

Temporary Permission to Provide Primarily Continuous/Remote Learning (Optional)

Independence

Submitted

(Status last updated by russell.reiter@iowaid on 11/20/2020)

Information

Department of Education and Public Health guidelines recommend the use of primarily remote instruction under the following circumstances. You are welcome to apply even if you do not meet these guidelines but have other data to support your application.

- 15% positivity in the county on average over the past 14 days
- 20% absenteeism among students expected for in-person learning

Only the Departments of Education, in consultation with the Iowa Department of Public Health, can make the determination and provide temporary authorization to move to 100% online or remote learning. This plan is fluid and subject to change as more information becomes available.

Things you can do without permission from the Department:

- Schools can immediately transition to remote learning for up to 48 hours while waiting for a waiver decision.
- Because the 50-percent in-person instruction requirement is based on a two-week period, schools typically providing full-time in-person instruction can also move to remote learning for up to five days without needing approval.
- Schools can also move one or more grade levels or sections of a building to remote instruction without Department approval. A school is a building if it has its own building number.

Circumstance Requiring Temporary Continuous/Remote Learning

Temporary Permission to Provide Primarily Continuous/Remote Learning is being sought for

- the entire public school district
- one or more buildings within the public school district
- a state accredited nonpublic school

Which of the following best describes the amount of time that students will receive online only instruction?

If you are submitting an application for one or more buildings in a school district, please indicate the percent of online instructional time along with the name of the building in the question above.

IMPORTANT -If a district or school chooses to use primarily remote instruction, they are required to temporarily cease in-person extracurricular activities for the duration of the period requested if they completely cease in-person instruction and go 100% online/virtual. The decision to offer activities outside of an approved waiver for 100% online learning is determined at the local level.

- More than 50 but less than 100 percent of instruction will be delivered online.
- 100 percent of instruction will be delivered online.

Please enter the date that you propose primarily continuous/remote learning will begin.

11/30/2020



Waivers are granted for 14 calendar days to begin on the date entered. Districts and school are able to operate primarily online as needed within that time period. Requests for an extension should be made at least 48 hours in advance of the start date using the "Request Reopen" button in the bottom right corner of the screen.

What was the county's average positivity over the past 14 days?

23.1%

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What is your current or anticipated absentee rate and how was it calculated?

Currently we have an absentee rate of 13%. This includes students who are sick with COVID-19 symptoms as well as students who are quarantining due to exposure. One of our elementary buildings is over 20% and the other is right at 15%.

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Optional Upload - Please upload any relevant information or supporting documentation.

Do not upload any personally identifiable information. The application and any supporting documentation is available to the public on

the [Department's website.](#)

File Uploaded:
Supporting Document Emergency Remote Learning.docx
Uploaded on: 11/20/2020

Provision of Temporary Continuous/Remote Learning

If the application for temporary permission is approved, how will the district or accredited nonpublic school ensure that all students with IEPs are provided with FAPE during the time the district/school is providing services primarily online?

We will continue to offer IEP services and meet IEP goals and deadlines remotely. All students with IEP's have an I page outlining how FAPE will be provided during temporary closure. Meetings were held with each family and IEP team to create these plans that will be followed by the district. All I page remote learning plans will be put in place.

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If the application for temporary permission is approved, how will the district or accredited nonpublic school ensure that students who require mental health or health services still have access to these services during the time the district/school is providing services primarily online?

Counselors, therapists and nursing staff will continue to provide services to our students remotely. Counselors and nursing staff will serve as a liaison for communication with students/families in crisis.

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If the application for temporary permission is approved, how will the district or accredited nonpublic school ensure that students with 504 plans continue to receive services?

Students with 504's will receive the necessary accommodations outlined in their plans. This will be overseen by teachers and administration.

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If the application for temporary permission is approved, how will the district continue to provide meals to students?

Breakfast and lunch will be provided for students through a grab and go program at each building. Designated times and locations will be set up for the distribution of meals.

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If the application for temporary permission is approved, how will the district provide access to instructional materials and services for students who do not have access to the internet?

The district expanded internet access to designated locations in each community. Additionally, hotspots have been provided to families who have indicated a need. Instructional materials will be sent home with students, prior to closure. Parents/students will be able to pick up any additional instructional materials they may need. The district may be able to deliver some instructional materials for students/families.

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If the application for temporary permission is approved, what process will you use to communicate with parents/families on educational services and changes in delivery models?

Information will be sent to parents via email and sent home with students prior to closure. In addition, we will utilize district social media accounts and student learning platforms to communicate with families and the community. Our Emergency Closure Remote Learning Plan was made available on our website at the beginning of the school year and parents/students will be directed to that resource.

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Record of Application Approval

This Question Can Only Be Answered By Iowa Department of Education Staff

Department staff will use the field below to record the history of application approval.