



COVID-19 Reopening Guidance: Summer Learning and Activities

Purpose

This guidance was created in consultation with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) as a resource for administrators to determine when and how to safely open districts and nonpublic schools for school-sponsored activities and learning. It must be used in conjunction with all proclamations issued by the governor and guidance provided by the IDPH. This guidance follows the [most recent recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) on reopening schools.

Planning

We strongly recommend districts and nonpublic schools plan for reopening using the [Return-to-Learn Support Document](#) as a resource. The Health and Safety section, in particular, is relevant to reopening facilities. Schools must put plans in place to protect staff and students at higher risk of developing more severe COVID-19 illness. If allowing persons at higher risk to work in schools, consider assigning responsibilities with infrequent close interaction with large numbers of staff or students. It is especially important for high risk staff and students to use cloth face coverings and follow social distancing recommendations. Summer programs that target high risk participant populations should not be held this summer (summer of 2020).

June 1

Beginning June 1, all school districts and accredited nonpublic schools may begin offering summer learning opportunities. **Any school district, nonpublic school, or governing association may begin offering summer activities in consultation with public health and local law enforcement. This includes extracurricular activities and co-curricular activities, but no sports other than those expressly permitted by Department of Education guidance or governor's proclamation.** Instruction through a Continuous Learning model at this time is permitted. Continuous Learning may be provided on a voluntary basis, or a summer program may be provided in which students enroll and are required to attend. Instructional and activity-based camps are also permitted. Instruction in school facilities is permitted if done in accordance with the following mitigation requirements:

HYGIENE

1. Teach and reinforce washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially before and after eating, after using the restroom, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. Have tissues readily available.
2. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
4. If feasible, allow use of cloth face coverings among all staff and students. Staff and students should be frequently reminded not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands frequently. Information should be provided to all staff and students on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings.

5. Post signs on how to stop the spread of COVID-19, properly wash hands, promote everyday protective measures, and properly wear a face covering. Signs are available at [Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - Business & Organizations](#) and [Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - Communication Resources](#).

SOCIAL DISTANCING

1. Parents must drop-off children at the front door, limiting adult entry to the facility, if applicable. Continue to make any appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities.
2. Distance students and staff during instruction by limiting group size, increased spacing, and limiting mixing between groups.
3. If Summer Food Site Program Grab & Go unitized meals are available, consider the [CDC Interim Guidance for Schools and Childcare Centers](#) resource.
4. Limit deliveries from outside vendors and building access points for delivery for schools to reduce outside traffic in the school building. If possible, have them deliver after business hours or leave deliveries outside of the facility.

HEALTH

1. Post signage prominently indicating no one should attend if they currently have [symptoms](#) or have been in contact with anyone with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis in the last 14 days.
2. Screen all staff and students upon arrival. Anyone with a fever of 100.4 or above or other signs of illness should not be admitted to the facility.
3. Follow employee and student policies regarding communicable disease. Have a plan if someone is or becomes sick.
 - a. Plan to have an isolation room or location that may be used to isolate a sick student or staff member until they can leave or be picked up by a parent or guardian.
 - b. If a sick student or staff member has been isolated at your location, clean and disinfect surfaces in the area after the sick student/staff member has gone home.
 - c. Staff who are ill should go home immediately.
4. Use your emergency operations plan for communicable disease outbreaks.

ILLNESS REPORTING

Maintain confidentiality in received reports of any staff member or student COVID-19 illness. Contact your local public health agency directly related to reports of illness and communications.

CLEANSING/SANITIZING/DISINFECTING

1. Make sure that you have cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting products available throughout the day.
2. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (e.g., door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains, tables, etc.) multiple times per day.
3. For information on cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting go to the CDC's [Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting](#).
4. If COVID-19 is reported, follow the appropriate cleaning/sanitizing and disinfecting guidance from IDPH or CDC.
5. Ensure that ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors, using fans, and other methods. Do not open windows and doors if doing so poses a safety or health risk to students and staff using the facility (e.g., allowing pollens in or exacerbating asthma symptoms).
6. Encourage all staff and students to bring their own portable water bottle or use a large water jug with disposable cups to provide water. Do not use public drinking fountains.
7. Adequate cleaning schedules must be created and implemented for all school facilities used. Follow [CDC guidance](#) for cleaning and disinfecting facilities.

8. If meals are offered, mitigation must be coordinated with the school nutrition program staff to ensure that all Department of Inspection and Appeals safety and sanitation regulations or recommendations are met.

CLOSURE

You may be directed to close and will be told the length of the closure in accordance with a governor's proclamation.

July 1

Beginning July 1, all school districts and accredited nonpublic schools may begin implementation of their submitted and approved Return-to-Learn plans. (The Required Continuous Learning portions of the plans must be approved, while the Hybrid and/or On-Site portions will be marked as received.) Return-to-Learn plans will differ from summer opportunities provided from June 1 to July 1.

Questions and Additional Guidance

If you have questions, please contact your [school improvement consultant](#). If they are unable to assist you, they will connect you with the appropriate person. For additional COVID-19 guidance and information, please visit the Department's [COVID-19 webpage](#).