

6/28/23

A message from CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear CPS Families,

Due to continued wildfire smoke blowing in from Canada, Chicago's outdoor air quality is currently [classified as "very unhealthy" by the U.S. Air Quality Index](#) for the second straight day. There is an Air Quality Alert in effect until midnight on Thursday, June 29, and the air is forecasted to be "unhealthy for sensitive groups" tomorrow.

As a result, CPS summer programs will once again use plans for inclement weather and will hold programs indoors tomorrow, Thursday, June 29, out of an abundance of caution.

We also want to relay this critical information from the City of Chicago:

For the duration of the Air Quality Alert, all individuals, and particularly children and sensitive populations should:

- Avoid spending time outdoors. If you must go outside, keep outdoor activity short and wear a KN95 or N95 mask while outside.
- Stay indoors and keep your indoor air as clean as possible by not smoking, using candles, or vacuuming.
- Follow your doctor's advice if you have asthma, lung or cardiovascular disease. Some symptoms of breathing smoke include wheezing, chest pain, shortness of breath, and trouble breathing. If your symptoms worsen, call your physician or 911.
- Keep windows and doors closed and turn on your air conditioner if you have one. Seek shelter elsewhere if you do not have an air conditioner and your home is too warm.

- Use an air filter if you have one.
- Limit driving a vehicle if possible.
- Stay tuned to local news media advisories.

For Chicagoans without access to properly ventilated and safe indoor conditions, please utilize our public libraries, senior centers, Park District facilities, and the Cultural Center or the six community service centers that operate from 9 a.m.–5 p.m.:

- Englewood Center – 1140 W. 79th Street
- Garfield Center – 10 S. Kedzie Ave. **(24 Hours)**
- King Center – 4314 S. Cottage Grove
- North Area Center – 845 W. Wilson Ave.
- South Chicago Center – 8650 S. Commercial Ave.
- Trina Davila Center – 4312 W. North Ave.

These facilities are open to the public for respite.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

- Chicago Public Schools