



## COVID-19 Information and Checklist for K-12 Schools Protecting Against COVID-19

Governor Mike DeWine has closed all school buildings in Ohio, including preschool programs licensed by the Ohio Department of Education, through the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Schools were originally closed starting at the close of school on March 16 through May 1, however on April 20 Governor DeWine announced that school buildings are now closed through the end of the academic year. Internet- or computer-based schools should continue operations according to their regular calendars.

Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton, M.D., MPH, strongly recommends that all K-12 schools immediately take the following actions:

- Districts and schools should make a good-faith effort to provide education through alternative means within their available capabilities to support continued learning outside of school. Districts and schools may create e-learning plans, including digital and distance learning options.
- Allow as many employees as possible to work from home by implementing policies in areas such as teleworking and video conferencing. The administration of each school should determine the appropriate level of access to the school during the closure.
- Schools may continue to support students by providing breakfast and lunch in non-congregate settings. Review the Ohio Department of Education's [School Breakfast and Lunch document](#) for more information about receiving reimbursement for meals served during the closure.
- Districts offering instruction to all students, including via alternate delivery models like online learning or distance learning, are required to provide students with disabilities special education services. If a student with a disability cannot access the alternate delivery models being offered to general education students, the district should consult with the student's parents and/or caregivers to determine the needs of the student and identify the most appropriate means for meeting those needs.

-  Schools should take this opportunity to review the status of each student in grade 12 to determine the extent to which the student has met [graduation requirements for the class of 2020](#). Schools are recommended, to the extent possible, to create plans to help each student complete these requirements during the remainder of the school year, both during the closure period (as practicable) and at such time as school may resume.
  
-  Continue to provide information to help staff and students' families understand COVID-19 and the steps they can take to protect themselves. Discourage older students and staff from gathering or socializing on school grounds or sites outside school, such as a friend's house.

For additional information, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov).

For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4ASKODH (1-833-427-5634).

*Additional resources:*

Ohio Department of Education: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Frequently Asked Questions for Ohio's Schools and Districts: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Frequently-Asked-Questions-Governor-DeWine%e2%80%99s-Scho#FAQ3869>.

				
<p>STAY HOME WHEN YOU ARE SICK</p>	<p>AVOID CONTACT WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK</p>	<p>GET ADEQUATE SLEEP AND EAT WELL-BALANCED MEALS</p>	<p>WASH HANDS OFTEN WITH WATER AND SOAP (20 SECONDS OR LONGER)</p>	<p>DRY HANDS WITH A CLEAN TOWEL OR AIR DRY YOUR HANDS</p>
				
<p>COVER YOUR MOUTH WITH A TISSUE OR SLEEVE WHEN COUGHING OR SNEEZING</p>	<p>AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, NOSE, OR MOUTH WITH UNWASHED HANDS OR AFTER TOUCHING SURFACES</p>	<p>CLEAN AND DISINFECT "HIGH-TOUCH" SURFACES OFTEN</p>	<p>CALL BEFORE VISITING YOUR DOCTOR</p>	<p>PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE HABITS</p>

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