

 **AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION®**  
Asthma-Friendly Schools Initiative®

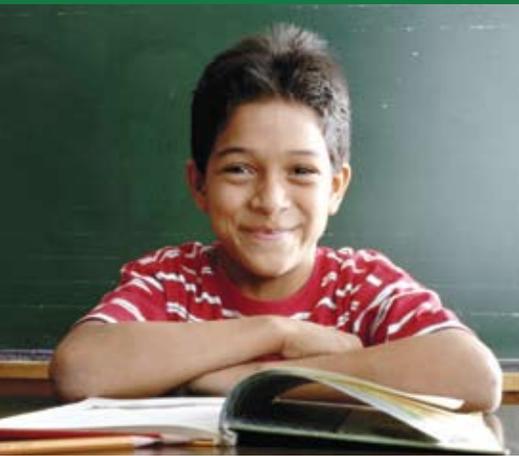
Bring

**THE ASTHMA-FRIENDLY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE**

to your community.



**Keeping children healthy, in school and ready to learn!**



# Keep asthma from being a learning barrier in your school.

School populations face a host of issues directly related to asthma: potential asthma emergencies, absenteeism, student and teacher productivity, health office visits, and access to life-saving medications, just to name a few.

## Consider the facts.

- Asthma affects an estimated 24.6 million Americans, including at least 7.1 million children under 18.
- Asthma accounted for 14.4 million lost school days in 2008 and is a leading cause of school absenteeism attributed to chronic conditions.
- In 2009, 5.5% of children (4.1 million) had at least one asthma attack in the preceding year.
- In 2005, there were an estimated 679,000 emergency department visits by children under 15 with a diagnosis of asthma.

Source: American Lung Association

If you're not prepared to manage these issues, your school environment could actually make asthma worse, further inhibiting learning. With the help of the American Lung Association, comprehensive asthma management strategies, education and planning tools are within reach.

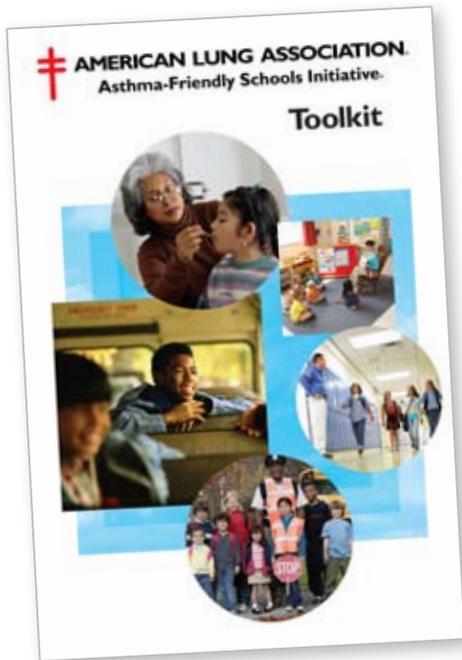


## Take advantage of the Asthma-Friendly Schools Initiative.

Created through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Adolescent and School Health, the Asthma-Friendly Schools Initiative integrates existing, successful asthma management programs and information into a single, comprehensive package.

Each community, coalition, organization and school has its own unique needs and available resources. That's why the Asthma-Friendly Schools Initiative provides the tools you can use to design a long-term asthma management plan based on your unique community needs.

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## Asthma-Friendly Schools Initiative Toolkit

This in-depth resource is a planning tool based on real-life activities that have been used in schools throughout the United States. It includes five major sections that align with the CDC's Coordinated School Health Model:

1. Community Asthma Planning
2. Maximizing School Health Services
3. Asthma Education and Awareness
4. Building a Healthy School Environment
5. Physical Activity

Each section of the Toolkit includes action steps and recommended components that can help you create an asthma plan specific to your community. Sample documents, templates, and programs from around the country have been captured in this one comprehensive resource.

## Asthma Incidence Reporter (AIR) Database

Based on the Asthma Case Management form in the Toolkit, the AIR database is designed to assist school nurses in identifying and tracking students who have asthma in their schools. Available reports include:

1. A glance at the number of days students with asthma have been absent
2. A detailed individual student report
3. A school report on the cumulative effects of asthma on a school over a specific time frame

The data can also be exported for detailed analysis by a data specialist.



*See back for more resources!*

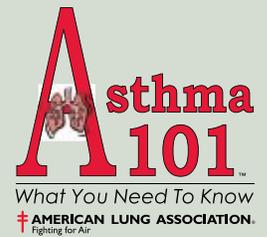


Download these resources from [www.lungusa.org/afsi](http://www.lungusa.org/afsi) at no cost or contact your local Lung Association at 1-800-LUNG USA (586-4872).

Also available:

### Asthma 101™: What You Need To Know

This one hour program focuses on school faculty and staff, including coaches, as a critical link in the effort to maintain a network of support for asthmatic students, and can proactively reduce or prevent asthma crises and minimize areas of liability.



### Open Airways For Schools

Designed for schoolchildren ages 8–11, this asthma management program helps to improve asthma self-management skills, decrease asthma emergencies, raise asthma awareness among parents/guardians, and promote broader asthma management coordination among physicians, parents and schools.

### Kickin' Asthma

Curriculum for this program addresses the unique needs of children too old for Open Airways For Schools but not quite adults (ages 11–16; grades 6–9) with topics and learning modalities suitable for adolescents. The program stresses the concepts of accepting responsibility and self-management, and taking early action to avoid emergency department visits and hospitalizations for asthma.

A small fee for program materials may apply. Contact your Local Lung Association for details.



Learn more at [www.lungusa.org](http://www.lungusa.org) or by contacting your local Lung Association.



### About the American Lung Association

Now in its second century, the American Lung Association is the leading organization working to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease. With your generous support, the American Lung Association is "Fighting for Air" through research, education and advocacy.

**Adopt an all inclusive approach to asthma in your school with the Asthma-Friendly Schools Initiative.**

**For more information about the American Lung Association and its programs, call 1-800-LUNG-USA (586-4872) or visit [www.lungusa.org](http://www.lungusa.org).**

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