



HEALTH ALERT

HIGH HEAT EVENT

May 19th and 20th, 2026

Guidance for Hospitals, Diagnostic and Treatment Centers, Nursing Homes, Adult Care Facilities, Homecare, Hospice and Dialysis Centers

A high heat and severe thunderstorm event is expected to impact the State with hot and humid weather beginning today, May 19th, 2026.

Heat Advisories are in effect through Wednesday night, with air quality alerts and the risk for severe thunderstorms, high winds and possible hail forecasted statewide. The latest information on active weather watches, warnings, and advisories can be found on the [National Weather Service Page](#).

In anticipation of this event, facilities are strongly encouraged to review facility emergency response plans, and ensure backup systems are functioning properly. Additionally, facilities should report any disruption of services or infrastructure to the Department's State Medical Operations Coordination Center.

KEY POINTS

- Tuesday, May 19th and Wednesday, May 20th are expected to be the hottest, with temperatures into the mid to upper 90's. Strong to severe thunderstorms are possible, with high winds, rain and potentially damaging hail. These conditions may result in the loss of power or damage to facilities.
- Facilities and provider agencies should take precautionary measures to ensure patient and resident safety and limit outdoor activities. Closing doors to unoccupied spaces as well as window shades and turning off lights where practicable may help to reduce indoor temperatures and reduce strain on heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment.
- All licensed and regulated providers are reminded to report any disruption of services or infrastructure to the State Medical Operations Coordination Center at (917) 909-2676.