

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

Melcher-Dallas

Submitted

(Status last updated by scott.bridges@iowaid on 12/10/2020)

## 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 AND
- 10% absenteeism among students expected for in-person learning

OR

- 20% positivity in the county on average over the past 14 days

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

This question has been marked as 'Action Required' during the review process. Please read the 'Reviewer's Comments' and then complete one of following steps:

- 1) Update your original response, or
- 2) Provide additional comments in the text box below, or
- 3) Update your response and provide additional comments below

Reviewer's Comments

Please select "the entire public school district."

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.

12/8/2020 

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?

Marion County is at 15.1% today.

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What is your current or anticipated absentee rate (provide a percentage) and how was it calculated?

From the Department's [Attendance and Absenteeism Guidance Document](#)

- Official attendance is one type of data that can be used by the district to determine absenteeism rates for the purpose of requesting permission to temporarily move to primarily remote learning.
- The district may choose to additionally include all COVID-19 related absenteeism from in-person instruction, such as students who are in quarantine or isolation and are required to learn remotely when they normally would have attended in-person, in their request if it is important in their context.
- The explanation should note which student groups are being included as absent for the purpose of the request

Current student absentee rate is 35.4% in grades 6-12.  
 Total number of students absent in grades 6-12 (68) divided by total number of students in grades 6-12 (192).

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

Select files...

To upload a file, drag and drop your file onto the gray box. Or, click the 'Select' button and navigate to the file you wish to upload.

Do not upload any personally identifiable information. The application and any supporting documentation is available to the public on the [Department's website](#).

## 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?

Every student with an IEP has an ILP written in their IEP. This ensures that all students will be served under FAPE regardless of the level of service they require. All staff will ensure ILP's will be implemented with fidelity. If a student's data declines during remote learning, the IEP team will meet to reexamine the student's plan and make adjustments to ensure the student is successful.

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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?

To support student social emotional health, the school district will continue to provide access to our professional counselors via individual or group meetings. Students, or a student's parent, can contact the school to request a virtual meeting with a counselor. We are continuing meetings with those students who have regularly scheduled meetings with school counselors.

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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?

All students with 504 plans will continue to receive their same services during continuous remote learning. Student's accommodations will remain the same unless a change is requested for the student to be successful. The district will contact parents to schedule a 504 meeting if staff determine additional supports are needed. Parents can also contact to the school to request a meeting.

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

The district plans to provide meals for any student who requests them. Meal orders need to be in by 9:00AM on Mondays and Wednesdays. Meals for multiple days are distributed at one time. When ordering parents indicate which building they would like to pick up from. Pick up is from 11:30-12:00. Pick up at the High School will be at the north door of the gym. Pick up at the Elementary will be at the front door of the school.

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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 will provide a hot spot to as many students as possible. If the district runs out of hot spots, educational packets will be delivered to the students' household. At this time we believe the district has enough hotspots to provide internet to those students who need it.

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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?

We send all communications through our student information system (JMC) school messenger. We are able to send emails, text messages and recorded phone calls to parents.

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