



# COVID-19 GUIDANCE UPDATE

## July 9, 2020

### REOPENING SCHOOLS

#### Guidance Link

#### Guidance

[Governor Cuomo announcement on school opening](#)

New York State will decide whether schools will reopen in the fall during the first week of August. New York State is now consulting with stakeholders on guidance, which will be finalized on July 13. Plans to reopen schools are due on July 31.

[Statement From Chancellor Betty A. Rosa, the Board of Regents and Interim Commissioner Shannon Tahoe](#)

Official response to federal call for full opening. "Any decision on the reopening of school buildings should be made based on the best science, data and guidance available from state and federal health professionals." The Department "***will present guidance to the Board of Regents at its next meeting on July 13" after considering feedback from the task force meetings.***

[NYSED School Reopening Resources](#)

Guidance related to the reopening of schools will be posted on this site as more information comes available

[CDC: Readiness and Planning Tool for K-12 Schools](#)

Toolkit for reopening schools, including a useful checklist of activities to complete relating to **polices and guidance, facilities and supplies, education and training, communications and messaging, gatherings and what to do when someone gets sick.** There are links to printable resources that can be utilized in a communication plan.

[CDC: Social Media Toolkit: Communities, Schools & Workplaces](#)

Toolkit for localizing response efforts. Includes messages and graphics that can be distributed via district/school social media platforms.

[CDC: Guidance for Direct Service Providers](#)

Guidance related to providers for people with disabilities; including direct support professionals, paraprofessionals, therapists and others.

[CDC: Interim Considerations for K-12 School Administrators for SARS-CoV-2 Testing](#)

Schools should determine in collaboration with state and local health officials whether to implement any testing strategies. Implementation should be guided by what is feasible, practical and acceptable and tailored to the needs of each community

[CDC Considerations for Youth Sports](#)

Provides guiding principles to keep in mind as sports programs reopen.

[FAQs for Administrators, Teachers and Parents](#)

Provides targeted guidance for frequently asked questions about planning and responding to COVID-19. Checklist for Teachers and Parents [LINKED HERE](#).

[New Jersey Reopening Plan](#)

[Connecticut Reopening Plan](#)

[Link to Comprehensive Table of State Plans](#)

Links to full reopening plans in New Jersey and Connecticut. The National Center for Systemic Improvement published a State-by-State table of Guidance and Plans. There are also specific links to [State-by-State Guidance for Special Education populations](#), and more generally, the CCNetwork provides [a comprehensive repository of education resources related to COVID-19](#),



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### Special Education

Guidance Link	Guidance
<a href="#">IDEA Part C Evaluation and Assessment Timelines in the COVID-19 Environment</a>	OSEP guidance as it relates to evaluation and assessment timelines for part C programs. Includes: (1) Exceptions to timelines for early intervention service providers in conducting initial evaluations when access to homes is limited, (2) Interin IFSP, (3) Conducting evaluations and assessments.
<a href="#">IDEA Part B Procedural Safeguards in the COVID-19 environment</a>	OSEP Guidance as it relates to Part B & C procedural safeguards. (1) Electronic signatures for initial eval, reevaluation and initial consent, (2) Prior written notice "reasonable time" requirement includes considerations of school closings, etc..., (3) Procedural safeguard notices, (4) Access to educational records. Link to FERPA & Virtual Learning guidelines.
<a href="#">IDEA Part C Procedural Safeguards in the COVID-19 environment</a>	
<a href="#">IDEA Part B Use of Funds in COVID-19 Environment Q&amp;A Documents</a>	OSEP Guidance as it relates to Part B and Part C subgrant funds to address conditions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. (1) Options for use of funds, (2) equipment purchases, (3) continuity of early intervention services.
<a href="#">IDEA Part C Use of Funds in COVID-19 Environment Q&amp;A Documents</a>	
<a href="#">Flexibility in Implementation of IDEA Part B Fiscal Requirements</a>	Guidance regarding the flexibility in meeting requirements for the Maintenance of State financial support, Maintenance of Efforts, Excess Cost Requirement.

### Funding

Guidance Link	Guidance
<a href="#">NYSED Submits Application for U.S. Department of Education Rethink Education Models</a>	NYSED submitted an application to the U.S. Department of Education requesting \$19.9 million in the Rethink K-12 Education Models grant competition to launch Teaching in Blended/Remote learning Environments. The funds would be used to address the urgent learning needs of the most vulnerable students during the pandemic by providing educators with the tools, resources and training to implement blended learning.
<a href="#">Providing Equitable Services to Non-Public Schools</a>	Interim final rule as related to CARES act funding for non-public schools. Provides two options for LEAs to choose from: (1) proportional allocation or (2) Low-Income