Facilities

COVID-19 spreads more readily indoors compared to outdoors because of a higher concentration of viral particles. Good ventilation strategies can help reduce viral particle concentration.

### Tips to Help Improve Indoor Air Quality in your Facility



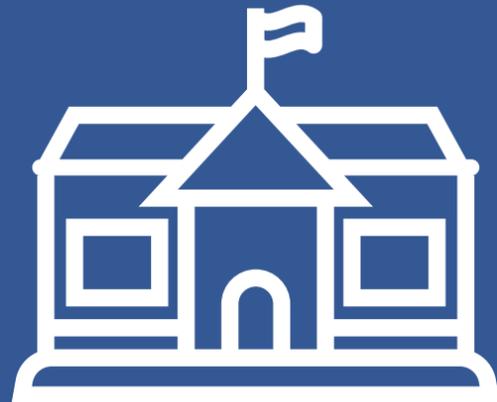
When your facility uses heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC):

When your facility safely uses natural ventilation (outdoor air and fans):

- Improve air quality by installing a higher efficiency filter
- Set HVAC system fan to ON not AUTO.
- Run HVAC system for 2 hours before/after building is occupied
- Include as much outdoor air as safely allowed
- Ensure HVAC system is working properly and routinely serviced

- Open windows and doors to increase outdoor ventilation
- Use child-safe fans at open windows
- Position fans in a way that removes contaminated air
- Consider having more outdoor activities
- Do not open windows/doors if either pose a risk to health and/or safety

**Warning:** The use of higher rated filters requires greater air pressure from system. Contact HVAC professional for guidance on if current system can handle the added stress.



### DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ Portable HEPA air cleaners may be used to enhance air cleaning when possible.
- ✓ If you are considering the use of a portable HEPA air cleaner, confirm the room square footage the cleaner can effectively cover when in use.

### QUICK TIPS

- ✓ Keep kitchen and restroom exhaust fans operating all day, when building is occupied.
- ✓ Ensure air filters, for HVAC systems, are the right size and not used longer than their recommended service life.
- ✓ Routinely clean the dust build-up found on fan blades and ventilation intake covers from increased ventilation usage.

### STAY SAFE

- ✓ Increased ventilation and filtration help to reduce but not totally eliminate the risk for exposure.
- ✓ Wear mask as much as possible to protect yourself and others.



For more information and resources, please visit:  
[www.neha.org/eh-topic/covid-ece-collaborative](http://www.neha.org/eh-topic/covid-ece-collaborative)  
[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/ventilation.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/ventilation.html)  
[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html)  
[www.epa.gov/coronavirus/indoor-air-and-coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/indoor-air-and-coronavirus-covid-19)

